



# Credential Engine Forges Ahead Toward a More Equitable Credential Landscape

*Credential Engine will establish an Equity Advisory Council, expand its state partner network, and enhance the ability to publish rich pathways with renewed support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.*

**December 1, 2021 (Washington, D.C.)** — Credential Engine is excited to announce it has received a new grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The grant is a continuation of the foundation's vital support for a shared vision for a more transparent and equitable credential marketplace.

Every state across the country is searching for ways to strengthen the workforce and help people get ahead. An important key to finding upward mobility and promising pathways to career outcomes is access to reliable, current, and relevant information at the time it is needed. But the country lacks an open and accessible national data system that connects educational pursuits to workforce outcomes so everyone can make informed job and career decisions. The scope of Credential Engine's work that the Gates Foundation is committed to will enable data-informed, evidence-based decisions that can help policymakers develop appropriate policies and approaches to improve equitable outcomes for learners and workers.

"Everyone – from students and families to educators, employers, and policymakers – needs better information that gives people answers to critical questions about credentials and workforce outcomes, especially within traditionally under-resourced communities. This work will help build an equitable foundation for an open, reliable, and easily accessible data infrastructure that can positively impact economic mobility and opportunity," says Scott Cheney, CEO of Credential Engine.

Under this grant work Credential Engine will establish a Council of Equitable Transfer, Pathways, and Data Transparency. This broad coalition of equity-focused stakeholders will identify appropriate definitions of equitable pathways and transfer, determine sources of the necessary data to determine and navigate equitable pathways and transfer, and develop guidelines for the publishing of and appropriate use of the data to maximize the likelihood of equitable outcomes.

In addition, Credential Engine will further expand its network of state partners, and implement key technical improvements to make the publishing of pathways to the Credential Registry more streamlined. These efforts continue to advance Credential Engine's vision for credential transparency. Credential transparency means that essential information about credentials – including their associated skills and competencies – is described in an open, [common language and made public](#), easily accessible, and actionable. This way credentials can be better understood and pursued based on what it takes to earn them, what they represent, and job opportunities.

For more information on the contents of this announcement, our work, and how you can get involved, please contact [info@credentialengine.org](mailto:info@credentialengine.org).

### **About Credential Engine:**

Credential Engine is a non-profit whose mission is to map the credential landscape with clear and consistent information, fueling the creation of resources that empower people to find the pathways that are best for them. Our work is already underway in 27 states and regions, and across 2 regional consortia of states. Learn more at [www.credentialengine.org](http://www.credentialengine.org).



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