



DIGITAL BADGERING

CTECS
COP 2015
Portland, Oregon

DID YOU SAY DIGITAL BADGER?



WHAT ARE DIGITAL BADGES?

Today's badges are **digital credentials that represent skills**, interests, and achievements earned by an individual through specific projects, programs, courses, or other activities. There is a learning **ecosystem behind the badges** that make them powerful and connected credentials. This ecosystem is made up of badge “issuers,” badge “earners,” and badge “consumers.”

—*Expanding Education and Workforce Opportunities through Digital Badges, All4Ed.org (Alliance for Excellent Education and Mozilla Foundation, 2013)*

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF DIGITAL BADGES?

Teachers and schools benefit

- Accountability—Work-based learning
- Formative rather than cumulative
- Improved credentialing allows new and meaningful career paths to emerge and aids program planning.

Students benefit

- online professional, credible credential system
- track and incentivize achievements
- combine or stack badges—program mixing
- Instant sharing and long term storage

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Harvard Business School professor Clayton Christensen—*The Innovator's Dilemma*

“Within 14 years, half of all universities may be in bankruptcy.”

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Sixty percent of the 1,900 people who participated in the Extreme Networks [digital badge survey](#) at EDUCAUSE 2014 believe that badges will either **entirely replace diplomas and course certificates**, or be used in combination with them.

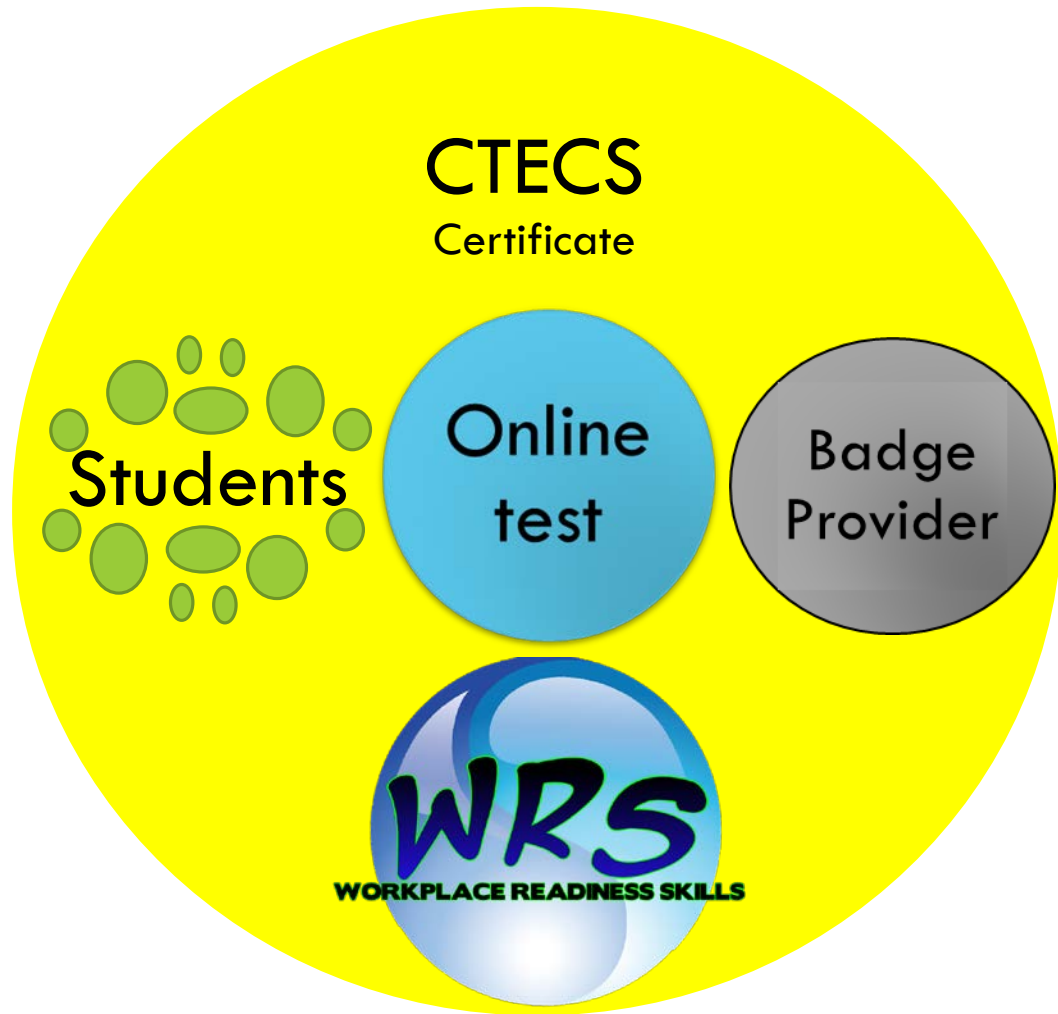
“A game-changing strategy” that could lead to “a quantum leap forward in education reform.”

-- U. S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan

WHY DO BADGES WORK WELL WITH CTECS?

- Online and optional
- Application process for retroactive
- CTECS assessments **follow a proven model**. They are aligned to standards that involve employee input, and our assessments use an industry survey to guide our item selections, closing the gap between the workplace and the classroom on a five-year cycle, conditionally.
- CTECS assessments are endorsed by departments of education rather than by obscure experts of questionable credentials—**credibility** is the one key downside for independent issuers, but there is a clear advantage for CTECS assessments.

By Fall 2015



Fully Automated

1. A window was added to the online testing process that allows students to request the badge by entering their emails directly.
2. TFI automatically sends these requests to our provider via the provider's API.
3. The provider automatically sends an email to students with instructions on how to claim their digital badges and share them.

CTECS BADGE PROVIDER

- A Pro-level subscription (first year)
- Help with creating/issuing the badge
- Compatibility with Open Badge Infrastructure
- The ability to embed details behind the badge: describing the WRS, endorsements, personalization, validation/verification
- Data and social sharing reports
- Custom messaging and bulk awarding



CTECS BADGE RESOURCES

- www.ctecs.org
- Services < Digital Badge Project
- <https://www.ctecs.org/digital-badge-project>
- TSA and student instructions:
<https://www.ctecs.org/how-studentsearners-claim-their-badges>
- Additional resources and examples of working systems



Digital Badge Page



CTECS Workplace Readiness Skills Assessment

Issued to
dMo Morris

Issuer

Career and Technical
Education Consortium of
States (CTECS)



Issued

05/22/15

Description

The CTECS Workplace Readiness Skills (WRS) Assessment (Also referred to as the WRS Assessment (A), the WRS Test (T), or the WRS Retake (R)) provides validation of an individual's basic comprehension of 21 universal workplace skills and behavior standards as identified by the Demographics Research Group, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia.

The WRS Assessment is CTECS' most popular exam, used currently in Idaho, Maine, Nevada, and Virginia. The exam was developed to validate researched workplace behavioral expectation standards and offers free curriculum resources. In some states, the WRS Assessment is used as a certification of successful

Criteria

- Passing score of 75 percent or higher (validated using the Modified-Angoff Cut-Score methodology) earns an official certificate.
- Web-based (online) delivery through the E-SESS system in a proctored environment (teachers may NOT proctor their own students)
- 100-question, multiple-choice test
- One-hour window for completion



Your Name,

Career and Technical Education Consortium of States (CTECS) has issued you a digital badge: "CTECS Workplace Readiness Skills Assessment". To save it or share it on social and professional networks, click the button below.



[Save & Share](#)

Credit Details

Title

CTECS Workplace
Readiness Skills
Assessment

Description

This credential
validates that the

Issuer Details

Issuer

[Career and Technical
Education Consortium
of States \(CTECS\)](#)

THE STUDENT PROCESS

- Once verified, students will be able to
- download/upload the digital badge
 - share the digital badge on social networking sites
 - embed the digital badge on websites or digital resumes
 - push the digital badge to Mozilla Backpack where it can be stacked with others.



TRACKING DATA

Our provider tracks data and allows us to access reports on awarded badges

- How many have been claimed and when (retroactive and automatic)
- How claimed badges are used by earners (where are they posted/embedded)
- Are shared badges accessed/clicked on?
- What can data tell us about badges and skills earned?

BADGES FOR WORK-BASED LEARNING

Think about how badges could improve existing systems:

- Student competency tracking
- Creation of new, endorsed programs of study
- Customization

THE STUDENT LEVEL

Educational requirements and skill expectations become more evident as the system grows. Students are able to mix and match badge options to prove they know how to do the job.

- Badge earning and storage in one location
- Badge earning is incentivized
- Portability and exposure is increased
- Use of badges to unlock other badges (prerequisites)
- Viewing statistical trends by career pathway or job title
- Course selection

THE TEACHER LEVEL

With state approval, teachers may award badges for

- Courses and units within courses
- Projects
- School-to-work experiences and infusion units
- Community service and extras (through student organization participation)
- Badges for artifacts, presentations, productions