



Workforce Information Advisory Council -- September 8 -10, 2020 Public Comments

Credential Engine's Work in and Support of Better Workforce Information

Colleges, job training programs, and employers offer all kinds of credentials—diplomas, certificates, licenses, certifications, apprenticeships, badges, and degrees of all types and levels—for learning valuable knowledge and skills.

But it's hard to find reliable information about credentials. With so many to choose from—and no consistent standards for comparing and evaluating them—people get lost and lose out on opportunities.

We're working to end the confusion and frustration by mapping out the credential landscape.

Colleges, companies, government agencies, and others are sharing detailed information about their programs, and describing the knowledge and skills they confer in clear and consistent language.

Together, we're building a linked-open data network that everyone can access for timely and trusted information about credentials and competencies.

This information will fuel the creation of programs and tools that allow students, employers, and workers to compare credentials and choose the best option.

These powerful resources will open eyes to the full range of opportunities available for learning, advancement, and meaningful careers.

Credential Engine's technologies include the only linked open data schemas that provide a proven, common language for describing credentials and competencies (the Credential Transparency Description Languages, or CTDL), open APIs, tools for publishing information as Linked Open Data, and a national Credential Registry for making the data available and transparent. The Credential Registry is the largest repository of the diverse range of credential and competency types and providers and continues to grow.

To date there are 19 states and regions working with Credential Engine to ensure full credential and competency transparency, and more will be joining by the end of 2020. In addition, a growing number of federal grant opportunities require credential transparency and interoperability, and other agencies are using Credential Engine tools and resources for internal management of credential and competency data.

Finally, opportunities to expand this work internationally are growing through conversations with a number of companies, countries, institutions, and NGOs.

Credential Engine's suite of open technologies is available for the public benefit. For more information, contact Scott Cheney, CEO, at scheney@credentialengine.org.