



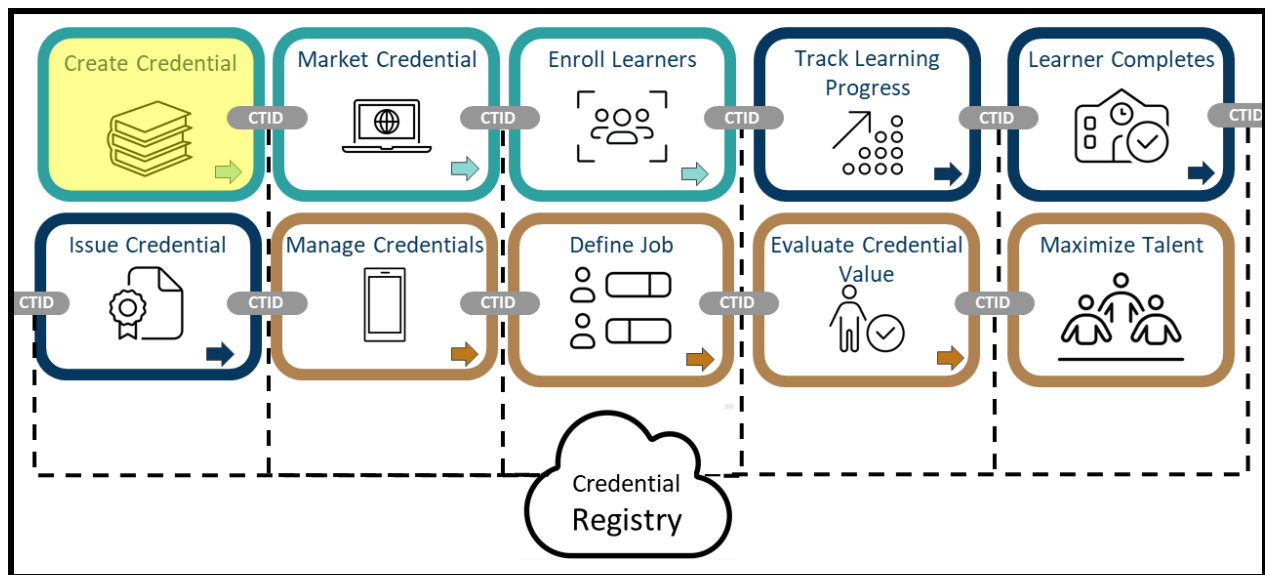
Lifecycle Phase: Create Credential

The processes and requirements for creating a credential vary depending on the credential type and local context, but the resulting information about the credential offering can be consistently documented and communicated using the Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL) schema. Key credential characteristics, such as the requirements for earning the credential, its alignment with competencies, and regulatory approvals, shape its quality across all subsequent lifecycle phases.

The CTDL ensures transparency about a credential's properties and, thereby, its value. This linked open data structure captures the integrity and validity of credentials across various sectors, ensures data consistency, and provides clear definitions for over 1,100 terms related to credential offerings, making credential data easily understandable, interoperable, and connected.

Moreover, CTDL supports the global recognition and portability of credentials via linked open data networks, enhancing a learner's ability to leverage their achievements worldwide. By fully utilizing CTDL in the credential creation phase, organizations lay an information foundation for offering credentials that are meaningful, verifiable, and globally useful, ensuring that all pertinent details about a credential are comprehensively described and widely understood.

Create Credentials in the Context of Credential Lifecycle Phases



Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL): Key Data Examples

- **Credential Transparency Identifier (CTID):** A globally unique identifier for recognizing and connecting credential offering information across lifecycle phases.
- **Credential Type:** A defined credential type, such as diplomas, badges, certificates, licenses, apprenticeships, certifications, and degrees of all types and levels.

Call to Action for Using CTDL in the Create Credentials Phase

- Create a consistent organizational process for reviewing and approving key credential information that includes publishing to the Credential Registry and managing associated CTIDs in source systems.

Creating Credentials: Who, What, and Where

Type	Who (Stakeholders)	What (CTDL terms)	Where (Systems)
Diplomas	School administrators, departments	course, program, credit, academic standard	Student information systems, educational platforms
Degrees	Boards, academic committees, external reviewers	course, program, credits, assessment, competencies, outcomes	Student information systems, learning management systems
Certificates	Training providers, professional associations	skill, course, assessment	Online course platforms, certificate management systems
Certifications	Professional certification bodies, employers	organization, assessment, competency, renewal frequency	Certification databases, organizational websites
Licenses	Government agencies, regulatory bodies	assessment, exam, regulates, renewal	Assessment tools, Government databases
Micro-credentials, Badges	Corporations, colleges, universities, online	skill, course, duration, pathway	Learning management systems, badge platforms

Key Questions to Address

1. How do you incorporate information from industry, academia, and current labor market trends in your credential creation process and how is this documented as important occupational and industry alignments using CTDL?
2. What information is essential for describing the full scope and unique properties of a credential and how can that information be described publicly using CTDL?
3. How do you document credential information? Where is this information stored and managed?
4. Are credential technical systems capable of managing CTIDs?
5. How is the development process, review process, and maintenance process for creating credentials documented using CTDL?

6. How are credential properties that support career goals, such as learning outcomes, competencies, skills, and/or objectives documented using CTDL so that this information can be regularly communicated and reinforced with learners using CTDL-enabled applications?

Important Uses

- **Curricular Workflows:** By utilizing CTDL properties to detail the alignment of educational programs and courses with industry standards and labor market demands, organizations can streamline their design and approval processes, ensuring offerings are up-to-date and relevant.
- **Credential Types:** Through CTDL, organizations can clearly define and publicize the unique features of any credential type, such as degrees, certificates, and micro-credentials. This clarity helps students and professionals choose the educational path that best fits their career aspirations via detailed information in a structured format.
- **Competency and Skill Alignment:** By documenting the competencies and skills associated with credentials using CTDL terms, individuals gain a detailed understanding of credential offerings and how they align with particular work roles and occupations.

