DCC DIGITAL CREDENTIALS CONSORTIUM

The New Paradigm of Proof in Post-secondary Education

> “Our goal as the DCC is to collaborate on the development and implementation of portable, verifiable digital academic credentials in higher education. The technology and tools that the DCC has built as well as its ongoing technology leadership, research and advocacy are addressing the needs and goals of a wide range of post-secondary institutions while giving learners the agency to manage and verifiably share credentials of their achievements and abilities as they pursue meaningful learning opportunities and careers.”
>
> Krishna Rajagopal, Leadership Council Chair, DCC

Solution

The DCC's **Open Source Digital Credentials Issuing System** offers a robust, scalable, and flexible solution to transform how educational credentials are issued and managed. Built on open standards like W3C Verifiable Credentials and Open Badges 3.0, our system provides both an open source software framework and practical, usable reference implementations. Key features include:

- **Easy to Install:** Streamlined setup process ensures quick deployment.
- **Customizable Templates:** Tailor diplomas, certificates, and micro-credentials to meet diverse needs.
- **Batch Issuing:** Simplifies credential distribution via CSV file uploads.
- **On-Demand Issuance:** Credentials are issued instantaneously and digitally signed for authenticity.
- **DCC Learner Credential Wallet**: Enables learners to securely store, manage, and share their credentials.
- **VerifierPlus Tool:** Allows employers and institutions to verify credentials swiftly and accurately.

Our approach ensures that while we provide the foundational software, institutions have the flexibility to adapt and extend functionalities without vendor lock-in.

Learning Impact Outcomes

- **Personalization of Learning:** Enhances learners’ ability to tailor educational & professional portfolios.
- **Institutional Performance:** Streamlines credential issuing process, improving administrative efficiency.
- **Digital Learning Ecosystem:** Promotes interoperability and integrates seamlessly with existing systems.

Challenges Addressed

- **Trust in Security**: Need to securely issue, manage, and verify educational credentials at scale.
- **Seamless Integration**: Cumbersome existing credentialing methods lacking interoperability.
- **Engaging User Experience**: No adequate support for the personalized needs of learners in a rapidly evolving educational landscape.
- **Need for Applied Research:** Continual innovation and investigation required to develop solutions that address emerging challenges and leverage new technologies.

Return on Investment (ROI)

Increased Enrollment and Retention: By offering verifiable and prestigious digital credentials, institutions can attract and retain a broader student base.

Enhanced Institutional Reputation: Leveraging modern, secure credentialing positions institutions as leaders in innovation. Designates a shift towards a more equitable ecosystem.

Cost Efficiency: Reduces overhead associated with traditional credentialing services, minimizing dependencies on third-party platforms and services.

Global Reach and Recognition: Opens up global opportunities for learners and institutions, facilitating international mobility and recognition of qualifications.

https://digitalcredentials.mit.edu