



# Principles for Credential Transparency Policy Development

## Overview

Building a comprehensive and connected data infrastructure of credential data is critical to ensuring everyone is empowered with the resources they need to make informed decisions about education and training opportunities. Leaders at all levels, from institutions and agencies, to local, state, and federal government can support the development of this infrastructure by enacting policies rooted in credential transparency.

Below are five key tenets of credential transparency that can be incorporated into policy and regulatory solutions:

## Core Elements of Credential Transparency Policy

- Encompasses all credentials (diplomas, badges, certificates, certifications, licenses, apprenticeships, degrees of all types and levels) delivered, issued, funded, authorized, overseen, or governed by the state/agency/entity
- Requires the use of CTDL & CTDL-ASN
- Covers state/agency/entity determined minimum data standards at or above CE's min data threshold
- Ensures publishing as
  - Linked Open Data
  - In machine-readable formats
  - Encoded in search engine optimized formats on each provider's website open to the public (JSON-LD is our preferred structure)
- Requires that all providers maintain these data on their websites to always be current, accurate, and easily accessible



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