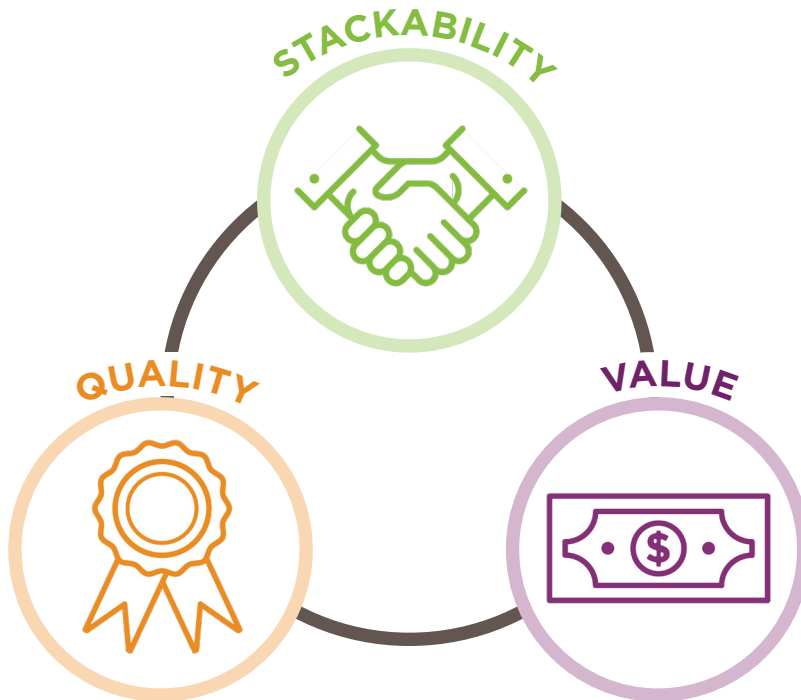


NONDEGREE CREDENTIALS

Paths to the Workforce and Future Education

Nondegree credentials can take many forms, including certifications, occupational licenses and apprenticeship certificates. **Value**, **quality** and **stackability** are important components of nondegree credential pathways to the workforce. Including each of these aspects in nondegree credential paths requires input and engagement of education, workforce and economic development stakeholders, including employers. By ensuring that nondegree credential paths have these components, states have an opportunity to provide infrastructure for future education and career advancement.



- Acquire validation from employers and regional labor markets that the nondegree credential provides training for current and future high-demand occupation needs.
- Conduct frequent evaluation of workforce and labor market needs and relevance of nondegree credentials to jobs.
- Ensure key workforce development stakeholders are involved in assessing nondegree credential value.



- Assess evidence of substantial in-demand job opportunities associated with the nondegree credential.
- Collect transparent evidence that shows the skills mastered by credential holders align with expected job opportunities.
- Evaluate employment and earning outcomes of individuals after obtaining a nondegree credential.



- Remove barriers to transitioning from nondegree credentials to additional education and degrees.
- Provide on-ramps to additional education and degree programs through nondegree credential paths to build skills and advance individuals' careers.
- Foster partnership and collaboration among employers and education providers to identify skills and learning that can be embedded in nondegree programs.



POLICY AREAS OF FOCUS

- [Data Collection, Sharing and Analysis](#)
- [Workforce System Engagement](#)
- [Attainment](#) and [Economic Development Goals](#)