Credential Engine Services for Publishing Transfer Values: Getting Started

Now more than ever, people need to combine education and training from multiple sources in order to continuously re-skill and upskill in rapidly changing careers. Unfortunately, most people do not get the full benefit of transferring their learning achievements to apply to education and career advancement.

To help people advance more efficiently when they enroll in a program or start a job, all types of organizations can use Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL) Transfer Values (TVs) to signal both the transfer value they accept and the transfer value they provide, enabling a currency of exchange. For example, TVs are applicable for communicating:

- course credit transfer among institutions
- credit recommendations by third party evaluators
- credit for prior learning
- transfer value among different types of credentials (such as certifications mapped to college degree credit)
- transfer value among different types of organizations, such as military and work experience equivalencies or transfer value applied to employment training requirements

The transfer currency enabled by CTDL facilitates ecosystems that empower people to derive immediate value from their learning achievements. Transparency about the value that can be applied to advancement based on courses, credentials, skills, military, or employment experience empowers people to get to their desired education and career destinations more quickly and equitably.

Credential Engine offers a suite of unique technologies and services to help many different types of organizations, agencies, and companies achieve their goals for transfer value transparency. In addition to our open, freely available resources, we offer fee-based services for strategy, project management, and implementation support focused on using the Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL) effectively.

The description of our services for getting started with publishing CTDL TVs is below. These services can be customized and combined with additional services and supports, including in-depth technical services, to address your specific circumstances and needs.
Project Management and Strategy

- Provide an overview and resources that explain Credential Engine’s mission, technologies, and resources
- Support definition of the transfer value publishing project and roles for the organization’s team
- Facilitate kickoff meeting for all involved in the project to introduce the work at a high level
- Define the problems the organization is seeking to address with linked open data transfer values
- Define the value propositions for the organization
- Identify and/or clarify initial use case(s) to achieve the value propositions
- Define project goals
- Define detailed project steps to achieve the goals
- Help the team identify potential barriers and ways to address them
- Contribute to development of the team’s work plan and timeline, and utilize these to make sure the project is on track
- Convene regular progress meetings with the team

Technical Guidance

- Provide an overview and resources that explain Credential Engine’s technologies for all project stakeholders
  - Explain CTDL and the Registry to non-technical stakeholders
  - Explain CTDL and the Registry to technical stakeholders
  - Explain CTDL terms and data structure related to transfer values
  - Review the minimum and benchmark data policies
- Demonstrate publishing processes for getting started
  - Provide an overview of transfer value publishing
  - Provide an overview of the API publishing processes
  - Provide publishing how-to documentation
- Assist with organizing data and preparing it for publishing
  - Identify minimum data that is needed for project goals
  - Review technical requirements
  - Guide the team in identifying sources of transfer value data
  - Assist the team in collecting and/or formatting data to prepare it for publishing
  - Provide a detailed technical review of data formatting correctness for up to 3 basic transfer values as part of the preparation for publishing
- Assist with publishing basic transfer values
  - Provide technical assistance for publishing the team’s transfer values
  - Review the published transfer values for technical correctness and conformance to Registry guidelines
Project Wrap-Up and Enabling Next Steps

- Facilitate project conclusion review meeting for all involved in the project
- Assist with identifying opportunities to expand the project, including scaling up, addressing additional use cases, and connecting to other organizations or projects
- Discuss how to add value to the work achieved in the project
- Identify specific next steps
- Provide an overview of Credential Engine and partner resources, technologies, and services to support next steps