

Florida Credentials Review Committee

Framework of Quality

Demand Criteria

Degree and non-degree credentials must be linked to at least one Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) code that is either:

1. Designated by the Labor Market Estimating Conference as an occupation designated as an area of concern either statewide or for an individual region, in the [conference product](#) adopted by the conference July 14, 2023.

-OR-

2. Included on the Florida Department of Commerce's [Regional Demand Occupation Lists](#) from 2023-2024, either statewide or for an individual region.

Local Demand

Credentials that do not meet criteria 1 or 2 above may be evaluated under **local demand**. Credentials must be submitted by the local workforce development board and meet all the following criteria for **local demand**:

1. Documented support from the local workforce development board, education institution and economic development organizations in the local area.
2. Evidence that the credential leads to occupations in an industry sector of focus or is in an emerging industry for the local area.
3. Evidence that the number of current or future job openings for the occupation exceeds either a threshold established by the local workforce development board or a minimum of 30 openings where no local threshold exists.

Wage Criteria (Non-Degree Credentials Only)

Non-degree credentials must show evidence of earnings outcomes and evidence that earnings outcomes meet middle- to high-level wages. For non-degree credentials that have sufficient and recent wage outcome data in the Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP), the following criteria must be met:

1. Wages reported one year after completion must be greater than or equal to 80% of the median Year One wages for all non-degree credential completers in FETPIP.

-OR-

2. Wages reported five years after completion must be greater than or equal to 80% of the median Year Five wages for all non-degree credential completers in FETPIP.

For non-degree credentials that do not have sufficient and recent wage outcome data in FETPIP, the credential must be linked to a SOC code.

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The occupation wages provided by the Labor Market Estimating Conference in the [conference product](#) must meet the following criteria:

1. The representative starting wage for the occupation must be greater than or equal to the representative starting wage for all occupations requiring a postsecondary nondegree award.

-OR-

2. The average annual wage for the occupation must be greater than or equal to the average annual wage for all occupations requiring a postsecondary nondegree award.

-OR-

3. The high-level wage threshold for the occupation must be greater than or equal to the high-level wage threshold for all occupations requiring a postsecondary nondegree award.

Credential Sequencing Criteria

Non-degree credentials that do not meet the wage criteria must be part of a sequence of credentials that are required for the next-level occupation that does meet the wage criteria. To meet the credential sequencing criteria, the non-degree credential must:

1. Be linked to at least one SOC code that has an average wage greater than or equal to the median wage of high school graduates with no other credential as calculated using FETPIP data.

-AND-

2. Be validated and recognized by industry.

-AND-

3. Demonstrate evidence that the credential is part of an established sequence of credentials that lead to an occupation that meets the Framework of Quality wage criteria.

New industry certifications that meet demand criteria and sequencing criteria 1 and 2 above may be recommended for conditional approval pending review of evidence of a career pathway through articulation or other means when documentation is available. Conditionally approved certifications must be reviewed for sequencing criteria 3 within the first year of addition to the Master Credentials List. If the certification does not meet sequencing criteria 3, the certification will be recommended for removal from the list.

Definition of Industry Recognized Certification

An industry certification is a credential resulting from a voluntary process through which individuals are assessed by an independent, third-party certifying entity using predetermined standards for knowledge, skills and competencies.

Digital Tool Certificates

Digital tool certificates provide elementary and middle school students with skills that are foundational to the earning of credentials on the Master Credentials List. Under Section 1003.4203(3), Florida Statutes, these certificates are to be included on the Master Credentials List. The Florida Department of Education shall annually transmit a list of all eligible digital tool certificates that shall be included on the Master Credentials List for review and approval by the Credentials Review Committee.