

“Quality Peer Reviewer” Digital Badge

Badge Earners’ information

Objectives of this Digital Badge

Within the Irish university sector, the participation of students as full Panel Members on Quality Peer Review Panels is unique to UCC. The “Quality Peer Reviewer” Digital Badge is the University’s and the Quality Enhancement Unit’s (QEU) way of acknowledging the valuable contribution of individual students to quality enhancement at UCC. Furthermore, it highlights the institution’s commitment to advancing key quality objectives, in line with Goal 1 of the University’s Strategic Plan 2017 – 2022: *“to deliver an outstanding, student-centred teaching and learning experience with a renewed, responsive and research-led curriculum at its core.”*

Micro-credentials, in the form of digital badges, are being offered in most of the world’s top ranked universities as students increasingly seek recognition for non-accredited extra-curricular contributions made during their studies. The badges refer directly to the university’s seven essential values of Creativity, Responsiveness, Transparency, Scholarship, Freedom of Expression, Integrity, Equality, Diversity and Respect. The “Quality Peer Reviewer” digital badge has been formally approved by the Academic Development & Standards Committee (ADSC) of the University.

Badge Requirements / Student Effort

Student members on the review panel are treated as full members of the team. As Panel Members, student reviewers are required to engage fully with the review process, in line with the professional standards expected of all Panel Members. The requirements for attaining the Digital Badge will involve approximately 30 hours of student effort, in five stages, as outlined below:

1. Participation in development/training, delivered by the QEU, to prepare for undertaking the role of Student Reviewer; this may include a peer-to-peer meeting with a previous student reviewer (2 hours)
2. Critically reviewing and evaluating the Self-Evaluation Report and supporting documentation provided by the Unit, to include a briefing with a representative of the QEU in advance of the Site Visit (4 hours)
3. Participation as a full Panel Member in the scheduled review Site Visit, including contribution to the formation of a Panel Report (approximately 20 hours)
4. Providing feed-back on various drafts of the Panel Report and contributing to the Final Panel Report (2 hours)
5. Participation in a pre-recorded online interview (publishable with consent) with QEU staff (2 hours), to critically reflect and comment on the Student Reviewer experience with the following focal points:
 - Outcomes for personal and professional development;

- Outcomes for the University and fellow students;
- Encountered challenges and ways to overcome them;
- Tips for future reviewers;
- Student Reviewer's personal evaluative feedback on the QR process.

Badge learning outcomes /criteria

Upon being awarded of the Digital Badge, the Badge Earner will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a clear understanding of the University's quality enhancement objectives in the context of quality peer review
2. Critically analyse, interrogate and discuss the key issues arising from the Unit's Self-Evaluation Report (SER) and in particular, those pertaining to the student learning experience
3. Appraise the Panel on student issues and exercise leadership throughout the review process in relation to effecting positive outcomes for students
4. Contribute fully as a Panel Member in the Quality Peer Review process including the formation of the final Panel Report.

Assessment evidence of badge achievement

Evidence that the learning outcomes have been achieved will be demonstrated by means of:

1. A record log of participation in, and contribution to, all of the specified activity/stages outlined for the Badge (retained and signed off by QEU support staff);
2. A conclusive interview with the Quality Review Coordinator; this will be an opportunity for the Student Reviewer to critically evaluate the involvement in the QR process as a student reviewer in terms of: own personal and professional development repercussions; assessment of the QR process and procedures inclusive of positives, benefits and challenges; provision of recommendations for change and commendations (if any). Student reviewers' feedback and insights may be tailored towards peer-to-peer support for prospective student reviewers or provide feedback to the QEU on the process and contribute to QE-informed developments.

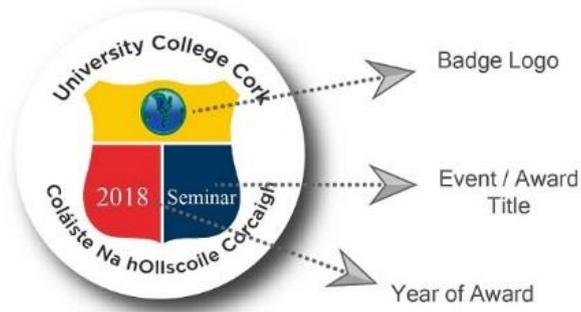
Further information

For further information on the advantages of receiving a digital badge, please refer to:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/digital-ed/training/digital-badges/>

The Digital Badge

A bespoke badge, including a QE logo and the text "Quality Peer Reviewer", has been designed in line with the following sample template. This can be applied to CVs or on-line profiles, such as LinkedIn etc.



QEU's data protection statement

The QEU is compliant with GDPR in relation to the collection and storage of data with reference to: processing data lawfully, fairly and transparently; limiting data collection to that which is required for the review process and the badge award; using data only for the purpose intended; ensuring that data are accurate and up to date; storing data safely and securely, and only for the limited time required for the purpose of the review process and badge award. All data and evidence relating to the Digital Badge will be held by QEU for one year only, to facilitate a potential audit by the DBSC (Digital Badge Sub-Committee)¹ of evidence relating to the awarding of the digital badge.

¹ A sub-committee of the ADSC