



Subscription Announcement

Quality Matters (QM) is a faculty-centered, peer review-based process that is designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components. QM, sponsored by MarylandOnline, Inc (MOL), has generated widespread interest and received national recognition for its peer-based approach to quality assurance and continuous improvement in online education. Originating from a grant project, QM is now a self-supporting organization offering institutional subscriptions and a range of fee-based services including QM managed course reviews and an array of trainings.

Full Option

Fee \$3,000 — 3 or more online programs
\$2,000 — 2 or fewer online programs

Subscription Term 1 year

Benefits

- Access to the fully automated, web-based Quality Matters tools and processes
- Discounts on Quality Matters training
- One seat in the Institution Representative Training
- Participation in the QM Users' Group
- License to conduct QM's flagship rubric training
- Ability to conduct official course reviews eligible for QM recognition

Recommended For

- Institutions ready and able to put in place a quality assurance process that includes subscriber-managed rubric trainings and an official course review process through which courses may be formally recognized by Quality Matters. **A supplemental package of training and services that prepare the new institution to meet this goal is available as a one-time purchase.*
- Renewing subscribers wanting to start, or maintain, a quality assurance process that includes official course reviews.
- Renewing subscribers wanting to conduct their own QM rubric training.

***Supplemental Package** \$2,000

Includes 2 QM-managed course reviews and one seat in the Master Reviewer Training and Train-the-Trainer workshop.

Basic Option

Fee \$1,500

Subscription Term 1 year

Benefits

- Access to the fully automated, web-based Quality Matters tools and processes
- Discounts on Quality Matters training
- One seat in the Institution Representative Training
- Participation in the QM Users' Group

Recommended For

- Institutions wanting to “test the waters” of a QM subscription without the financial investment required of a full implementation subscription.
- Institutions not intending to run official course reviews but wanting to use or adapt the tools as desired for their schools' internal efforts.
- Institutions wanting time to gain faculty support with a general introduction to the QM model before they begin to implement an official course review process.

Consortia/Statewide

For higher education consortia or system offices, you are entitled to a 25% discount on the **Full** subscription rate provided three institutions or more subscribe at one time.

A statewide agency or lead institution prepared to undertake coordination responsibilities for participating institutions (affiliates) throughout the state may subscribe on behalf of those institutions at a special rate:

Statewide subscriber: \$5,000

Affiliate Institutions: \$1,000

Quality Matters Program Components

There are three primary components in the Quality Matters Program: The QM Rubric, the Peer Review Process and the QM Training

The QM Rubric

The QM Rubric is a set of standards by which to evaluate the design of online and hybrid courses. The rubric is complete with annotations that explain the application of the standards and the relationship between them. A scoring system and set of online tools facilitate the evaluation by a team of reviewers.

The Peer Review Process

Quality Matters promotes a peer review process and provides a database of trained QM Peer Reviewers eligible for assignment to a peer review team. Any subscribing institution may conduct internal or informal reviews. Official course reviews may be conducted only by eligible subscribers, QM, or its designees. Quality Matters will conduct a limited number of course reviews annually. Courses that successfully meet the QM rubric standards in an official course review are eligible for QM Recognition.

An official course review must meet the following criteria:

- Use of current QM Standards
- Review of online or hybrid course
- Three-person peer review team
- All reviewers are eligible QM-trained Reviewers
- At least one reviewer is external to the institution submitting the course
- At least one reviewer is designated as a subject matter expert
- The Team Chair is a QM Master Reviewer

QM Training

Quality Matters training supports the other program components and is an important part of a quality assurance effort. QM principles and the rubric standards are at the heart of all the training. There are two general categories of training. Although both categories may be considered faculty development, the training in the first category specifically facilitate the implementation of Quality Matters at an Institution.

Implementing Quality Matters:

Applying the QM Rubric — training on the QM rubric and its use in evaluating online courses. This is QM's flagship training and is intended for a broad audience, including, but not limited to, those who are interested and eligible in becoming QM Peer Reviewers.

QM Peer Reviewer Certification — training that specifically addresses the role and responsibilities of a QM Peer Reviewer. The "Applying the QM Rubric" training is a prerequisite. This certification training is available only to current (within the last 18 months) online instructors.

Master Reviewer Training — advanced training for experienced QM Peer Reviewers. It provides more detailed training on the interpretation of standards and other issues relevant to course reviews. Master Reviewer certification is a requirement for Team Chairs on official course reviews.

Institution Representative Training — comprehensive training to manage a QM subscription and use the tools and resources. The final module provides detailed instructions on managing Official Course Reviews.

Train the Trainer Workshop — training on how to deliver the "Applying the QM Rubric" workshop. A certified Institution Trainer is a requirement of the site license for the flagship training. "Applying the QM Rubric" and the Institution Representative Training are prerequisites. In addition you must be an Instructional Designer or have served on two QM-managed course reviews.

Faculty Development:

Improving Your Online Course

Building Your Online Course

Standards Training