

The Wolff Learning Academy Advanced Quality Education Series Overview

Part of the Wolff Center at UPMC

What is the Wolff Learning Academy Advanced Quality Education Series (AQES)?

The AQES is an improvement course designed for teams of 3-5 participants made up of UPMC clinical, operational and front-line leaders with prior quality improvement experience who can marshal support to implement change and are working on a strategically important improvement project. Participants will receive an in-depth examination of a variety of quality improvement topics and have an opportunity to work with experts in the field through our AQES speaker series. The course will also provide participants with a quality improvement coach who will guide and support them in project development through monthly coaching calls. All projects must be around one of the following system-wide goals. The goal of the series is that participants will both learn how to implement successful QI projects and become the next generation of quality leaders at UPMC. **Note: the series is highly selective and it will be limited to 5 projects.**

What kind of projects are a good fit for the program?

Projects must:

- Be connected to one of the following system-wide goals: reducing mortality, clinical complications, or readmissions.
- Be quality improvement, not research projects.
- Have a process focus, ideally to redesign a process already in place.
- Have an existing data stream that provides baseline and ongoing data for analysis.
- Be within the team members' scope of control.
- Have a letter of support from their executive sponsor.

Who should apply?

Teams of 3-5 clinical, operational and front-line leaders who can function as an improvement team, marshal leadership support to implement change, and have a strategically important improvement project may apply. Team leaders are expected to bring knowledge back to the home site and engage multidisciplinary stakeholders in the improvement process. The underlying assumption of the work is that change in health care is challenging and must be tackled by a multi-disciplinary team to be successful.

What are the course requirements?

Participants must:

- Attend all virtual class sessions including the final class report out session.
- Commit to spending approximately 10 hours a week outside of class to implement their project.
- Complete assigned coursework through Wolff Learning Academy
- Participate in mandatory coaching calls between each class.

What is the time frame of the series?

Participants will attend 6 virtual classes between February 2022 and June 2022 to learn how to assess their current state and scope their project; collect, display and interpret data; and begin to design and test changes. By the initial report-out in June 2022, participants should have developed a plan for continuing their tests of change and completing the project. Between June 2022 and February 2023, participants will continue implementing changes. At the final report out in February 2023, participants should have implemented sustainable changes that have made a measurable difference in clinical outcomes.

What is the application process?

Applications should have as much detail as possible and must include a letter of support from the executive sponsor. Applications are open. Contact [Stephanie Knoch](#) with any questions.