

Qstream FAQs

Important Details for Participants



Does Qstream really help me learn & remember?

Qstream is an innovative learning system developed at Harvard Medical School. It combines gaming with a scientifically proven methodology that increases long-term knowledge retention by up to 170%. The “spaced education” methodology is based on the neuroscience of how human memory works.



How does the leaderboard game work?

You earn more points for answering questions correctly and fewer points for answering incorrectly. Keep up with your questions to maximize your score. The leaderboard, which is displayed after you answer a question, shows up-to-the-minute scores for individuals and teams.

How are points awarded?

The *first time* you answer each question, you earn 50 points for questions answered correctly, 30 points for questions answered incorrectly and partial points for multiple correct answer (MCA) questions. If questions are repeating in your Qstream, once you’ve answered a question two times in a row correctly, you will earn bonus points for retiring that question. You will receive 100 bonus points minus 5 points for incorrect responses along the way.

How do “timed” questions work?

Timed questions enable you to earn up to 30 bonus points for answering quickly. To respond, first read the question and then press 'Start' when you are ready to answer. The timer begins as soon as the answer choices display, and stops when you submit your answer. The bonus points reduce as the time counts down.

Why do others have more points than me?

All participants have access to the same questions and an equal opportunity to earn points. Participants with the most correct responses accumulate the most points. Therefore, participants who respond to their questions on the day that they become available will generally be ahead on the leaderboards because they’ve answered the maximum number of questions to date.

How do I move up in rank?

The best way to improve your rank is to respond on the day you are notified about available questions via email and/or native app notification. The longer questions remain in your queue, the further behind you will fall. Questions build up in your queue but, for maximum knowledge retention, you can only answer a few questions at a time. Answering questions on the day they become available is the best way to maximize your points and complete the Qstream before it closes.

How does the team vs team competition work?

If there is a team component to your competition, team scores are based on the average score of your team, so do your best to support your teammates by keeping up with your questions!



Why do questions repeat?

Questions repeat because it improves long-term knowledge retention. Qstream uses the "spaced education" methodology and delivers small pieces of information spread over a period of time. Incorrectly answered questions are repeated after a shorter period of time and correctly answered questions after a longer period of time. Questions are repeated until the information is mastered and questions are retired.



Does Qstream work on mobile devices?

Yes, Qstream works on all iOS and Android devices and is also accessible via web browser. Qstream sends a daily notification email when you have questions available. Simply click on the “Answer” button in the email from any mobile device to respond. In addition, we have a native app for iPhones/iPads and Androids that pushes notifications when you have questions available. Your Qstreams are automatically synced across devices and platforms regardless of how you respond.

