



IMS GLOBAL[®]
Learning Consortium

IMS Global Announces Initiative to Establish Digital Badges as Common Currency for K-20 and Corporate Education

IMS partners with Mozilla Foundation to accelerate adoption and interoperability of badges in the education and workforce sectors.

Lake Mary, Florida, USA – April 21, 2015 – IMS Global Learning Consortium (IMS Global / IMS), the global leader in education technology interoperability and impact, today announced the formation of the *IMS Digital Credentialing Initiative*. IMS Digital Credentialing aims to further the adoption, integration and transferability of digital credentials, including badges, within institutions, schools, and corporations.

IMS will leverage existing experience, expertise and momentum. IMS Digital Credentialing will complement and further IMS's leadership in [competency-based learning](#), including partnerships with AACRAO and the Competency-Based Education Network (C-BEN) to define extended digital transcript and CBE interoperability. The Digital Credentialing initiative will augment current IMS interoperability standards and extend Open Badges as needed to support deeper integration and exchange within extant systems, while exploring new models of badge system design, storage, usage, and evaluation in the institutional context.

"We are pleased that IMS has decided to partner with us to help with the evolution, adoption and promotion of Mozilla Open Badges," remarked Mark Surman, Executive Director, Mozilla Foundation. "IMS has a unique focus on educational technology worldwide that we're sure will enable substantial progress."

"There has been some excellent work on open badges over the last few years at the Mozilla Foundation with support from the MacArthur Foundation," said Dr. Rob Abel, Chief Executive Officer, IMS Global. "IMS is pleased to be able to help support and evolve this work to fit the needs of educational institutions and corporations. IMS will ensure that our work is coordinated with the evolution of Open Badges."

"I'm very pleased that IMS Global will be building from and contributing to the work we have supported on Open Badges," said Dr. Connie Yowell, Director of Education at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. "I look forward to collaborating with IMS as the work progresses."

IMS is seeking to form a group of IMS Digital Credentialing charter members. Interested institutions, corporations and suppliers are invited to attend the upcoming IMS [Learning Impact Leadership Institute](#) in Atlanta, GA May 4-7 or contact the team at imsbadges@imglobal.org

About IMS Global Learning Consortium ([IMS Global](#))

IMS Global is a nonprofit organization that advances technology that can affordably scale and improve educational participation and attainment. IMS members are leading suppliers, institutions and government

organizations that are enabling the future of education by collaborating on interoperability and adoption initiatives. IMS sponsors the Learning Impact Leadership Institute, a global program focused on recognizing the impact of innovative technology on educational access, affordability, and quality while developing the people and ideas that are going to help shape the future of educational technology.