Idaho Microcredential Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda – 4/23/2025

IMAC purpose: *Idaho Microcredential Advisory Council (IMAC) charged with developing best practices, visioning, and building support for microcredentials and digital badging.*

IMAC focus areas:

- Postsecondary and digital badging governance
- Industry promotion
- Corrections badging
- Non-capstone teachers

1. **Housekeeping**
   a. Welcome (Heather and Rick)
   b. New Members
      i. Dr. Johathan Lashley - Academic Technology Officer – SBOE.
         1. Introduced and shared his background with digital teaching and learning, previous roles in Idaho, and experience with open educational resources.
   c. Communication reminders:
      i. TEAMS
      ii. Group Email: imac@cte.idaho.gov
2. **Informational**
   a. IDCTE update – Heather
      i. Changed in IDCTE leadership
         1. New Executive Director: Jennifer White (starting in May).
         2. Only a one-week gap in leadership expected.
   b. SkillStack®
      i. Created CTE badges based on revalidated standards for 25/26 are drafted and being reviewed by stakeholders. 10 stacked badge sets.
      ii. Presentation accepted at Digital Badge Summit.
         1. Title – *Work in Progress: Articulating postsecondary pathways for K-12 digital badges*
3. **Focus Areas**
   a. Postsecondary

    i. [Idaho Panel on Higher Education Digital Badge Governance](#) – April 25th 10 am

1. Panel includes national leaders from CU Boulder, Wichita State, Alamo Colleges, and UMBC.
2. Discussion will center on badging governance, development processes, and industry connections.
3. Brainstorm additional questions
   a. Questions for panelists:
      i. *Please introduce yourselves and give a brief background on digital badging at your institution including whether your badges are issued for academic credit or non-credit — or part of a credit-bearing course and where is your digital badging program housed?*
      ii. *What is the WHY of your badging program and what advice would you give a university or college just starting out in creating a digital badging program?*
      iii. *What is an example of a successful digital badge on your campus?*
      iv. *Who are the essential campus stakeholders that need to be included when developing a badging platform?*
      v. *What is the process on your campus for how a badge is created? Does it have to go through any formal approval or review process? Is a curriculum committee or registrar involved in your badge creation process?*
      vi. *How do you make sure badges are connected to industry needs or the career needs of the students?*
   b. *Additional Questions Suggested:*
      i. *How do institutions work with employers who actively use badges in hiring?*
      ii. *What are the ways students share badges with employers?*
      iii. *How are badges positioned on resumes or in job applications?*

b. Industry Promotion

    i.   Reminder about Flyers/Folders -- IMAC can request to distribute to local employers.
1. [Employer folder insert](#)
2. [Poster](#)
   - a. Brooke Scoville recommended distributing these at Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings held twice yearly by secondary instructors.
   - b. IMAC members can request brochures and folders from IDCTE for events.

    ii.   Attended virtual Dental Assisting open house at DTEC – shared information about SkillStack® Recruit and shared information with their Technical Advisory Board.
1. Rick presented to employers and TAC members.

c. Corrections Badging
    i.   What do we want to know about Corrections badging?
1. Ted Oparnico suggested aligning SkillStack® with national recognition like NCCER credentials, ensuring portability post-incarceration.

    ii.   We can give a presentation about Corrections badging at next IMAC
1. Possible future subcommittee meeting to dive deeper, including contacts from Arkansas and Oklahoma corrections systems.

d. Non-capstone teachers / students
    i.   Financial Literacy badge launched for Financial Literacy month in April
1. Mixed reactions
   - a. Feedback noted that some teachers felt overwhelmed by large student rosters.
   - b. Consideration needed for whether to allow all grade levels to earn badges or maintain focus on capstone courses.
   - c. Suggestion to develop clearer processes and possibly assign control to administrators.
   - d. Connect Conference session planned to review findings.

    ii.   What does IMAC want to know to help move this discussion forward.
1. Future ideas Jenni/invite PQMs – to talk challenges/strategies

4. **Upcoming Agenda Items**
    a. New members, how to get starting July 2025 (any recommendations), 2nd place backups/champions
        i. Members rotating off (1-year term) are encouraged to recommend successors.
        ii. Goal to maintain broad representation including corrections, registrars, industry, and student services.
    b. What stakeholders are missing from this group?
        i. Suggestions included registrars, career services, and more employer/industry voices.
5. **Resources to be aware of:**
    a. [Digital Badge Summit](#) – CU Boulder July 21-23
        i. Strongly recommended for those working in higher ed badging.
        ii. Celebrating its 10th year
6. **Additional Notes:**
    - Brooke shared plans for an awards night recognizing student badges and raised questions about postsecondary articulation for culinary badges.
    - Heather confirmed that a course equivalency guide is being finalized and includes credit recognition (e.g., LCSC offers 3 credits for stacked culinary badges).
    - IDCTE is working on better postsecondary articulation and promotional resources.
    - Suggestion made to create resume examples showing how to list SkillStack® badges.

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Communication about Financial Literacy Badge.

Happy Financial Literacy Month!

As we kick off National Financial Literacy Month, Idaho Division of Career Technical Education developed a new Personal Financial Literacy badge in SkillStack®. **This is an <u>optional badge</u> as we are expanding SkillStack® beyond capstone teachers and piloting introductory and intermediate courses.** Teachers using the personal financial literacy ISEE codes now have access to this badge.

What are Microcredentials and Digital Badges?

SkillStack® is Idaho's micro credentialing platform. Micro credentials are recognized credentials awarded to learners for mastery of skills or concepts defined by industry and educators. Each microcredential is represented by a digital badge, which learners can use to build a portfolio and showcase their achievements for employment or education opportunities.

When the students meet the **nine competencies** for the Personal Financial Literacy graduation requirement students will be eligible to earn this badge.

How This Badge Benefits CTE Program & Students

☑ Collects data on CTE students demonstrating competencies and earning the badge

☑ Provides insight into schools and CTE program areas awarding badges

☑ Strengthens CTE's ability to showcase how our programs exceed basic requirements

For more information, here is the link for the CTE Personal Financial Literacy Guide, which includes curriculum resources, certification options, and dual credit opportunities.

For any questions about SkillStack®, please reach out to **Rick Stoddart** at rick.stoddart@cte.idaho.gov

Wishing you a fantastic Financial Literacy Month!

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IMAC Member	Term Length in Years	Start Date	End Date
Allison Duman	3	Aug-24	Jul-27
Barry Pate	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Brooke Scoville	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Candyce Reynolds	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Casey Craiige	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Haley Westenskow	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Jeneé Snyder	1	Aug-24	Jul-25
Jenni Bradford	1	Aug-24	Jul-25
Jerry McMurtry	2	Aug-24	Jul-26

Jonathan Lashley	3	Aug-24	Jul-27
Kelsey Wright	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Ken Udas	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Kimberly Gardner	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Lyndy Higgins	1	Aug-24	Jul-25
Mandy Damman	1	Aug-24	Jul-25
Mona Doan	3	Aug-24	Jul-27
Penni Aufderheide Keck	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Philip Valenta	2	Aug-24	Jul-26
Steven P. Stubbs	3	Aug-24	Jul-27
Ted Oparnico	1	Aug-24	Jul-25
Tonya Tracy	3	Aug-24	Jul-27
Wendy Small	2	Aug-24	Jul-26