



Credential Engine offers several ways to publish to the Registry:

- Manual: Add information to a series of web forms to publish data about credentials one-by-one.
- Bulk Upload: Use spreadsheet template to add data to the Registry about many credentials at once.
- API: Map data from a structured system to the Registry end-points.

Any entity can use any of these publishing methods to map data to the CTDL and publish to the Registry. Additionally, Credential Engine distinguishes between first-party publishing and third-party publishing. Credential issuers such as postsecondary institutions and training providers can publish information about their own credentials, or they can give permission to third parties to publish on their behalf. In some cases - as with many state agencies - the third party has authority and jurisdiction over the credential issuer, and is considered a “trusted” third party, meaning they do not need permission to publish on behalf of credential issuers. Learn more about third party publishing [here](#).

Most states will use a combination of these approaches to work towards full transparency of all credentials and competencies. For example in one state:

- The state workforce agency will utilize an API as a third party publisher to publish information about all credentials listed in their Eligible Training Provider List, which has rich details about those programs.
- As a trusted third party, the higher education agency will use the bulk upload to map and publish information from their Academic Program Inventory, which has limited information about each credential offered at public postsecondary schools. They then work with each of their institutions to add additional data to the Registry; those institutions will typically use a combination of bulk upload and manual publishing.
- The state licensing agency uses the bulk upload as a first-party publisher to add information about all licenses offered.
- Private postsecondary institutions and other credential providers will use a combination of publishing methods to ensure information about their offerings is included on the Registry.

To learn more about approaches that specific states have utilized, you can read success stories [here](#). Additional guidance and resources for publishing can be found in Credential Engine’s State Toolkit.



To learn more, please visit www.credentialengine.org or contact info@credentialengine.org