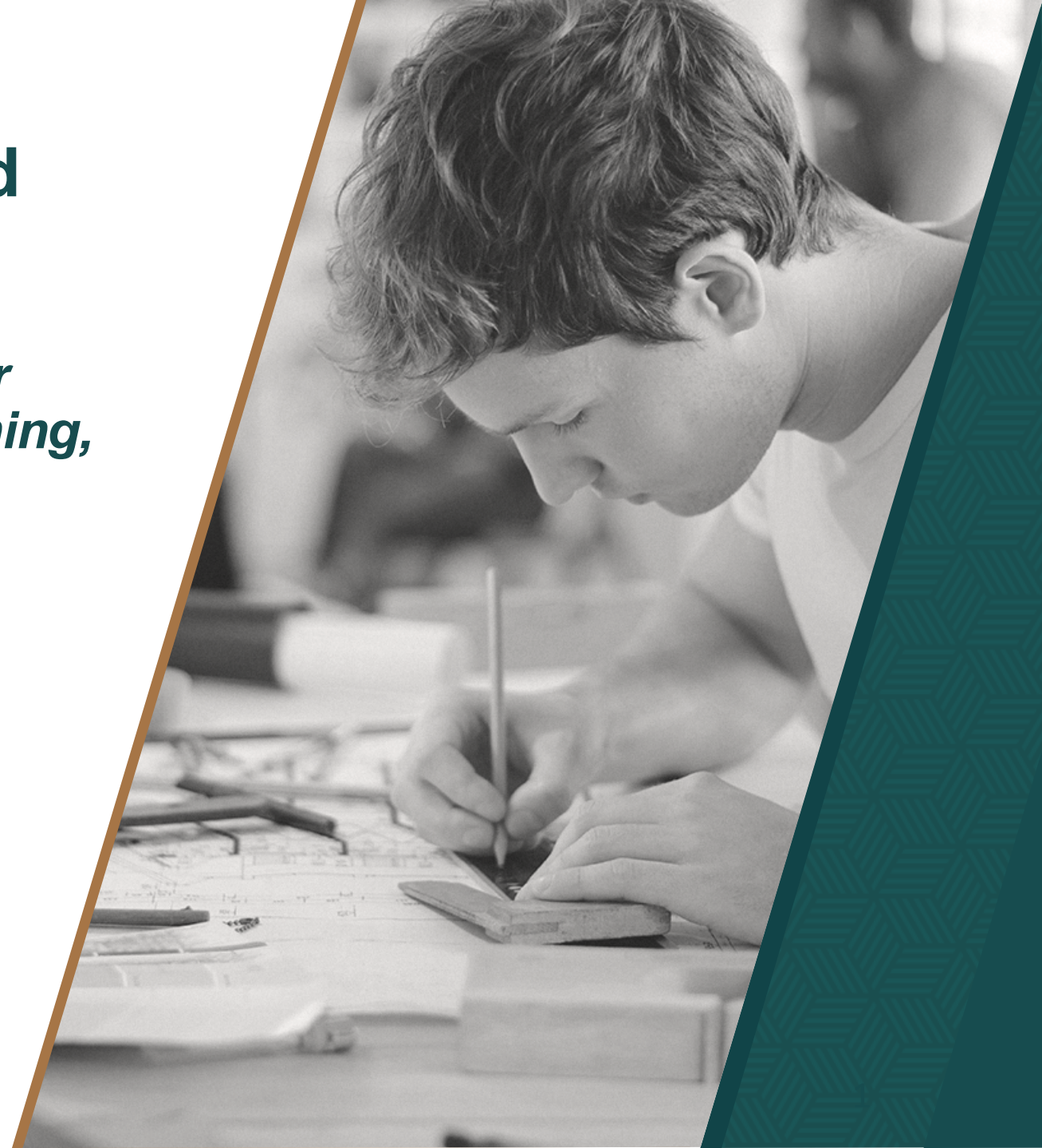# National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine

Committee on the Supply Chain for Middle-Skill Jobs: Education, Training, and Certification Pathways

December 12, 2017

Credential Engine is a non-profit dedicated to promoting transparency and credential literacy in the marketplace to allow the value of credentials to be revealed and inform the public.

Credential
Engine

Education and skills are the key to economic security, mobility, and vitality for individuals, employers, and nations.

The problems Credential Engine is addressing:

- The marketplace of credentials is highly inefficient and not transparent
- Growing number and type of credentials – **over 300,000 in the U.S. alone**
- Growing uncertainty about their meaning, content, quality, and value
- Lack of a common language for describing and comparing credentials confuses employers, students, job seekers, educators, regulators, and certifiers
- Misalignment of what industry says they need, what education produces and what the industrial credentialing organizations test
- No mechanism for stacking credentials based on "competencies"

Credential
Engine

Bringing Transparency to *all* Credentials

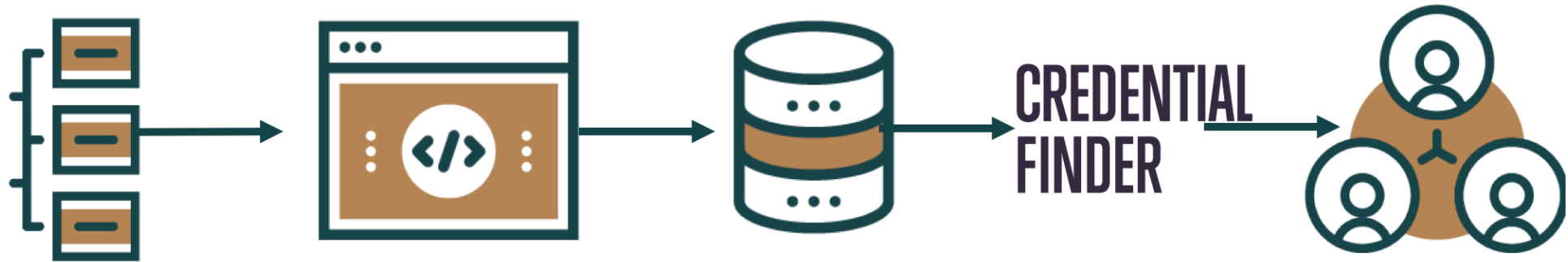|							
Apprenticeship	Badge	Certificate	Certification	Degree	Diploma	License	Micro-Credential

The registry includes *all* kinds of credentials and their competencies. The information is provided directly by the organizations issuing credentialing.

Quality Assurance (QA)

QA bodies that accredit, recognize, approve, or endorse credentialing organizations also post important information about their QA processes.

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Transparency Through Technology

Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL) – Common language that describes key features of credentials, credentialing organizations, and quality assurance bodies.

Common descriptors will allow for better apples-to-apples comparison between credentials.

Publishing – After creating a user account, organizations use the API, Registry Publisher, bulk upload, or–in the future–harvest structured data to convert organization, credential and quality assurance information to the common language and publish to the registry.

Organizations will have a suite of options to add information to the registry.

Credential Engine Registry – houses information described by the common language and supports an open applications marketplace.

Developers will create specialized applications for different types of users, like employers, military veterans, and students.

Credential Finder Prototype Application – Basic search to view information in the registry.

The public will use Credential Finder to see all information in the registry.

Community – Receives technical assistance and other services to consume from and publish to the registry.

Credentialing organizations, developers, and other users will have access to resources like best practices, user guides, and staff support.
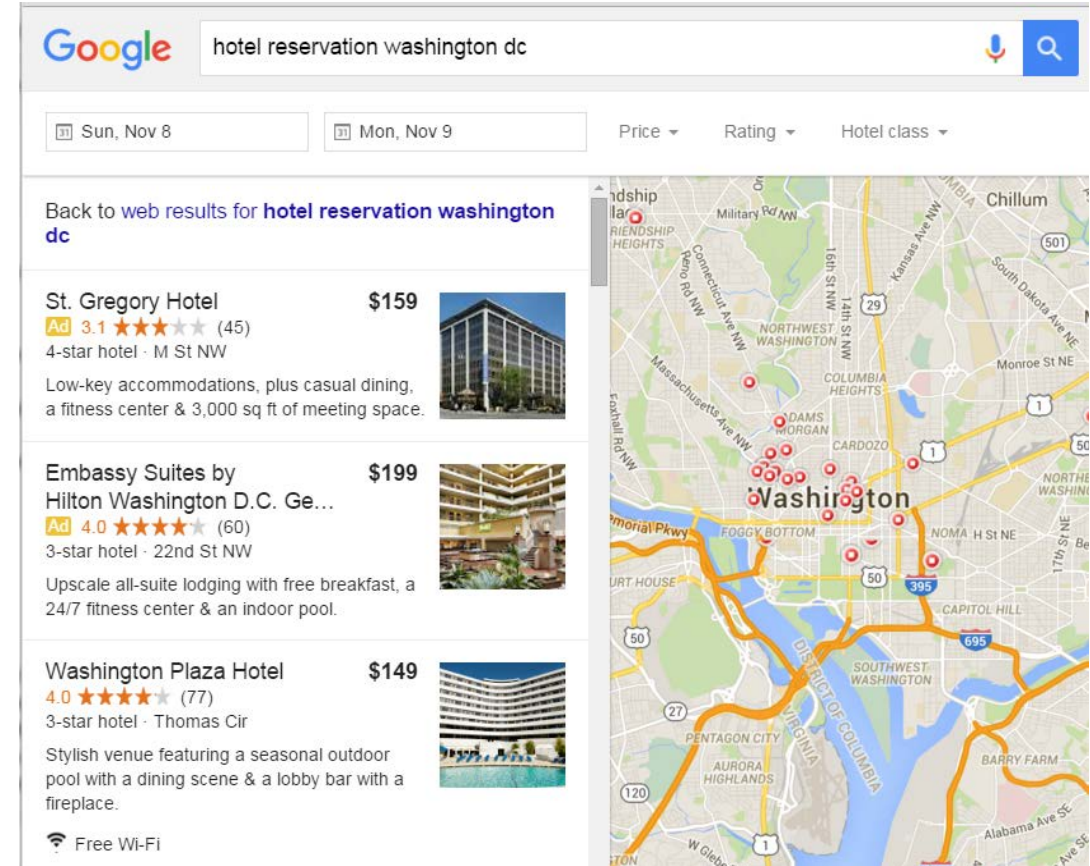
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Example of Data the CTDL Captures

CREDENTIAL	ORGANIZATION	COST
• Type • Description • Competencies • Owned/Offered By • External Quality Assurance • Renewal/Revocation • Connected Credentials • Jurisdiction	• Name / Parent Organization • Type • Description • External Quality Assurance	• Price • Cost Types • Payment Information • Residency
ASSESSMENT	**LEARNING OPPORTUNITY**	**IN DEVELOPMENT**
• Name • Competencies • Assessment Type • Delivery Type • Requirements, Duration, and Location	• Types • Competencies • Delivery • Requirements, Duration, and Location	• Labor Market Value • Employer Requirements, Preferences, or Recognition • Career Pathways • Credential Holder Profiles

For more information on the CTDLs full vocabulary, visit www.credreg.net

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Moving Credentials to Linked Data

The World Wide Web is moving away from links to documents and onto "linked data."

- Google, job, travel, commerce and other aggregators use common terminology (metadata) that has been accepted as web standard (e.g., Schema.org)

- Using consistent metadata for key features of credentials, the registry enables job seekers, students, workers, and employers to search for and compare credentials

- Credential Engine has started the process of gaining recognition from schema.org for the CTDL to be the first means to search and compare all credentials on the web

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