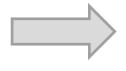




Credential Transparency Initiative





## Pilot Project Leadership

### Pilot led by:







### With support from:



### **Strategic direction from:**

- American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)
- American Council on Education (ACE)
- Business Roundtable
- Committee for Economic Development of the Conference Board
- The Manufacturing Institute
- University Professional and Continuing Education Association (UPCEA)
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

## **Project Goals**

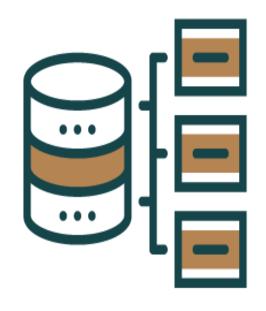
- \*Develop common terms (Credential Transparency Description Language -CTDL) for describing key features of:
- Credentials
- Credentialing organizations
- Quality assurance (QA) bodies

- \*Create and populate a voluntary, web-based credential registry with credential issuers and QA bodies
- \*Bring the registry to scale under non-profit governance

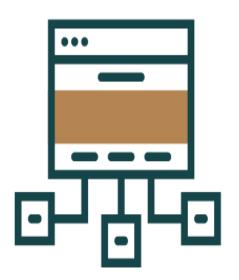
- \*Develop and evaluate a directory search app to facilitate use of the registry by stakeholders
- \*Foster a competitive app marketplace\*\*

<sup>\*</sup>The credential registry, descriptors, and applications will all be open-source.

## **How it Works**



Credential
Transparency
Description
Language (CTDL)



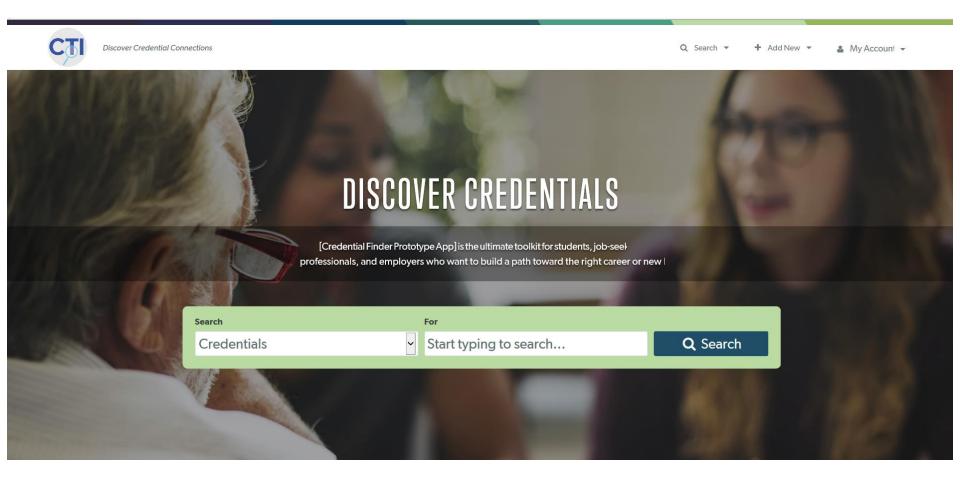
Credential Engine Registry



Credential Finder Prototype App

## **Using the Credential Search App**

- Federal and state government agencies and advocacy organizations can develop directories of high-quality certifications for veterans and other targeted populations
- ✓ **State government agencies** can develop directories for certified training providers and industry-recognized credentials
- ✓ Federal and state education agencies can develop directories of approved credentials and programs for student grants and loans
- ✓ National and state initiatives can use the app to identify quality credentials in measuring progress to their credentialing goals
- ✓ Business and industry organizations can build directories of employer and industry recognized credentials for different industry sectors
- ✓ Employers can identify eligible providers and credentials for tuition assistance programs
- ✓ Career and education guidance systems can build more complete and accurate career and education pathway models and provide more comprehensive, comparable information on credentialing options



## The Registry Will Include All Kinds of **Credentials**

#### What's the value of a credential?

What does this degree mean you can do? Can this certification provide credit toward a degree? How does a badge from this online academy compare with a certification in the same field? Can I get this certification while pursuing a degree? What does this license allow you to do? How can I be assured that this is a high-quality credential that can be trusted?

When credentials are unique and difficult to compare, they lose much of their value to job seekers and employers. [Credential Finder Prototype App] provides comparable information on all types of credentials to help align credentials with the needs of students, job seekers, workers, and employers.







Badge



Certificate



Certification



Degree



Diploma



License



Micro-Credential



**Quality Assurance** 

# A Common Language - the CTDL - Enables Comparability Credential Descriptors:

# Declaring Name, Purpose and Type of Credential and Credentialing Organization

- Credentialing Organization Identification
- Credential Organization Type
- Credential Identification
- Credential Type
- Purpose of the Credential
- Where Credentialing Is Offered

### Declaring What Is Inside the Credential

- Credentialing Eligibility Requirements
- Competencies/Learning Outcomes Required to Attain the Credential
- Assessments Required to Attain the Credential
- Education and Training for the Credential
- Time Required to Attain the Credential
- Credentialing Costs
- Maintaining the Credential
- Credential Removal
- Credential Holder Verification
- Version Management
- Employer Engagement

### **Declaring Other Key Characteristics and Connections**

- Primary Scope of Application: Subject/Discipline Area
- Primary Scope of Application: Career Preparation and Advancement
- Role of Occupational Regulation and Licensing
- Geographic Portability of Credential Use
- Connections to Other Credentials
- Career Pathway Connections
- External Quality Assurances
- Employer Recognition
- Number and Characteristics of Credential Holders
- Employment and Earnings of Credential Holders

# A Common Language - the CTDL - Enables Comparability QA Descriptors:

### Purpose & Scope of the QA Body

- Type of QA body
- Main purpose
- Missions/Objectives
- What is accredited, endorsed, approved, recognized?
- How is the QA used?
- Primary geographic scope
- Maximum period of the approval, recognition, endorsement, accreditation?
- Year body began operating

#### **QA Process**

- Activities used to assess a credential in the QA process
- Process used to validate the quality criteria?
- Quality criteria/standards/require ments used in the QA process
- Outcomes reviewed as part of the QA process
- Stakeholders involved in developing the quality criteria
- Criteria for selecting and evaluating assessors/reviewers?

### Public Information about QA Decisions

- Types of decisions made and how they are defined
- Directory of accredited/approved/recogniz ed/endorsed providers and their current status
- Information about the QA body made public with request
- Information about the QA body made public without request

#### **Additional Info**

- General Info
- Policies and procedures for managing conflicts of interest, complaints, appeals
- External recognition

# Project Work Plan: Transitioning to Scale

### July 2016 – December 2016

Pilot, add more partners, evaluate results & finetune prototype Registry & Credential Directory App, begin scale up effort

Work with 2-3 state partners to demonstrate state applications

Jan 1 2017 - June 2017

Scale-up with registry partners, with assistance as needed

July 2017 - forward

Operated by new nonprofit board & advisory groups; maintain/scale up

### **Profile of Current Pilot-Site Partners**

# Number of Credentialing Organizations as of September 2016

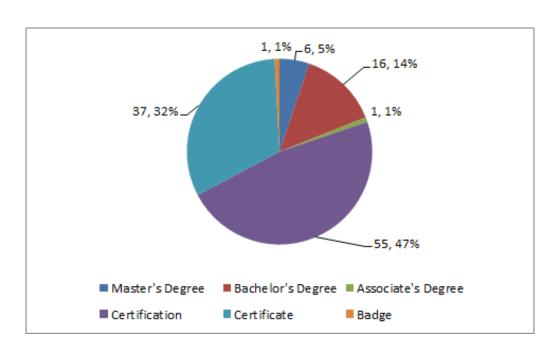
62 credential partner organizations 116 credentials total

# Number of Quality Assurance Organizations Identified by Credential Partners

15 Accreditation Organizations

4 Regulatory Organizations

### Credentials\* as of August 2016 = 116



<sup>\*</sup> Some credentials have additional credentials embedded within those selected for project. These quantities don't (yet) include embedded credentials.

## Participating as a Pilot Partner

### **Partners Receive Services**

- Conversion of credential or QA information to machine and human readable/comparable formats
- Credential or QA information published to the Pilot Credential Registry
- Personalized "Roadmap" document showing steps that can be taken to enable the W3C vision for Linked Data

### **How Partners Participate**

- Provide access to technical and credential staff
- Provide early access to credential or QA information
- Provide ongoing feedback
- Participate in evaluation

### **Getting Involved with Credential Engine**

- Credential Engine will have 4 Advisory Groups; nominations for each are being accepted through October 15:
  - Higher Education
  - Business
  - Certification & Licensure
  - Quality Assurance

To submit a nomination: <a href="https://www.credentialtransparencyinitiative.org/">https://www.credentialtransparencyinitiative.org/</a>

### **Upcoming Webinars**

- <u>Credential Engine Registry Services and Support Plan</u> November 17, 2016
- Credential Engine Registry Technical Deep Dive November 18, 2016

# **Questions?**

### For more information

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