

2: Credentialing and Competency as Currency with Guest Katie Hall

Tune in to see the impact that credentials have on education and workforce and economic development. Learn how [The Competency Project](#) is on a mission to use underlying competency as currency in education and in the labor market. The episode provides tools that can be leveraged to level the playing field, make better use of workforce data, and make one-to-one comparisons.

Credentials are a way for individuals to communicate technical expertise. In this episode, we sit down with Katie Hall, director of The Competency Project at the [Corporation for a Skilled Workforce](#), to talk about all things credentialing. She provides color around these instruments that are used to signify industry-validated expertise – from the current state of competencies to the challenges faced by all stakeholders in workforce and education today. Looking back to the purpose and history of credentials helps point toward a transparent and competency-based solution for the future.

The challenges of credentialing are felt by everyone involved in workforce development. Because so many credentials exist across a wide range of industries, it's difficult to understand what they all mean. Layer in the fact that there isn't consistency across industries, or even within industries, or across geographies. Keeping in mind the purpose of credentialing can help point toward a solution.

In the market, all participants find it hard to understand what the transactional value of a credential is. Employers find it difficult to hire based on credentials if they can't translate it to specific skills. Educators don't always

know which credential will be the most important in the market. Learners and workers simply don't know where to begin. Ultimately, it's difficult to keep track, in real time, of which credentials are generating the most value in the labor market.

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[The Workforce Benchmarking Network](#)

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[Competency Digital Tools and Competency Calibrator](#)

[ACT's WorkKeys/NCRC Crosswalk to the Beta Connecting Credential framework](#)

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