



New Hampshire Department of Education

Definition: An Industry Recognized Credential is the culminating evidence of a learner’s proficiency in competencies that equip them for a productive career in a specific industry domain.

Element	3	2	1
Assessment (may be nationally recognized, recognized by a statewide industry association, or locally-created)	Assessment accredited by a third party; includes performance task	Assessment issued by third party	Assessment not issued by a third party
Competencies	Clearly states what a candidate must know and be able to do in order to obtain IRC including a description of specific skills and knowledge	States what a candidate must know and be able to do in order to obtain IRC including a list of skills	States in general terms what a candidate must know and be able to do
Market Currency	Aligns with a variety of high skill, high wage, in-demand occupations and sectors determined by current labor market data for New Hampshire drawn from Federal, State, and real-time sources; Includes needs determined by employers	Aligns with in-demand occupations and sectors determined by current labor market data for New Hampshire drawn from Federal, State, and real-time sources; includes needs determined by employers	Aligns with projected in-demand occupations and sectors in New Hampshire as determined by recommendations from employers
Portability	Aligns with in-demand occupations and sectors across a variety of geographic context determined by current labor market data	Aligns with in-demand occupations and sectors within New Hampshire	Aligns with locally in-demand occupations and sectors for a single CTE region in New Hampshire
Stackability	Option exists to pursue further credentialing upon earning credential; further credentials have direct connection to increased wages and promotion within the industry or sector; IRC articulates to credit at postsecondary institutions in NH	Option exists to pursue further credentialing upon earning credential; further credentials have connection to increased wages and promotion within the industry or sector	Option exists to pursue further credentialing upon earning credential; further credentials have connection to promotion within the industry or sector
Transparency	Third party awarding IRC provides detailed information to the public about assessment process, value to employers, performance needed to attain IRC	Third party awarding IRC provides general information to the public about assessment process, value to employers, performance needed to attain IRC	Third party awarding IRC provides general information to the public about the IRC

References:

Recommendations. Credentials Matter. Retrieved 2021, August 24 from <https://credentialsmatter.org/credentials-101/recommendations/>

Van Noy, M. 2020. *Identifying High Quality Industry Recognized Credentials*. https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.ncwe.org/resource/resmgr/workforce_dev_reports/Identifying_High_Quality_Ind.pdf

Council of Chief State School Officers, Education Strategy Group and Advance CTE. 2018. *Credential Currency*. https://ccsso.org/sites/default/files/2018-10/Credential_Currency_report.pdf

Advance CTE. 2016. *Credentials of Value*. https://cte.careertech.org/sites/default/files/files/resources/Credentials_of_Value_2016_0.pdf