

# Montgomery College Believes Quality Matters in Online Instruction

The Montgomery College Office of Distance Education believes that the noble goal of access to education for its county residents is dampened if the educational experience is not one of quality. To that end, it has initiated an effort to ensure that Montgomery College online courses are designed using a nationally recognized and award winning quality review process—Quality Matters™ (QM).

## What is Quality Matters™?

The Quality Matters™ Project is a collegial, continuous quality improvement review process, in which the online faculty member is an integral part of the review team.

The QM rubric and process are:

- Based in national standards of *best practice*, the *research* literature and instructional design principles
- Designed to *promote student learning*
- Integral to *continuous quality improvement*
- Part of a *faculty-driven, collegial* peer review process

## What does the review process involve?

The online faculty member works with trained, pre-approved reviewers to assess the adherence of his or her course to the award winning Quality Matters™ rubric. The faculty member receives constructive feedback on each area of the rubric and is encouraged to enhance the course where needed.

Because QM is about improving the course, adjustments can be made during the process or immediately afterwards to allow the course to receive QM certification.

## Faculty Benefits

In addition to their course being QM certified, faculty will also derive the following benefits from QM:

- Opportunity to review other courses and gain new ideas for their own course
- External Quality Assurance
- Improvement of their online course
- Expansion of their professional community

For more information on Quality Matters™ contact the Office of Distance Education at 240-567-6000 or visit [www.qualitymatters.org](http://www.qualitymatters.org).