

The Centre for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (C-QuIPS) comparison chart: VAQS, Certificate, EQUIP programs

	Veterans Affairs Quality Scholarship (VAQS) program	Certificate in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety	Excellence in Quality Improvement (EQUIP) certificate program
Program page	<a href="#">VAQS web link</a>	<a href="#">Certificate web link</a>	<a href="#">EQUIP web link</a>
Duration	2 years (starts July 2021)	1 year (starts September 2021)	1 year (starts July 2021)
Format	Weekly (virtual for now) 2-hour sessions on Friday afternoons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1-2 p.m. group discussion</li> <li>- 2-3 p.m. video lecture</li> </ul>	Bi-weekly interactive large and small group sessions (virtual for now, with plan to switch to in-person public health measures permitting) on Tuesday afternoons	6 full-day virtual sessions (3 days in July/Aug. and 3 days in May/June; each day 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.), 90-minute webinars every month from September to April
Content	QI core and fellows forum (topics include core models, theories and frameworks for healthcare improvement); methods and analysis; leading healthcare improvement; career and scholarship	Quality improvement methods (e.g., QI tools, PDSA, run charts); patient safety (e.g., culture, event analysis); system leadership	Deep dive into QI methods (e.g., QI tools, PDSA, run charts); academic skills-building content (writing for scholarly dissemination, using QI for academic promotion, teaching and supervising QI)
Target audience	Early-career faculty, clinical fellow or interprofessional clinical leader seeking advanced scholarly and leadership career development skills in QI	Individuals with novice to intermediate QI skills seeking to develop expertise in <b>applied</b> QI methods (e.g., PDSA etc.,)	Faculty members with a <b>scholarly</b> QI focus working in <b>academic</b> departments or institutions; senior trainees wanting to make QI an academic career focus
Project	Longitudinal project (could be QI or research) with feedback and support from course directors	Longitudinal QI or patient safety project with a one-on-one QI coach to provide support and guidance	Longitudinal QI project with one-on-one faculty mentorship
Cost	\$3500 per year (total \$7000), plus mandatory Summer Institute attendance both years in Houston TX (travel/accommodation costs not included)	Physicians = \$4995 Health professionals and learners = \$2995	\$6500 per registrant
Application deadline	May 2021	May 2021	Rolling deadline with applications accepted and reviewed between February-June 2021