Lifecycle Phase: Enroll Learners

Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL) standardizes credential information across providers, enabling clear comparisons of key attributes such as duration, cost, credential type, competencies, and employment outcomes. This uniformity allows prospective students to make well-informed decisions, aligning their educational pursuits with their career objectives and personal goals.

The implementation of CTDL offers strategic advantages by enhancing the institution’s reputation for transparency and accountability, thereby attracting more prospective students. Moreover, this transparency helps in aligning educational offerings with market demands and regulatory requirements, providing a competitive advantage in attracting top talent and securing funding. When credentials are fully-described using CTDL, prospective students can easily differentiate one from another and enroll in those best positioned to support their goals.

By ensuring that all stakeholders—students, faculty, and administrative bodies—are well-informed and engaged, CTDL supports the institution's mission to create a cohesive and responsive educational environment.

Enroll Learners in the Context of Credential Lifecycle Phases

Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL): Key Data Examples

- **Support services**: Documents and links to key services, such as assistive technology, childcare, diversity, equity, and inclusion, career services, and more.
- **Condition profile**: Describes all of the conditions involved in earning a credential, including constraints, prerequisites, entry conditions, or requirements.
- **Transfer value**: Enables institutions to articulate how prior learning and documented credit will be recognized for credential requirements.
Call to Action for Using CTDL in the Enroll Learners Phase

- Ensure learners have access to the most effective pathways for completing all admissions and enrollment credential requirements.

Enroll Learners: Who, What, and Where

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who (role)</th>
<th>What (CTDL terms)</th>
<th>Where (Systems)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admissions officers</td>
<td>CTIDs, transfer value profiles, verification services</td>
<td>University portals, CRM systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation coordinators</td>
<td>process profile, support services</td>
<td>Online orientation platforms, institution websites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial aid officers</td>
<td>financial assistance, scholarships, loans, grants</td>
<td>Financial aid management, student accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic registrars, faculty</td>
<td>schedule, course, prerequisites, competencies</td>
<td>Student information systems, registration platforms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic advisors</td>
<td>requirements, program, pathways</td>
<td>Advising portals, educational planning tools, learner success systems</td>
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Key Questions to Address

1. Are the qualifications required for enrollment in a credential program described using CTDL and publicly available for prospective students?
2. Are the requirements for earning the credential explicitly documented using CTDL condition profiles and/or pathways?
3. Are the policies and agreements for the transfer of credits publicly available as CTDL information? How is this information maintained and updated over time?
4. Are the costs and financial aid options available for prospective students described using CTDL?
5. Are all enrollment-related support services described and linked using CTDL? How is this information integrated with student-facing websites, applications, and dashboards to meet all students’ needs?

Important Uses

- **Prior Learning Assessment**: Use CTDL transfer values and CTIDs to access and review documented evidence like professional certifications, military records, or examination results, and translate external experiences into academic credits or advanced standing. Note: Institutions can also publish their own transfer value profiles for prospective students.
• **Credit Evaluation Services**: Use CTDL transfer values and CTIDs to access and review external credit evaluations, such as ACE’s National Guide credit recommendations, for assigning appropriate academic credit or advanced standing. Note: Institutions can also publish their own transfer value profiles for prospective students.

• **Financial Assistance**: Use CTDL to help prospective students access and use the types of financial assistance available, including scholarships, grants, loans, work study, and more to make education accessible.