Let’s Start from the Beginning
*The What and Why of Digital Credentials*

PRESENTED BY
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AGENDA

• Introduction
• JFF Mission & Work
• Roadmap
• Micro-Credentials, LERs & CLRs
• How can you empower your learners
• Considerations for the future
• Open Discussion & Wrap Up
Hi, I’m Stephanie Roman
Pronouns (She/Her/Hers)
Senior Manager
Jobs for the Future (JFF)

Current experience:
• My project work so far has focused on:
  • Digital credentials
  • Understanding digital wallets and interoperability
  • Employer engagement strategies with the Google Career Certificates and Google Career Certificates Employer Consortium

Previous experience:
• Higher Education professional for 5+ years
• Assisted in the design, development and implementation of the Office of Micro-Credentials at previous institution
• Served as a Career Coach

Would love to connect!
ABOUT JFF

Jobs for the Future (JFF) drives transformation of the American workforce and education systems to achieve equitable economic advancement for all.
JFF’s North Star

In 10 years, **75 million** people facing systemic barriers to advancement, work in quality jobs.
Overview

The rapidly expanding credentials landscape brings a wealth of benefits for diverse learners and workers, but with accompanying decentralized jargon and processes, questions remain around quality and utilization.

1.076M Credentials in the United States. The majority of which are from non-academic providers

$2.13T Expended annually in the US on delivery and attainment

~60K Credentials providers in the US

Source: https://credentialengine.org/all-resources/counting-credentials/
The Importance of Partnership

IBM SkillsBuild
Power your future in tech with job skills, courses, and credentials—for free.

Explore resources for:
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About

Google Career Certificates
Job-ready skills you can put to work
Flexible online training programs designed to put you on the fast track to jobs in high-growth fields.
A learner earned an achievement!

Record of achievement:
- Achievement badge
- Micro-Credential
- Degree

How it can be stored:
- Digital Wallet
What is it?

• A digital representation of learning, awarded for completion of a short program that is focused on a discrete set of competencies (i.e., skills, knowledge, attributes), and is sometimes related to other credentials.
What is it?

• It is a secure verifiable digital records for learners of all ages that contain all nature of learning experiences and achievements including courses, competencies, skills, co-curricular achievements, prior learning, internships, and experiential learning.
What is it?

- It is a collection of digital records that can document learning and skills. Through an LER, learners/workers can progressively describe their skills and abilities and have persistent access to and control over the digital records that evidence them.
Empowering Your Learners & Beyond

• Educate your learners on what is the purpose of earning a credential and its value – “why would they want to earn this?”

• Show learners where this information is going and how they can use it - emphasize this is their data

• Partner with employers to showcase hiring with a digital credential

• Collaborate with stakeholders – employers, faculty, administration
Considerations for the Future

• Actually filling a hiring gap
• Creating credentials that are showcase skill development/progression
• Connect with employers on hiring strategies
• Issue and create digital credentials that are offered in an interoperable format
• Consistent language throughout in the way we use the terms and skills
Thank you for your time!

Questions/Open Discussion