



Goals & Foci for the Next Year

Midwest Credential Transparency Alliance Convening

October 11, 2022



State Roadmap & Action Guide to Transparency

State leaders are in unique positions to prioritize credential transparency and align it with efforts to identify credentials of value.

Create systems where credentials are:

- Accessible
- Understood
- Comparable
- Connected to other critical education and workforce data
- Communicated so that they serve everyone.



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Making Sense of Credentials: A State Roadmap and Action Guide for Transparency

November 2020



- **Understand the Value**
- **Make the Case**
- **Align with Existing Education & Workforce Data Commitments**
- **Catalog and Publish Credentials and Competencies**
- **Turn these Data into Actionable Information**
- **Build Enduring Commitment**

Roadmap Overview



Understand the Value

1. Learn how credential transparency can benefit students, workers, employers, educators, policymakers, and others.

The first step to making any change is recognizing current challenges and understanding solutions. State policymakers need to:

- Raise expectations that everyone deserves to have timely, accurate, user-friendly information to guide their decisions about preparation for careers.
- Learn more about the foundational role that a common language and marketplace for credentials plays in creating greater transparency.
- Become familiar with the Credential Transparency Data Language (CTDL) and the Credential Registry.

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2.3





Make the Case

2. Communicate clear use cases to benefit students, workers, employers, educators, programs, and key policy goals.
3. Commit to using a common language and identify what data about credentials and competencies are necessary to be transparent and publicly available.

Agencies overseeing K–12, workforce, higher education, licensing, apprenticeships and other credentials can identify and report on how credential transparency would improve services and value to stakeholders.

Create incentives for state agencies, training and education providers, employers, and others to make information on all credentials in the state accessible through linked open data using a common language and ask all agencies focusing on supporting the development of human capital should to identify all data elements needed to support state goals.

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Align with Existing Education & Workforce Data Commitments

4. Ensure this work is integrated with, complements, and strengthens quality, attainment, equity, access, affordability, and P-20W data efforts to ensure continuity and impact.

Incorporate common and comprehensive data around credentials into the data systems of early childhood, K–12, postsecondary, and workforce, and ensure that this information can be securely linked and shared, when appropriate, to meet education and workforce goals.

Ensure that quality indicators are accessible to the public by publishing them in CTDL.

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Catalog and Publish Credentials and Competencies

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5. Inventory all credentials in your jurisdiction.

1.9

6. Publish all credentials and their competencies to the Credential Registry and the Open Web in CTDL and CTDL-ASN.

1.8

Create a census of all credentials available to the residents of the state: type, provider, etc

Require that information about all credentials delivered, issued, funded, authorized, overseen, or governed by the state be made publicly accessible through the use of CTDL-the standard language for creating linked open data networks on credentials.





Turn these Data into Actionable Information

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7. Link and align credential data with other essential data.

2.1

8. Support the creation of end-user tools, services, and systems with robust navigation and guidance capabilities.

2.3

Link Registry data to other state databases to allow users to get real-time updates on job postings, financial assistance, and so on. This way, actual job openings and related skill needs can be linked to both existing credentials and to digital learner records.

State agencies should use Registry data to create their own search portals to promote access to comparable credential information that matters to their residents.





Build Enduring Commitment

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9. Ensure sustainability of credential transparency through legislative, agency, and institution policies that continuously improve credential transparency for the benefits of its citizens and markets.

1.8

10. Establish the necessary infrastructure for enduring data transparency.

2.1

Consider and implement policies noted throughout this document, including legislation that provides for enduring credential and competency transparency. Ensure that clear lines of authority for data transparency are in place.

Include funding for credential transparency related activities in budgets for state agencies and programs.

