



Certified OASIS Quality Specialist (COQS) Preparation 2 day Course (Sept 23 & 24)

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We are pleased to bring you this important OASIS Certification opportunity: The two-day Certified OASIS Quality Specialist (COQS) preparation course – **complete with PDGM and OASIS-D1 readiness information** - will be offered September 23 and 24. Held at LifeStation, 2 Stahuber Avenue, Union, NJ. Registration 8:00a. Program 8:30a-4:30p.

We have partnered with Fazzi Associates, long-time leaders in OASIS expertise, to bring you the COQS!



Anita Werner, RN, BCHH-C, COQS,
Senior Compliance Consultant

Why Has the COQS Become Our Industry's Leading OASIS Certification Program?

- ✓ The COQS provides these extra benefits at no cost to help you stay up to date with OASIS changes and best practices throughout the 3-year certification period:
 - Automatic and complimentary registration to Fazzi's annual OASIS competency test.
 - Complimentary webinars on challenging topics and guidance changes.
 - Complimentary "Ask the Expert" sessions to answer any and all questions about OASIS.
- ✓ Led by OASIS expert, instructor, enthusiast, devotee, coach and mentor, Anita Werner, the quality of the course instruction and materials is outstanding.
- ✓ Developed, reviewed, psychometrically analyzed and beta tested by industry leading OASIS experts, the COQS is an accurate and important measure of OASIS proficiency.
- ✓ The COQS course includes The OASIS Walk® that teaches how to use OASIS as an effective care planning tool in the home.

What COQS Certificants Have to Say...

This program is getting outstanding reviews!

- "Awesome program!"
- "Anita was an excellent educator."
- "Really enjoyed Anita's energy!"
- "Presenter was excellent!"
- "It was great!"
- "Very informative class."
- "I've been involved with OASIS since its inception in the 90's. I have been certified twice and this was by far the best presentation. I've learned a lot and obviously have to study more!!! The reason I took this course was as a comparison o the others and I'm going to promote Fazzi for sure. Thank you."

Contact Hours

This two day course is eligible for 13 nursing contact hours. Fazzi Associates is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Course Objective & Overview

The course objective is to fully prepare participants for successfully achieving OASIS certification. Certification requires a strong knowledge of OASIS with the ability to accurately interpret assessment data and complete the CMS OASIS item set in a compliant fashion.

This comprehensive, engaging and effective two-day course not only provides in-depth education on completion of the OASIS Items – It also provides the information necessary to accurately determine CMS OASIS requirements as outlined in the Guidance Manual, official Q&A documents, and the Conditions of Participation for Medicare certified Home Health agencies.

The following domains are covered by the preparation course and exam:

1. Medicare OASIS regulations and requirements 10%
 - a. Time point requirements for OASIS data collection
 - b. Definitions and conventions for OASIS completion
2. Application of OASIS data 5%
 - a. OASIS and quality outcomes/Star Ratings/Reimbursement
 - b. OASIS correction policies
3. OASIS Item and guidance application – 85%
 - a. Patient tracking and history M-Items and GG-Items
 - b. Clinical assessment M-Items
 - c. Functional assessment M-Items and GG-Items
 - d. Caregiving and living arrangement M-Items
 - e. Process measure assessment M-Items
 - f. Episode timing and therapy service M-Items
 - g. Fall outcome measure J-Items

Every participant will receive an OASIS-D Field Guide.

Cost

\$700 HCHANJ members/\$850 Non-members – includes light breakfast, lunch and snacks for two days, plus OASIS-D Field Guide and handouts: 2019 OASIS D Certification Preparation Program, January 2019 CMS Quarterly OASIS Q & A's and Table 5 – Case Mix Adjustment Variables and Scores CY 2019

How long is the COQS valid?

The certification is valid for three years at which time an 80-question recertification examination may be taken to maintain credentialed status. The recertification exam is shorter (80 questions) than the initial certification exam (100 questions), because candidates have demonstrated general competency with OASIS by passing the initial certification exam (COQS or other certifications). The recertification exam will incorporate newer guidance to show the test taker has kept up to date with the OASIS guidance as well as questions related to long-standing guidance in order to demonstrate they have not 'lost' any of their old knowledge base.

How was the COQS developed?

Developed, reviewed, beta tested and psychometrically analyzed by industry leading OASIS experts, the COQS is an accurate and important measure of OASIS proficiency. Here is how it was developed:

- Phase 1: Exam questions are written by two Fazzi OASIS experts. 150 total questions are written for a goal of a 100 question exam.
- Phase 2: The Fazzi expert review panel reviews the test questions and provides input on questions and responses. This input is sent back to the expert writers for review and revisions.
- Phase 3: The Beta Test is administered to a beta group of 25 clinicians with proven advanced OASIS knowledge. Construct validity is measured for each test question using question response rates (% correct/incorrect) and through feedback collected from testers. Questions with an incorrect response rate of 50% or higher are automatically eliminated. All other questions are reviewed based on feedback provided.
- Phase 4: The test is revised and distributed again to the initial 25 initial beta testers. Test-retest reliability is measured based on consistency and response rates for each of the remaining questions. Questions with reliability less than 75% are eliminated.
- Phase 5: The edited test is distributed to a second beta group of 75 testers with intermediate and advanced OASIS knowledge. The cut score (passing score) is determined based on the beta test results.

What should I bring or not bring to the Exam Site?

Candidates for the COQS may bring the following paper reference materials to the exam: CMS OASIS Guidance Manual, CMS OASIS Q&A's and study materials spiral bound or contained in a binder. People are free to write notes in OASIS materials. All loose materials, including Post-It notes, must be removed prior to entering the testing area.



No communication or other electronic devices will be permitted in the testing area. Cell phones or other handheld electronic devices must be turned completely off and placed out of reach during the test.

Candidates may bring water in either unopened commercial bottles or clear, unmarked reusable bottles. No other food or beverage is allowed for the duration of the exam, unless previously approved by the Fazzi through an accommodation request.

What type of identification do I need to take the exam?

Candidates will be required to present their Test Taker Authorization Code and one form of identification upon their arrival at the test site (via ProctorU). The form of identification must be a government-issued photo ID. Acceptable forms of primary government-issued photo identification include:

- Driver's license or learner's permit including a valid expiration date
- Military identification for members, spouses, or dependents
- Passport or passport card
- Green card or permanent resident visa

If you have a form of identification not on this list, please contact Fazzi prior to your testing date to inquire whether it will be accepted at the test site.

What about test security?

Candidates will also be required to sign a statement verifying their identity, accepting all test security policies, and acknowledging potential consequences for violation of security policy. Violations of security policy include, but are not limited to:

- Use of unauthorized materials or devices
- Unauthorized communication with other candidates or with the proctor
- Giving false identification information
- Attempting to reproduce, remove, report, or distribute examination materials
- Creating a disturbance

Candidates may not communicate with anyone other than the proctor during the testing period. Candidates may not request any information regarding exam content from the proctor. Failure to comply will result in the candidate being disqualified from taking the exam, and may result in score cancelation for the candidate's entire test group.



Allegations of candidate or proctor misconduct will be investigated. Any evidence of unacceptable behavior may result in score cancelation and other disciplinary measures as determined by Fazzi Associates.

In order to provide a consistent and fair experience for all test takers, to protect the integrity of the examinations, and to ensure the validity of certification examination scores, candidates must adhere to the guidelines established in the handling of examination materials. Candidates may not remove, reproduce, report, or distribute exam materials in any part and by any means, including electronic, manual, and verbal. Failing to comply is a copyright violation and will result in disciplinary measures including score cancelation, revocation of credentials, and prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

What conduct is required at the exam?

It is the responsibility of all candidates to keep certification exam content confidential and to treat others with courtesy and respect during the exam. Candidates will carefully read and listen to instructions prior to the start of the exam and will ask any questions related to exam administration procedure prior to the start of the exam. Candidates will leave quietly after submitting their exam either when they are finished, or at the end of the exam time.

How do I get my results?

COQS Exam candidates will receive their scores immediately after submission/completion of the exam. Fazzi reserves the right to withhold examination results for the duration of an investigation of candidate misconduct, or internal errors.

How do I get my certificate?

Certificates will be delivered electronically after successful completion of the COQS exam. Certificants may retrieve their certificates by logging into the system, and clicking on the "My Certificates" tab.

How do I properly use the Credential?

Passing candidates are authorized to use the related credential following their names as long as certification remains valid and in good standing.

How often can I retest until I pass the exam?

Candidates may take the exam a total of 3 times annually. Candidates who do not pass the test the first time must wait 30 days before retesting the second time. Candidates who do not pass the second time must wait 6 months before retesting for the third time. After that, a candidate must wait one year from their last attempt before retesting.



What if I want to appeal a disciplinary decision?

If candidates wish to appeal a disciplinary decision, they must submit a written request for appeal within 30 days of receiving the disciplinary decision. Candidates may only appeal on the grounds of material errors of fact or a procedural violation in their original disciplinary investigation. The Appeals Committee will review the appeal and notify the candidate of their decision within 30 days.

How do I report complaints about the exam?

Candidates must report any complaints regarding their test center, proctor, or testing misconduct to Fazzi in writing within twenty-four hours of their test time.

Candidates who fail the exam and believe irregular testing conditions were a contributing factor may file an appeal. Candidates who fail the exam and believe there has been a scoring error may request a hand-scoring of their exam. Appeals regarding the content of the exam, including specific exam questions, will not be considered.

How are complaints reviewed?

Complaints will be reviewed by the Fazzi Disciplinary Committee and all complaints judged to have merit will be investigated by the Committee. Members of the committee found to have a personal or familial relationship to the certificant in question will recuse themselves.

Candidates under investigation will be notified regarding the nature of the complaint and will have the opportunity to submit a written statement. Notification will include a copy of the disciplinary and appeals policy. The Disciplinary Investigation Committee may contact the individual for additional information as needed.

The Disciplinary Committee will determine what, if any, disciplinary actions will be taken. Disciplinary actions may include:

- Implementation of a probationary period
- Asking certificant to re-test
- Revocation of credentials
- Legal action if applicable

Is my personal information and exam score kept confidential?



Candidate information, including scores, will remain confidential. Fazzi will never distribute information to a third party. Individual results will only be distributed to authorized parties for the purposes of: scoring and investigations of misconduct or internal error. Exam performance and candidate demographic information will be used and distributed in aggregate form for purposes including but not limited to: required reporting, exam development and improvement, and research.

How often do I need to recertify?

The COQS is valid for 3-years. Certificants must recertify by re-testing on the current version of the certification exam in the third year of their certification cycle. The recertification exam is 80 questions and will incorporate regulatory and practice updates in all applicable domain areas. The certificant will be expected to achieve the passing score required of new certificants to recertify by test.

The certification cycle for new certificants begins the day after the credential is awarded and ends three years after the certification date. The three year certification period allows candidates time to demonstrate that they are dedicated to keeping up-to-date and incorporating annual regulatory updates, adjustments to the OASIS, and other changes in a quickly growing industry into their everyday professional practice.

What happens if I do not recertify?

Certificants failing to recertify by the end of their certification cycle will be removed from the Certificant Registry and may no longer use their credential.

*****Certification Exam*****

Upon completion of the two-day course, you can take the 100-question certification exam if you are not currently certified. If you have a current certification (from any certifying body) in good standing, you can take the 80-question recertification exam at a discounted price.

In either case, **you may take the exam online at any time that is convenient for you.** You simply need to register for the online exam 72 hours before you want to take it. If you think you'll want to take the exam as soon as you get home from the preparation course, then you should register for it before the course. If you want additional time to study your notes and the OASIS Field Guide, you can register for the exam at any time.

You'll use Fazzi's online proctoring partner, ProctorU. If you're taking the exam on an agency computer, we recommend verifying the ability to use a webcam proctoring service with your IT department prior to scheduling. Fazzi's Education Department is also available to provide technical support if you need it by calling 844-993-2994.

You will be responsible for paying Fazzi directly for the exam when you register. The cost for the 100- question certification exam is \$199. The cost for the 80-question recertification exam is \$149.

To register for the 100-question certification exam, click [here](#) and use this promo code: RICOQS50

To register for the 80-question recertification exam, click [here](#) and use this promo code: RICOQS50

