

# Quality Online Course Initiative (QOCI)

## Course Description

2015

Academic Technology Services (ATS) for Rutgers University–Newark is pleased to offer a limited number of \$2,000 grants for participating in the Quality Online Course Initiative (QOCI) online faculty development course. The primary goal of this program is to support instructors as they design online courses that meet selected Quality Matters\* standards. Upon completion of the QOCI course, instructors of exceptional courses will be eligible for additional support and compensation to prepare their courses for the internationally recognized Quality Matters peer-review process and certification.

As a QOCI participant, you may transform an existing face-to-face course into an online format, create a new online course, or redesign a current online course. QOCI course assignments will guide you through designing your online course. By the end of the nine weeks, you will have created the foundation of your online course and developed at least one entire module. As you design your course, you will acquire a working knowledge of many of the Blackboard tools and features.

To give you the experience of taking an online class, the QOCI course is delivered completely online using Blackboard. There are no on-campus course meetings but you will have the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues online. You will also have the option to consult one-on-one with instructional designers.

It is estimated that you will need to spend between four and six hours per week to meet the course objectives. There will be deadlines for completion of assignments.

### Grant

You will be eligible to receive a grant of \$2,000 upon completion of the requirements for designing an online course in the QOCI program. The requirements of the QOCI grant program are to:

1. Meet or exceed expectations on each assignment in the QOCI nine-week course within the course deadlines.
2. Complete the design of content for at least 60% of your online course within 6 months of completion of the QOCI program. Content of the course must adhere to the QOCI recommended standards.
3. Design course using Blackboard, the RU-N learning management system.
4. Maintain an active appointment with Rutgers University through completion of the QOCI program.
5. Agree that your course, or portions of your course, may be used as an example for promotion of the QOCI or future training. Note: Faculty will retain intellectual property rights for their course content.

All requirements must be met to be eligible for payment.

### Requirements for participation

- Participant must be a Rutgers University full-time faculty member, part-time lecturer, teaching assistant, or graduate assistant
- Participant must submit the completed grant application form
- Participant must identify a course to design that will be taught online in Blackboard for Rutgers University–Newark

- Participant must have access to a computer with reliable Internet connection, computer headphone or speakers, and computer microphone
- Participant must have access to software that can save a file in Microsoft Word or PDF format
- Academic dean recommends instructor's participation.
- Academic dean recommends that the instructor's course be created or redesigned for an online format
- If needed, begin or complete approval process for online course delivery (e.g., Change of Format Form, Form 29, academic dean's approval)

## Schedule

For 2015 we have scheduled two sessions of the QOCI course. A limited number of grants will be available for each session.

Grant application deadline	First day of QOCI course	Last day of QOCI course	Semester your online course is expected to be ready for implementation
5/1/2015	6/01/2015	08/03/2015	Fall 2015
7/31/2015	9/21/2015	11/23/2015	Winter 2016, Spring 2016

## Application

Please click on the link below to access and electronically submit your application for the grant program. Once the grant application period ends, ATS will review the proposals and seek the recommendation of the appropriate academic dean. Priority is given to courses that are recognized as general education classes, large enrollment courses, masters classes, and/or required courses for fully online programs. If space is available, applicants who are not selected to receive a grant will still have the option to participate in the QOCI course.

[Application for QOCI grant program](#)

## Contact information

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact ATS at [atshelp@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:atshelp@newark.rutgers.edu) or 973-353-1713.

\*Quality Matters (QM) is an international, non-profit organization devoted to supporting quality assurance for online education. The QM standards are the most widely used set of standards for the design of online and blended courses in higher education.