

Overview

ONCAT will be inviting applications from faculty for the upcoming 2020–2021 academic year. This pilot initiative will support the design and development of articulation committees. Articulation committees are formed around a particular subject of postsecondary study to review and increase course-to-course equivalencies within similar programs and support the development of transfer/articulation pathways. These committees aim to improve transfer opportunities for students by maximizing transfer credit recognition, where appropriate, and reducing duplication of commensurate previous learning.

ONCAT will be launching the pilot with a focus on two disciplines: i) community/social services and ii) business. ONCAT is seeking faculty from colleges, universities, and Indigenous Institutes in these fields. The pilot will have a maximum of six faculty, with ideally two faculty members representing both disciplines from each institution type. This is a pilot initiative and may be expanded and/or extended as required.

The role of the Transfer Faculty Advisor (TFA) is to:

1. Work with ONCAT to identify relevant programs within each discipline for potential inclusion in disciplinary articulation committees.
2. Facilitate collaboration between and within postsecondary institutions in their field of study to produce and communicate articulation pathways for students in Ontario.
3. Invite and engage faculty within their fields to increase participation to support the development of articulation committees.
4. Serve as chairs of the articulation committees.
5. Participate in knowledge mobilization and professional development as related to transfer and pathway development as required.
6. Increase institutional knowledge about transfer-related data and transfer student experience in their Faculty/department/institution.
7. Improve academic processes related to evaluating transfer credits and working with transfer students.
8. Share emerging models of successful student mobility initiatives.

About ONCAT

Established in 2011, the Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT) is a government-funded organization that works with all of Ontario's 45 public colleges and universities to enhance academic pathways and reduce barriers for students looking to transfer. ONCAT's student website, ONTransfer.ca, is a resource for anyone who is looking for information on how to obtain both a diploma and a degree or is hoping to transfer their courses and programs among the postsecondary institutions in the province. Collaboration is at the core of ONCAT's work, enabling us to leverage and build expertise and resources.

Projects in pathway development, research, and innovative transfer are an integral part of creating a system of mobility in Ontario. Through an annual RFP process, we provide funding to our publicly funded colleges, universities, and other postsecondary partners to develop and create pathways and agreements, examine student and institutional experiences of transfer, and improve transfer student success.

Submission Criteria

Faculty should have at least five years of teaching and course/curriculum development experience in their respective discipline, with a good grasp of the curricular structure and design of programs in their area. Administrative or curricular experience in articulation and transfer is preferred. This may include a background in the development or review of institutional policies, articulation and transfer pathway coordination, admission assessment, curricular assessment, and/or program quality assurance or development. The faculty member will have experience in participating and/or leading committees within their institutions and/or across the postsecondary sector. Faculty must recognize the importance of a student-centred approach and understand that students transfer for many reasons. The role of these faculty advisors—and articulation committees—is to support transfer students in Ontario's postsecondary education system.

Funding Available and Timelines

The institution for each successful Transfer Faculty Advisor candidate will receive \$10,000, to be paid in two installments. This funding is intended as a contribution towards a course release for a full-time faculty member (exclusive of benefits) as well as incidental costs related to the planned events. The Advisor will be employed by their institution and will not be an employee of ONCAT. A contract will be signed between the institution and ONCAT.

The work of the TFA will begin in October 2020 and run until June 2021.

Proposal Submission Process

Submissions should include the following components.

Submission deadline: September 28, 2020

1. A one-page proposal using the Proposal Submission Form (see website for details).
2. A curriculum vitae (CV), including administrative/service and teaching roles.
3. A completed institutional sign-off page, including signatures from the faculty member, their department head, and the institution's Vice-President Academic.

Please submit the above documents by email to: cpoplak@oncat.ca.

Proposal Evaluation Process

Your proposal will be reviewed by ONCAT staff. Additional reviewers from the sector may be engaged as required.

In general, proposals will be evaluated according to their:

- Clarity and comprehensiveness.
- Demonstrated alignment and experience with the TFA role as outlined in the overview.

After the initial review, we may follow up with proponents to address any questions that have arisen during our review. Your prompt response is appreciated to expedite the review process. Once any questions are addressed and a decision has been made, you will be notified via email. We aim to arrive at final decisions on most proposals by October 5, 2020.

Successful Proponents

Successful proponents will be expected to enter into a formal agreement with ONCAT, which will outline the terms and conditions of funding, specifying the project goals, timelines, and expected deliverables.

Contact

To submit an expression of interest, please email Carolyn Poplak, Manager of Sector Engagement, at cpoplak@oncat.ca.

COVID-19

The Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer office is closed temporarily in response to COVID-19 and directives from public health agencies. However, ONCAT staff are working remotely and fulfilling all normal services to create strong academic pathways and reduce barriers for students in Ontario.

We will be accepting applications from faculty across the province and there is an expectation this work will be done remotely. In-person events may resume according to guidelines from Public Health.

For ONCAT's full statement on COVID-19, please visit <https://oncat.ca/en/oncat-covid-19-update>.

Please note: the discipline focus and content areas may change at the discretion of ONCAT.