WHY DOES CREDENTIAL AS YOU GO MATTER?

Credential As You Go embraces and aligns the growing array of credentials, including certificates, certifications, badges, microcredentials, and degrees. Incremental credentialing seals learning into qualifications that are recognizable, transferable, and usable to gain and sustain employment and continue education. The U.S. needs a postsecondary system that captures and validates uncounted learning to enable all individuals to be recognized for what they know and can do.

CONTEXT

The differentials of employment and income between those who do/do not have a college degree are significant. For too many learners, the only postsecondary credentials that count for employment are degrees. This focus on degrees limits those who attend college but do not earn a degree, as well as those who’ve acquired skills and knowledge through life and work experience — often treating them as if they have no postsecondary-level learning. Contemporary issues have increased these disparities, with millions needing to upskill and reskill to remain or become employed.

MISSION

The mission of Credential As You Go is to inform and facilitate the development of a nationally adopted incremental credentialing ecosystem that improves education and employment outcomes for all learners.

VISION

We envision an incremental credentialing ecosystem in which all learners are recognized for what they know and can do as they acquire learning from multiple sources. The meaning of those credentials will be understood by learners, employers, and educational institutions.

CREDENTIAL AS YOU GO

Mission

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Vision

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Why Does Credential As You Go Matter?

Credential As You Go focuses on nine bodies of work to achieve the mission & vision:

1. **Incremental Credentialing**
   - Increase the availability of incremental credentials for learners
2. **National Campaign**
   - Increase awareness and value for incremental credentials
3. **Research**
   - Inform implementation and outcomes through research
4. **Professional Development**
   - Assistance to provide expert advising, tools, and resources
5. **Equity + Inclusion**
   - Ensure equity of incremental credentials
6. **Policy Change**
   - Develop policy and practice reforms to support incremental credentialing
7. **Technology**
   - Establish an infrastructure to support incremental credentials
8. **Trust**
   - Ensure trust, quality, and integrity of incremental credentials
9. **Building Connections**
   - Connect this work with related initiatives across the learn and work ecosystem

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