



**New Jersey - National Quality Program Standards (NQPS)
Rollout and Quality Program Grant Opportunity
September 25, 2009**

State Staff NJQPS Resource Team: Nancy Trivette and Erin Noble

State Staff NQPS Grant Facilitator: Sue Butch

National Staff NQPS Resource: Kevin Keith

NJQPS Resource Team:

Jack Roszel, Allentown High School;

Greg Zotti, Somerset Co. Vocational School,

Frank Yesalavich, Essex Co. Vocational School,

John Neyhart, Monmouth Co. Career Center,

Patty Thorne, Buena Regional High School



Schedule of New Jersey NQPS Rollout:

- 1) **September 25, 2009:** Introduction of NJ QPS and online tool at Fall Ag Ed teacher conference using pilot resource team. Passwords for website will be available at conference.
- 2) **September 25 – December 1, 2009:** New Jersey ag teachers meet with local teams of at least three people representing (1 ag teacher, 1 school administrator and 1 advisory committee member) to evaluate local program using online website. Based on results of evaluation, the team prioritizes standards and develops the action plan using template provided. It is recommended to select at least one but no more than two standards for any given year.
- 3) **North and South NJ Quality Program Action Plan Meetings December 1 or 2, 2009:** Teams bring action plans to meeting for refinement using NJQPS resource team's assistance. Initial program evaluation via the website and team, development of an action plan and attendance at this meeting is required to be eligible for grants.
- 4) **December 1, 2009 – December 1, 2010** Access web and NJ QPS team resources to make program improvements. State staff resource team available by invitation to visit and provide resources to programs throughout the year as plans for improvement are addressed.
- 5) **December 2010:** Post Test with team of three. Potential 2011 grants available.
- 6) **December 2010:** Active users of NQPS process (pre-test, action plan development, improvement and post test) will receive "NJ-NQPS Status" recognition by NJ Secretary of Agriculture.

NJ Quality Program Grant Information and Eligibility

At least four \$2500 grants will be available to agriculture programs in at least four different schools to assist in the program improvement. Grantees will be selected at the two regional Action Plan meetings in December 2009. Grants will be used by June 30, 2010.

Eligibility:

1. School/agricultural education program must have been represented at September 25th conference for full grant. (Deduct \$625 if school was not represented on September 25th).
2. Must have completed the initial online program evaluation by December 1st with a team of at least 3 people consisting of 1 agriculture teacher, 1 administrator, and 1 advisory committee member. (Names and positions must be submitted)
3. Must attend a regional Action Plan meeting conducted by the OAE.
4. Must have developed an NJQPS Action Plan for program improvement using the template provided, focusing on at least one but not more than two standards.
5. Grantees meeting the above eligibility will be selected at random

Implementing National Quality Program Standards in New Jersey

1. NJQPS is an improvement tool for teachers, programs and schools
2. NJQPS is a tool to help prepare more and better students for the industry
3. NJQPS is a tool to develop partnerships with administrators
4. NJQPS is a tool to develop partnerships with the community
5. NJQPS helps teachers utilize the seven keys of local program success*
6. NJQPS provides teachers the opportunity to balance their program
7. NJQPS helps focus the teachers' efforts in the seven LPS keys
8. NJQPS helps create awareness of the total agricultural education program
9. NJQPS helps promote agricultural education in the school
10. NJQPS can be used as a tool to convince decision makers improvements are needed

** Seven LPS Keys = Program Planning, Marketing, Partnerships, Professional Development, Experiential Learning, Leadership Development and Class/lab Instruction*