Government Credentialing Network (GCN)

October 4, 2017

Cynthia Woodley
Chair, Government Credentialing Network
GCN Federal Training Sessions

➢ To date, Workcred has hosted 2 federal training sessions in Washington, DC; one on October 11, 2016 and the second on May 15, 2017.

➢ These events are intended to educate federal employees involved in managing, leading, or creating credentialing programs, including chief learning officers, training officers, and HR professionals, so they can be more effective in their jobs.

Session Highlights:

✓ Interactive Roundtable Discussions
✓ Networking
✓ No fee to attend (thus far)
✓ Sponsorships cover meeting rental, catering, A/V fees
✓ Open to current GCN members and other federal employees
✓ The events are publicized through various means, including OPM’s communications channels, the Workcred Government Credentialing Network, and ANSI Government Member Forum. Members of the U.S. Chief Financial Officers Council and Chief Information Officers Council were also invited
Building a 21st Century Federal Workforce through Dynamic Competency-Based Credentialing

October 11, 2016

- **Federal Perspective on Credentialing:** Keynote Speaker – Clifton Triplett, Senior Cyber and Information Technology Advisor, OPM, spoke on the importance of credentials and OPM’s perspective on how credentials are used, how they should be used, and the improvements that could be made within the federal government.

- **Industry Trends: Where is Credentialing Headed?** Eric Seleznow, Dept. Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor, presented on new and upcoming trends in the civilian credentialing community that relate to federal initiatives.

- **Moderated Panel – Success in creating credentialing programs**
  Panelists:
  - Josh Olson, Lead Policy Advisor for Technical Operations, Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs, U.S. Department of Energy
  - Elizabeth Ziolkowski, Manager, Laboratory Operations & Quality Assurance, U.S. Postal Inspection Service Forensic Laboratory Services

- **Closing Remarks:** Sharon Boivin, Chair, Interagency Working Group on Expanded Measures of Enrollment and Attainment (GEMEnA), National Center for Education Statistics, discussed the new federal statistics on the prevalence of certifications in the U.S. adult population, how and why new data can provide a context for ongoing efforts to make sense of the credential landscape, and why federal agencies should care.
Currency and Use of Credentials in the Federal Government: A Factor toward a New Competency-Based Federal Workforce: Keynote Speaker – Jane Oates, Former Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, U.S. Department of Labor; Vice President for External Affairs, Apollo Education Group

- Topic: Credentials are increasingly becoming the currency of the job market, but their true value can only be communicated and evaluated through competencies. This keynote will shed light on the federal government’s current use of credentials and how the government can leverage competency-based credentials to help build a 21st-century federal workforce.

Department of Labor as a Resource on Industry Certifications: Speaker – Pam Frugoli, O*NET/CareerOneStop/Competency Assessment Team Lead, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

- Topic: How to use DOL’s CareerOneStop website, which contains a searchable online database of 5,000 certifications and indicators of quality, demand, and relevance

Moderated Panel – Federal Credentialing Models

- Lisa Lutz, President, Solutions for Information Design, LLC
- Selden Fritschner, Director, CDL Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation
- Michael Scott, Chief, Professionalization Division, Center for Development of Security Excellence, Defense Security Service (DSS)

Educational Session: Certification and Continuing Competency: Speaker – Roy Swift, Executive Director, Workcred

- Topic: Understanding the relationship between certification and continuing competency
Session Outcomes

- **October 11**: 106 registered, 55 attended (including speakers and staff)
- **May 15**: 70 registered, 38 attended (including speakers and staff)
- **How can attendance be improved?**

**Feedback from Post-Event Evaluation Forms:**
- The breakout sessions are very valuable and provide useful information
- Would like more group activities and/or networking
- Good opportunity to share knowledge on credentialing at the federal level

**Future Topic Suggestions:**
- Credentialing terms – understanding differences
- Session on microcredentials
- Getting buy-in for credentialing programs
- How the government can benefit from the Credential Registry
- Focus on the apprenticeship model
- Career development options with reduced funding
- Credentialing and accreditation
- Recertification/continuing competency
Open Discussion: Planning the Next Session

- What ideas do you have to make the next event even better and encourage greater attendance?
- Are there any suggestions for potential speakers or relevant topics?
- Would you or your agency be willing to pay a small registration or lunch fee to attend?
for more information

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