

*California State University, Fresno
Center for Faculty Excellence
Request for Proposals*

eScholars Program

Proposal Deadline: Friday, August 26, 2016

The Center for Faculty Excellence announces a request for proposals for the eScholars Program. The eScholars Program is designed to support faculty in the development of online (80 – 100% online) courses. Funding will be for faculty who may or may not have online teaching experience. The goal of the eScholars program is to prepare instructors to be effective in the online environment and move beyond basic online course work by developing creative and engaging learning experiences for students.

Participating faculty will participate in a number of professional development activities, including group meetings and group discussions (in person and virtually). Each participant will be assigned an Instructional Designer and other support as needed to complete the project on or before **January 20, 2017** and ensure accessibility of instructional materials. Upon completion of the program, participants will receive a certificate, a digital badge, and up to \$2,000 in professional development funds (\$1500 for course development and up to \$500 for QOLT workshops). Since the funds are for participation in project-based professional development activities, it does not constitute extraordinary support under the Interim Intellectual Property Policy #540. Faculty members retain ownership rights of all content created.

Applications to the eScholar program can be [submitted through this link](http://tiny.cc/eS_FA16) (http://tiny.cc/eS_FA16):

Program Requirements:

- Professional Development Activities
 - Successful completion of at least one and up to two of the [QOLT courses offered here](#) for \$250 in professional development funds for each of the following courses (\$500 total):
 - “Introduction to Teaching Online Using QOLT” workshop
 - “Reviewing Courses Using the QOLT Instrument” workshop
 - Attendance in an Online Learning Consortium (OLC) online workshop
 - Additional Blackboard workshops or training to support project completion
 - Attendance and participation in three group meetings and discussions
 - Enrollment and participation in an online course on Blackboard
 - Regular meetings with assigned Instructional Designer
- Project
 - eScholars will develop an online or hybrid course.
 - As eScholars, participants will develop a plan for evaluating project outcomes, including, where appropriate, administration of an approved course and online student evaluation.
 - A course review as well as an instructor self-review will be conducted using the Quality Online Learning and Teaching (QOLT) assessment tool.
- Course Approvals
 - Complete the APM 206 process for online classes (80%-100%). Logistical support will be provided.

- Reporting
 - Participants will present progress reports to their Instructional Designer and in a group setting throughout the program.
 - Upon completion of the project, participants will prepare a short (1-3 minute) tour of their course using a screencasting tool.
 - All eScholars will be required to present at the spring 2017 faculty professional development conference on the first day of the semester after the Faculty & Staff Spring Assembly.
 - Participants will complete a pre/post survey.

- Trainings
 - Initial meeting **Friday, September 16, noon – 2:00 p.m.** (*prior to the first meeting participants will need to complete the Blackboard Student Orientation*). Two more meetings will occur:
 - **Friday, October 14, noon – 2:00 p.m. OPTIONAL**
 - **Friday, November 11, noon - 2:00 p.m.**
 - Additional training opportunities will be shared with participants