WHAT ARE INCREMENTAL CREDENTIALS?

Credential As You Go uses the term, “Incremental Credentials” to refer to all types of credentials that formally document learning, including: certificates, badges, microcredentials, degrees, apprenticeships, and other non-degree credentials. Incremental Credentials capture learning acquired along the learning pathway, and formally recognize and connect that learning to a larger context of work and schooling.

Incremental credentials can be: non-credit and credit-bearing, undergraduate and graduate level in higher education or at any level in industry any size, from small units of learning through degrees.

There are many terms being used to describe aspects of the learn-and-work ecosystem.

As part of the Credential As You Go initiative, we have developed a document containing 43+ terms, in the “Credential As You Go Dictionary.” The dictionary is located on the website under Tool & Resources.

We encourage you to explore this document -- and hope this will help us all develop a common language around incremental credentials.