



## Government Credentialing Network

*Hosted by Workcred, an affiliate of the American National Standards Institute*

Thursday, October 11, 2018

10:30 AM to 2:00 PM ET

ANSI Headquarters  
1899 L Street NW, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20036

### Meeting Report

On October 11, Workcred hosted the Government Credentialing Network (GCN), bringing together representatives from federal agencies and vendors to discuss and learn about various governmental activities relating to the quality and market value of credentials. The network is intended to provide an effective and efficient forum for federal participants to share valuable information and insights about certifications, as well as related developments in policy, research, and statistics. GCN meetings include presentations by governmental agencies and individuals conducting related government workforce development projects, and are followed by the opportunity for information exchange in the form of open discussions or interactive brainstorming sessions.

#### Strategic Plan on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education

Dr. Jeff Weld, senior policy advisor and assistant director of STEM education at the Office of Science and Technology Policy's Executive Office of the President, discussed efforts to update the federal strategic plan on STEM education.

Updated every five years, the new STEM plan is expected to debut in December 2018. Dr. Weld explained that the new plan takes into account the consensus priorities of the broader STEM education community, which include building business partnerships with education, a shift in emphasis from the 2013 plan which emphasized four-year and graduate education. Created with input from stakeholders, the new plan takes into account the community's priorities on diversity and inclusion, computer science and cybersecurity, mathematics, accessibility to digital platforms, and transparency; likely to be embedded throughout are related credentialing recommendations.

During the discussion that followed, several GCN members suggested ways in which they would be willing to offer input to the plan. Participants also voiced the opinion that STEM education should be embedded within other disciplines, not simply used in isolation.

#### Workforce Initiatives: Apprenticeships

Laurie Rowe, senior policy advisor to Secretary Acosta at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA), provided a strategic outlook on apprenticeships and the creation of a new industry-recognized pathway to fill the skills gap.

Ms. Rowe highlighted recent endeavors at the ETA since President Trump released the 2017 Executive Order Expanding Apprenticeships in America, including forming a task force charged with identifying strategies and proposals to promote apprenticeships in November 2017. In May 2018, the task force provided a report to the President that included 26 recommendations and an emphasis on access to early education programs.

Ms. Rowe shared news that DOL is planning to develop an industry-recognized competency-based accreditation program. To accomplish this goal, the department issued an interim informational and guidance document (TEN No., 3-18) on July 27, 2018, titled "[Creating Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs to Expand Opportunity in America](#)," and is currently soliciting comments concerning proposed authority to conduct the voluntary information collection request (ICR) titled, "[Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs Accrediting Entity Information](#)." Comments are due November 19, 2018.

Additionally, Ms. Rowe revealed that DOL has recently launched a one-stop-shop [apprenticeship website](#) where interested parties can go to search for information on available apprenticeship programs.

### Key Findings on Manufacturing Credentialing Needs

Mary Ann Pacelli, workforce development manager at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), revealed the results of the recent research study conducted in partnership with Workcred to identify credentialing needs in the manufacturing industry. The report, [Examining the Quality, Market Value, and Effectiveness of Manufacturing Credentials](#), is available for free download.

In her [presentation](#), Ms. Pacelli highlighted the following overarching recommendations that were developed in light of the key findings:

- Improve understanding about the content and value of credentials
- Expand the use of quality standards for credentials
- Strengthen relationships between manufacturers, education and training providers, and credentialing organizations
- Add employability skills components to existing and new credentials
- Create credentials that focus on performance and address new roles
- Increase the number of apprenticeships and expand apprenticeships to more occupations
- Develop more flexible learning opportunities
- Increase opportunities to demonstrate workplace behaviors
- Develop credentials for growing and evolving roles

She also shared that a roundtable event with stakeholders is being planned to explore how the report's recommendations can be advanced to improve the value and recognition of manufacturing credentials. Areas for further research are also currently being explored as a result of the report.

### Best Practices, Key Issues, and Lessons Learned

During this open discussion, federal representatives confidentially shared information on current credentialing activities, goals, challenges, and lessons learned for input and feedback by meeting participants.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Government Credentialing Network is being considered for 2019. Workcred staff will be in touch with further details once available.



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**MEETING ATTENDEES**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2018**

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Cynthia	Woodley	Chair, Government Credentialing Network; Member, Workcred Board of Directors
Molly	Agundez	Defense Cyber Training Academy
Kyle	Albert	George Washington Institute of Public Policy
Ryan	Colker	National Institute of Building Sciences
David	Cox	Professional Testing, Inc.
Steve	Crawford	George Washington Institute of Public Policy
Taylor	Davis	Solutions for Information Design
Kathel	Dunn	National Library of Medicine
Karen	Elzey	Workcred
Janet	Forte	Workcred
Deanna	Hudella	Pearson VUE
Sue	Jackson	Pearson VUE
John	Kamin	The American Legion
Vijay	Krishna	American National Standards Institute
Boris	Kun	U.S. Navy, OPNAV N1
Tamara	Nazario	U.S. Army, Career Program 15
Donald	Nemer	Prometric
Christine	Niero	Professional Testing, Inc.
Mary Ann	Pacelli	NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership
Erik	Puskar	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Viviano	Rodriguez	National Nuclear Security Administration
Laurie	Rowe	DOL Employment and Training Administration
Mary	Saunders	American National Standards Institute
Roy	Swift	Workcred
Jeff	Weld	Executive Office of the President, Office of Science and Technology Policy
Jana	Zabinski	Workcred



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### MEETING AGENDA

- |                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| 10:30 – 10:40 a.m. | <b>Welcome and Meeting Overview</b><br><i>Dr. Woodley and Dr. Swift will review the meeting agenda and introduce the featured speakers.</i>   | <b>Cynthia Woodley, Chair</b><br>Member, Workcred Board of Directors<br><b>Roy Swift</b><br>Executive Director, Workcred                                       |
| 10:40 – 11:10 a.m. | <b>STEM Education Strategic Plan</b><br><i>Dr. Jeff Weld, senior policy advisor and assistant director at the Office of Science and Technology Policy Executive Office of the President, will highlight of the five-year strategic plan on STEM education and credentials.</i><br><i>A Q&amp;A period will follow.</i>  | <b>Jeff Weld</b><br>Senior Policy Advisor and Assistant Director, STEM Education<br>Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President |
| 11:10 – 11:40 a.m. | <b>Workforce Initiatives: Apprenticeships</b><br><i>Laurie Rowe, senior policy advisor to Secretary Acosta, will provide a strategic outlook on apprenticeships and the creation of a new industry-recognized pathway to fill the skills gap.</i><br><i>A Q&amp;A period will follow.</i>   | <b>Laurie Rowe</b><br>Senior Policy Advisor to Secretary Acosta<br>Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)                |
| 11:40 – 12:20 p.m. | <b>Networking Lunch</b>   |  |
| 12:20 – 12:50 p.m. | <b>Key Findings on Manufacturing Credentialing Needs</b><br><i>Mary Ann Pacelli, workforce development manager at NIST MEP, will showcase the outcomes of a research study conducted in partnership with Workcred, and lead a discussion for participants to share recommendations and ideas to address the report results.</i><br><i>A Q&amp;A period will follow.</i> | <b>Mary Ann Pacelli</b><br>Manager, Workforce Development<br>National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)   |
| 12:50 – 1:50 p.m.  | <b>Interactive Session: Best Practices, Key Issues, and Lessons Learned</b><br><i>Participants will have an opportunity to share information and are invited to pose questions on key issues for feedback from the group.</i>   | <b>Dr. Woodley</b><br><b>Dr. Swift</b><br>Agency Representatives   |
| 1:50 – 2:00 p.m.   | <b>Recap of Action Items and Next Steps</b>   | <b>Dr. Woodley</b>   |
| 2:00 p.m.          | <b>Adjournment</b>  |  |