All Digital Badges are Not Created Equal

Digital Credentials Roundtable
Level Set

**Microcredential:** (1) a record of focused learning achievement verifying what the learner knows, understands, or can do; (2) includes an assessment based on clearly defined standards and is awarded by a trusted provider; (3) has stand-alone value and may also contribute to or complement other micro-credentials or macro-credentials, including through recognition of prior learning; and (4) meets the standards required by relevant quality assurance. (Credential Engine, 2022).

**Digital Badge:** Online representations that recognize skills, achievements, membership affiliation, and participation.

**Open Badges:** are verifiable and shareable, and contain detailed information about the achievement and what the recipient did to earn the badge. Open Badges is not a specific product or platform, but a type of digital badge that is verifiable, portable, and packed with information about skills and achievements.
Presenters

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What is a taxonomy?

“Taxonomy is the practice and science of categorization or classification. A taxonomy is a scheme of classification, especially a hierarchical classification, in which things are organized into groups or types” - Wikipedia

“A competency framework is a measurement of the skills, judgment, knowledge and attributes of a particular job required to perform a role effectively.” - Indeed.com
Kennesaw State University

Souvenir

Badge Level I

Badge Level II

Digital Certificate

Badge Level I with Distinction

Badge Level II with Distinction
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

UMBC Course Equivalency

Co-Curricular Learning

edX Module

One (1) Course in Programming:
CMSC 101
IS 147
CMSC 104
CMSC 201

edX Module

One (1) Course in
Statistics:
STAT 350
STAT 351
STAT 355

edX Module

Digital Tech Credential:
Generalist
Western Governors University

Competency Badges
- Single or set of competencies
- Prepares learners for a specific professional or academic skill or task
- Mastery class: 1-4
- Offered as part of a degree or microcredential program

Certificates
- 3 or more grouped competencies
- Prepares learners for a particular job or set of professional or academic skills and tasks
- Mastery class: 1-4
- Scope and targeted outcomes to certification not industry recognized qualifications

Certifications
- 3 or more grouped competencies
- Qualifies learners for a particular job or set of professional skills and tasks required by industry qualification requirements
- Mastery class: 1-4
- Typically offered by third-party industry credential provider.

Specializations
- 6 or more program competencies
- Prepares learners for an array of specified jobs, skills, and task sets within a professional sector or academic domain.
- Mastery class: 2-4
- Sub-component track or path of degree program

Degrees
- 10-120 or more program competencies
- Prepares learners for employment and advancement in a specified career trajectory
- Mastery class: 2-4
- Associate’s, Bachelor’s, Master’s