



Partners in Training Ohio's
Manufacturing & Tech Workforce

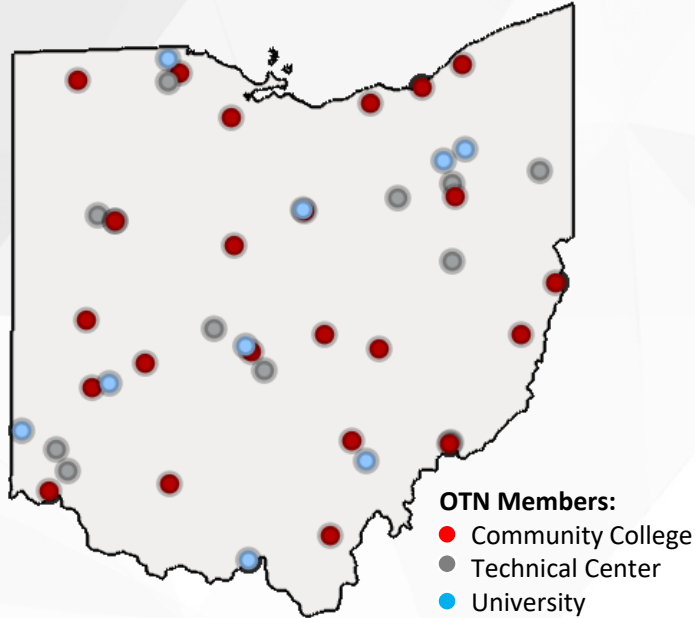
Ohio TechNet Monthly Meeting

September 14, 2026

Thank you for joining us today!

Enter your name and organization in the chat

WHO WE ARE



OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Vision

The members of the Ohio Technical Skills Innovation Network, or Ohio TechNet, are nationally recognized for partnering with industry to implement collaborative, innovative solutions that meet manufacturing and tech workforce needs.

Mission

Ohio TechNet supports workforce development and academic professionals to incubate, develop and sustain programming that accelerates the growth of Ohio's manufacturing & technical workforce.

Purpose

Ohio TechNet partners benefit from peer-to-peer collaboration, technical assistance and access to resources, making program expansion and innovation at their institution more efficient, faster to implement and easier to sustain.

CONNECT & COLLABORATE

Monthly Newsletter

Subscribe to stay informed about peer-to-peer collaboration opportunities, technical assistance, innovative solutions, and upcoming trainings.

Consortium Meetings

Virtual meetings every 3rd Tuesday at 8:30AM (EST) to explore collaborative, innovative solutions that support workforce and academic professionals across Ohio's educational institutions.

OTN Resources

Ohio TechNet offers innovative tools and resources to help institutions and individuals thrive. Visit our website, www.ohiotech.net.org, to learn more.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

Ohio TechNet's strategic focus areas provide partners with best practices, models, and technical assistance to address the critical workforce needs in the state.

**Guided Pathways
for Youth**

**Reaching
New Audiences**

**Innovative
Earn and Learn**

**Faculty and
Educator Development**

**Partnering
with Industry**

Experiential Learning Webinar Series

Join the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) and Ohio TechNet in this dynamic six-part webinar series exploring the full spectrum of experiential learning—from foundational concepts to innovative earn-and-learn models that strengthen pathways into high-demand fields—reimagine what experiential learning can look like on your campus.

Upcoming Webinar:

Innovative Approaches: Micro-Internships, Project-Based Learning, Simulations, and Other Experiential Learning Types

September 30, 2026 | 12pm

Sinclair Community College and Case Western Reserve University will highlight innovative approaches to experiential learning, including micro-internships, project-based learning, and 40-hour job shadows.

Register Here: <https://oaccsuccesscenter.regfox.com/experiential-learning-on-your-campus-webinar-series>

View previous webinar slides and recordings:

<https://ohiotechnet.org/our-work/current-work/webinar-series/>

Previous meetings include; Foundations of Experiential Learning, Designing Earn and Learn Programs, and Building Industry Partnerships





FOLLOW
OHIO TECHNET
ON LINKEDIN!

NEXT MEETING:
October 20, 2026
8:30am

Greater Cleveland Partnership will
share an overview of their Summer
research on college interns and AI
adoption

Resources

Ohio K–12 Industry-Recognized Credentials

Shared by: Cassie Palsgrove, [Ohio Excels](#)
September 2026 Ohio TechNet Monthly Meeting

Bundle Board – Ohio ACTE

A tool from the [Ohio Association for Career and Technical Education \(OACTE\)](#) for exploring career-focused resources and opportunities.

<https://events.ohioacte.org/bundle-board>

K–12 Industry-Recognized Credentials

(IRC 2030) Updated information and resources related to Ohio's Industry-Recognized Credential requirements.

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Contacts-and-Resources/Industry-Recognized-Credentials/IRC-2030>

Career Pathway Support Network

Resources and support for developing and strengthening career pathways.

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Career-Tech/Career-Pathway-Support-Network>

Ohio Department of Education & Workforce Updates

Subscribe to receive updates and announcements from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/OHED/subscriber/new>





EVERY STUDENT | EVERY DAY | EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS



OUR VISION

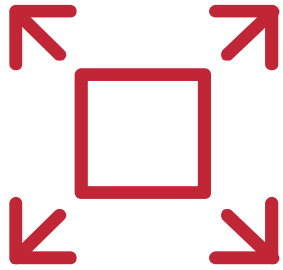
All Ohio students have access to and are supported to excel in early childhood, K-12 and postsecondary experiences that prepare them for life and success in a changing economy.

OUR MISSION

To provide an informed business perspective to dramatically improve and transform Ohio's education system to prepare students to meet the demands of the new economy.

The Case for Credential Redesign

The Case for Change: Ohio's K-12 Credential Landscape



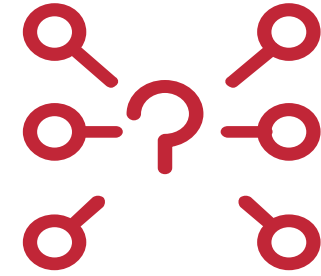
The System Has Grown Beyond Its Signal

Ohio's credential list is too large and diffuse to clearly signal workforce value.



Employer Voice is Perceived to be Diluted

Many listed credentials lack strong employer recognition, weakening alignment and credibility.



"Value" Lacks a Common Definition

Without a shared, data-driven framework, decisions are inconsistent and vulnerable to pressure.

Ohio's K-12 Industry-Recognized Credential List Redesign Project

DEW and Ohio Excels recognized a need to modernize Ohio's K-12 industry recognized credential system to improve alignment with labor-market demand and support high school student economic mobility via access to high-quality credentials. We mobilized this project to deliver the below outcomes:



Transparent System

A data-driven credential evaluation framework that establishes clear, evidence-based eligibility criteria and is recognized by employers across priority industry sectors



Refreshed Credential List

A weighted and economy-aligned credential list that focuses on credentials with proven value for employment, earnings, and career advancement



Sustainable Governance

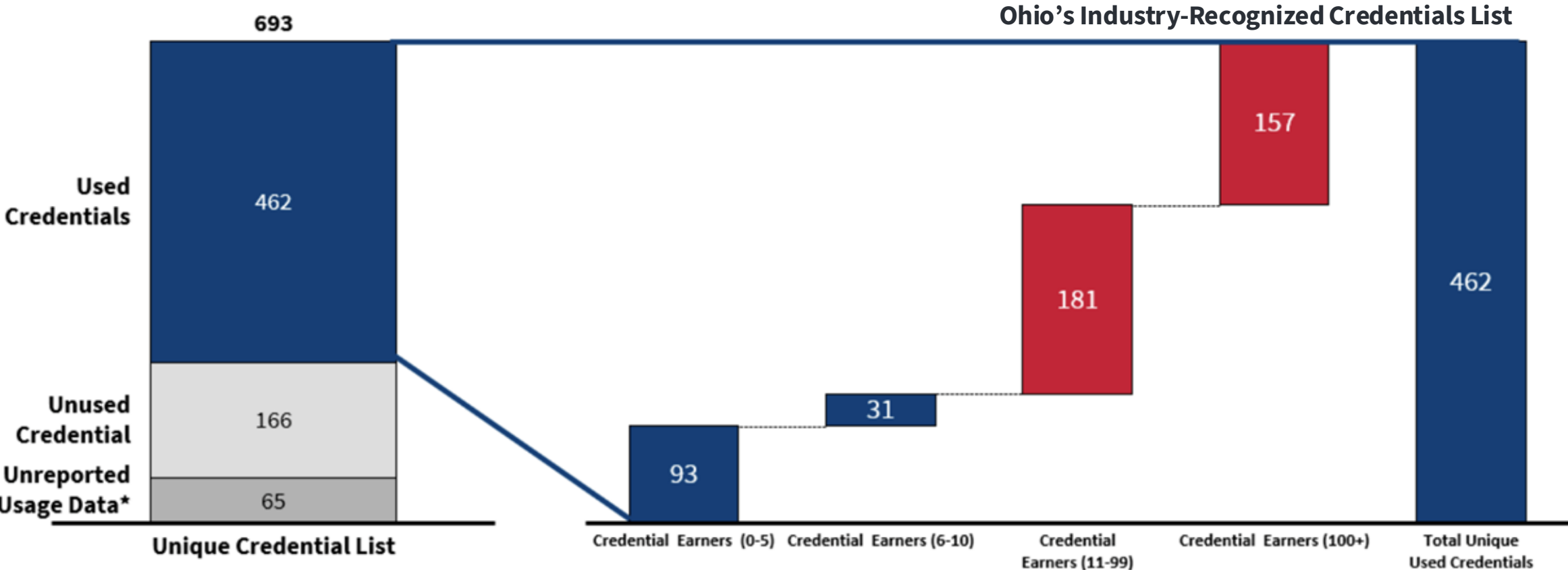
A review process to evaluate, approve, and refresh credentials over time, ensuring list stays aligned to changing industry demand



Stronger Career Pathways

A direct link between industry credentials and in-demand jobs, ensuring High School students earn credentials that lead to meaningful postsecondary and career opportunities

The Case for Change: Ohio's Credential Landscape



*A total of 65 credentials have assigned point values but no usage data was reported



What's Changed – What Does it Mean for Higher Ed?

Industry-Recognized Credentials VS. Programs

Industry-Recognized Credential Committee

- Ohio Chamber of Commerce
- Ohio Manufacturers' Association
- Ohio Business Roundtable
- Ohio Farm Bureau
- Healthcare Career Collaborative of Central Ohio
- Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
- Ohio NFIB
- JobsOhio
- Office of Workforce Transformation



70 Approved
Standalone
Credentials



21 Approved
Credential Bundles

High School Graduation Options

Ohio's Draft Credential Evaluation Framework

Bringing Together State and Public Data to Inform Value

The value framework will utilize national, public datasets and labor market intelligence tools as well as state agency-specific datasets within the value framework.

Labor Demand & Workforce Signals

What the market says
should have value.



Observed Outcomes

What happens to people
who earn the credential.



Credential Data



Employment Data

** Unlocking value in a way other states are not

We Plan to Measure Value Across Multiple Components

Breaking down labor demand & workforce signals and observed outcomes to value components that can be measured with the identified data



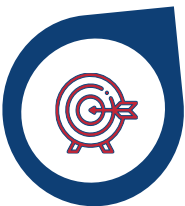
Detailed Credential Value Framework – WIP

Labor Demand & Workforce Signals



Occupational Demand

Are there jobs aligned to the credential, and are they growing?



Credential Demand

Does this credential demonstrate strong demand and sustained growth?

Annual Employment level by SOC	How many people are typically employed in this occupation in Ohio
SOC 10-yr growth rate (absolute and annualized)	What is the median incremental employment growth in occupations over the next 10 years
Priority occupation (Y/N)	Whether the occupation is designated as a state priority (high need / strategic importance)
Wage Potential	Does occupation offer wage growth potential, with credential
Incremental wage over living wage	How much the occupation's typical median wage exceeds the living wage benchmark

Expected credential growth	The projected growth of job postings demanding a credential
Credential associated wage premium	Incremental earnings associated with having the skill(s), compared with the occupation wage
Credential associated wage	How much the market values the credential
Share of postings with credential	How common this skill or credential is in job postings for the target occupation(s)

Observed Outcomes



Education Mobility

Does the credential create ongoing education opportunities?

Credential Articulates to College Credit: ITAG (Y/N)	How formally this credential transfers into college credit toward a higher-level degree, longitudinal data
Post-secondary attainment rate, 2Y	How many students who earn a credential achieve post-secondary attainment, based on longitudinal data
Post-secondary attainment rate, 4Y	How many students who earn a credential achieve post-secondary attainment, based on longitudinal data
Post-secondary enrollment rate, 2Y	How many students who earn a credential enroll in 2Y post-secondary education, based on longitudinal data
Post-secondary enrollment rate, 4Y	How many students who earn a credential enroll in 4Y post-secondary education, based on longitudinal data



Career Outcomes

Do people earn more and progress after completion on this credential?

Observed Credential Earnings Premium	How much more are you earning after earning the credential compared to what you were earning before
Retention rate 2-yr	What share of K-12 students retained in workforce after earning the credential, longitudinal data
Employment rate, 12-M	Share of students who are employed after earning the credential
Avg Ohio Earnings per Credential	Average wage outcomes for individuals earning a specific credential in Ohio



Summary

Detail

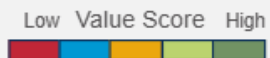
Career Field

- ☐ Select all
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Information Technology
- ☐ Manufacturing



EMIS-Description

-
- ☐ CB39 - CompTIA Ser...
- ☒ CB40 - CompTIA A+
- ☐ CB42 - CompTIA Net...
- ☐ CB44 - CompTIA Se...
- ☐ CB45 - CompTIA Tec...
- ☐ CB47 - CompTIA Clo...
- ☐ CB48 - CompTIA CTT+
- ☐ CB49 - CompTIA Lin...
- ☐ CB52 - CompTIA Pro...
- ☐ CB54 - CompTIA Clo...
- ☐ CP38 - CompTIA CY...



Career Field	Employment Rate, 12 Month	Observed Credential Earnings Premium	Avg Ohio Earnings Per Credential	Occupational Demand	Credential Demand	Education Mobility	Career Outcomes	Composite	Recommended Credential Grouping
Engineering									
CB40 - CompTIA A+	50	100	100	41	38	54	75	56	Standalone
Information Technology									
CB40 - CompTIA A+	50	100	100	60	53	54	75	65	Standalone
Manufacturing									
CB40 - CompTIA A+	50	100	100	54	40	54	75	61	Standalone



Industry-Recognized Credential Evaluation Dashboard



Summary

Detail

Career Field

- ☐ Select all
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Information Technology
- ☐ Manufacturing



EMIS-Description

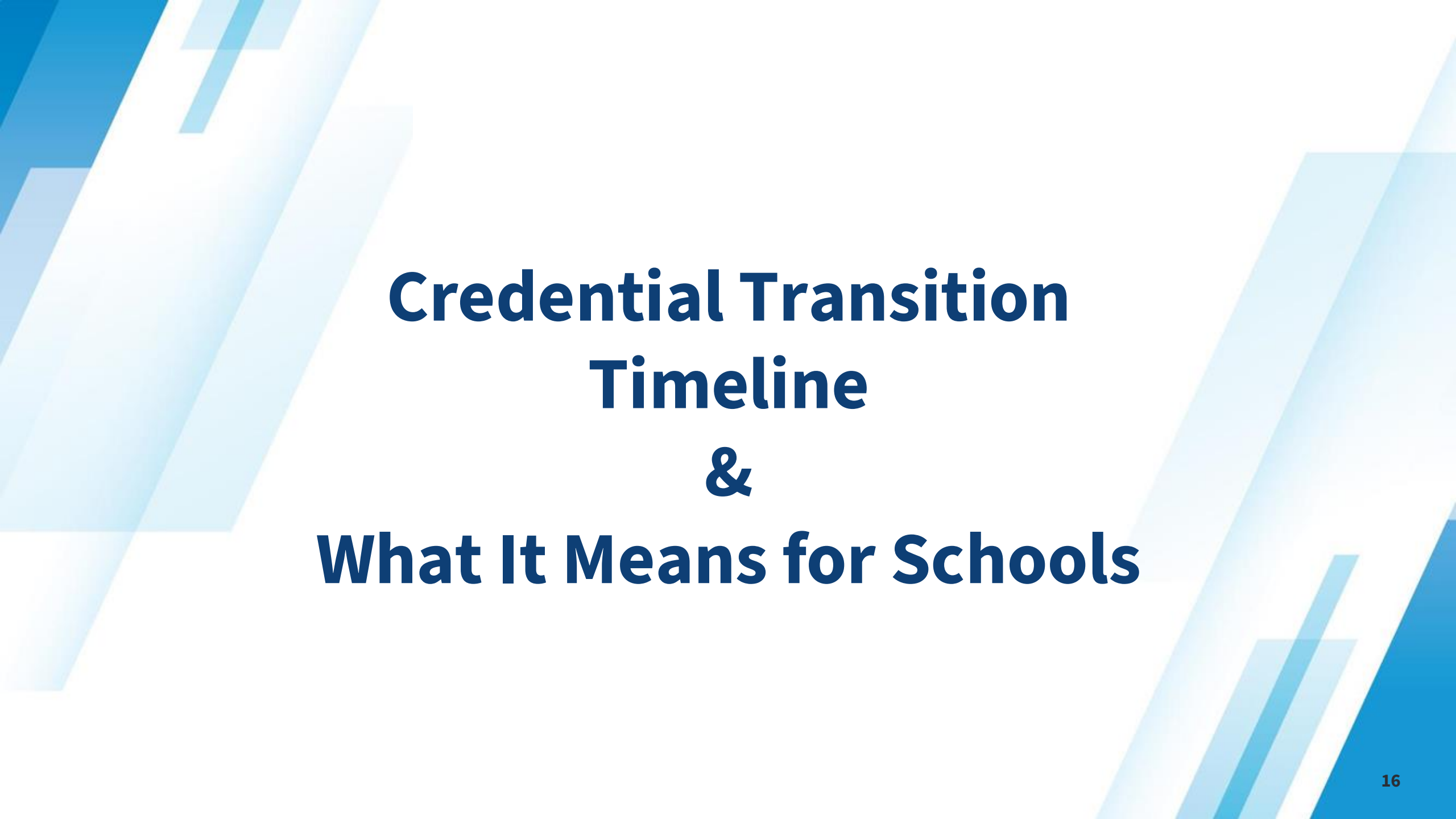
comptia

- ☐ CB39 - CompTIA Ser...
- ☒ CB40 - CompTIA A+
- ☐ CB42 - CompTIA Net...
- ☐ CB44 - CompTIA Se...
- ☐ CB45 - CompTIA Tec...
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- ☐ CB49 - CompTIA Lin...
- ☐ CB52 - CompTIA Pro...
- ☐ CB54 - CompTIA Clo...
- ☐ CP38 - CompTIA CY...

Low Value Score High



Career Field	Annual employment level by SOC	SOC 10-yr Change in Employment	Priority occupation (Y/N)	Incremental wage over living wage	Wage potential (multiplier)	Expected credential growth	Credential-associated wage premium	Share of required credential
Engineering								
CB40 - CompTIA A+	1510	56	100	\$18,636	1.20	23.6%	(\$16,032)	0.2'
Information Technology								
CB40 - CompTIA A+	7480	-39	100	\$26,406	1.19	23.8%	(\$10,477)	2.0'
Manufacturing								
CB40 - CompTIA A+	3260	20	100	\$19,626	1.24	23.7%	(\$19,721)	0.5'

The background features several overlapping, semi-transparent blue geometric shapes, primarily parallelograms and triangles, creating a modern, architectural feel. The colors range from a deep navy blue to a very light, almost white blue.

Credential Transition Timeline & What It Means for Schools

New Credential Transition Timeline

Beginning in the 2026-27 school year, ninth grade students using Industry-Recognized Credentials as a pathway to graduation **must** use the new evaluation framework.

New credential framework will be available for students in higher grades.

	2026-27 (Y2)	2027-28 (Y3)	2028-29 (Y4)	2029-30 (Y5)
Freshmen (9)	Only new	Only new	Only new	Only new
Sophomores (10)	Old or new	Only new	Only new	Only new
Juniors (11)	Old or new	Old or new	Only new	Only new
Seniors (12)	Old or new	Old or new	Old or new	Only new

District & School Support

DEW Offers Suite of Support for New Credential Implementation

As districts move through this transition, DEW will provide a full suite of supports to guide districts through creating and implementing their credential plans, including:



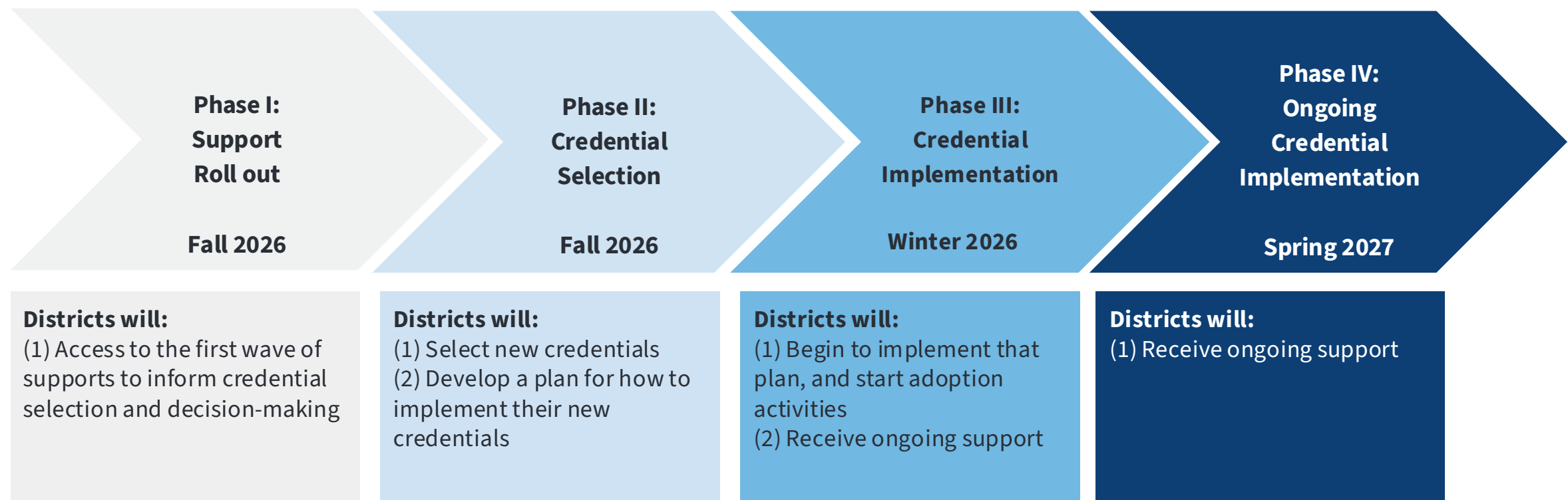
Tools and Resources

- Tools to review current credentials
- Guidance to select and evaluate new ones
- Ready-to-use materials to support communication with families and partners

Additionally, DEW will be hosting state and regional convenings and trainings aligned to resources.

Transition Support for Districts

To successfully transition, districts will need to select new credentials, develop a plan to implement new credentials, and begin implementing credentials.



What Success Will Look Like

By 2029-30, all Ohio districts will offer credentials eligible for graduation that emphasize value and opportunities that help students succeed after high school

In order to achieve this, beginning in Fall 2026, every district will:



Review the redesigned list of high-value, in-demand credentials to understand offerings



Develop a comprehensive plan to ensure access to high-value credentials



Communicate any changes clearly and effectively to students and families



Execute the plan to ensure all students have access to high-value credentials

DEW will provide phased support to help districts transition from the current credential list to the redesigned list beginning in the 2026-27 school year.

Evaluating Value a Credential within the Context of Program Intent

Ohio can use a consistent framework to assess credential value across various programs and intents, rooting value in the same components but in different contexts and for different end consumers.

Ohio Context & Program Examples



- **High School Graduation Requirements Credential List** ◀
- Innovative Workforce Incentive Program (IWIP) List
- Transfer Assurance Guide (TAG) Credential List for review
- Tech Cred Program List
- and more...

◀ *Priority focus for DEW & Ohio Excel project application of the value framework*

Questions?