



E-learning Course

Module 1: Microcredential Fundamentals

Part 1.1 Understanding Microcredentials

Part 1.1.1 What are Microcredentials: Introduction



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Introduction

Duration: app. 65 minutes



1.1.1 WHAT ARE MICROCREDENTIALS?

- Definition, key characteristics, and formats
- Differences from traditional qualifications

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Part 1.1.1 What are Microcredentials?

Title	Type
MicroCreds - What are micro-credentials?	Video 1
MicroCreds? Sounds like "Magnificently good ideas!"	Training material, reading
Are Micro-Credentials the Future of Education?	Video 2
European Commission Micro-credentials Brochure	Official EU document
Assessment	Drag & drop
Additional resources	



What are microcredentials?



- Tiny but mighty tool! Short, focused learning units
- Certified outcomes, transparent assessment
- Flexible, fast, and portable.
- For skills that matter today.
- Competency-based "mini" qualifications that demonstrate a learner has gained or already possessed the required set of applicable skills to demonstrate ability in a given subject area.





Why microcredentials matter?



- 61% of workers need upskilling by 2027
- Degrees $\neq$ enough anymore
- **Microcredentials fill skill gaps**
- Tailored to real-world needs
- Cheaper, faster, job-ready





Key characteristics



- Modular & stackable
- Quality assured
- Learner-owned & shareable
- Transparent outcomes
- Portable across systems
- Aligned with EQF & market needs





Formats at a glance



- Digital Badges
- Micro Certificates
- Bootcamps & Nanodegrees
- MicroMasters & MOOCs
- Stackable pathways
- Online, in-person, blended





Microcredentials vs. traditional qualification



	Microcredential	Traditional qualification
Duration	Shorter, potentially completed in weeks or months	Longer, typically requiring years of study.
Focus	Specific skills or competencies within a narrow field	Wider, covering a broader range of topics within a discipline
Purpose	Quickly address specific workforce demands and skill gaps	Comprehensive understanding of a field, often leading to specific career paths
Delivery	Often online and flexible, allowing for self-paced learning.	Often involves on-campus learning and structured courses.
Ownership	Owned by learners, providing them with control over how they are stored, shared, and utilized	often more complex ownership structures, involving institutions and accreditation bodies
Portability	Stored & shared digitally, through secure wallets e.g. Europass, easy access & sharing with employers or other institutions.	Limited

References

Council Recommendation (2022/C 243/02) (2022), Official EU Document, available at [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022H0627\(02\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022H0627(02))

6 Common Misconceptions About Microcredentials and Stackable Credentialing
https://evollution.com/programming/credentials/6-common-misconceptions-about-microcredentials-and-stackable-credentialing?utm_source=chatgpt.com

A European approach to micro-credentials <https://education.ec.europa.eu/education-levels/higher-education/micro-credentials#:~:text=Micro%2Dcredentials%20certify%20the%20learning,their%20personal%20and%20professional%20development.>

Galindo, M., Fennelly-Atkinson, R., Franklin, K., Luna, C.(2024, August). The Role of Micro-Credentials in Lifelong Learning and Development: Empowering Learners, Empowering Organizations. Digital Promise.
<https://digitalpromise.dspacedirect.org/items/8c5402d0-2102-43c7-844f-f88419f4618b>



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