

# Stackability of Micro-Credentials

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## Research Questions

- 1) Could micro-credentials offer an alternative path to enter postsecondary?
- 2) How can colleges and universities develop a structure to “stack” micro-credentials into courses, diplomas, and degrees?
- 3) Do micro-credentials help newcomers secure employment?

## Key Findings

- 1) Micro-credentials can accelerate career advancement; they do not appear to encourage underemployed people to pursue higher education.
- 2) A system to stack micro-credentials would likely require the adoption of standards – duration, content, instructor qualifications. Standardization would limit the flexibility, innovation, and responsiveness of micro-credentials.
- 3) When hiring newcomers, employers overwhelmingly prefer diplomas and degrees over micro-credentials.

***Rather than establishing new academic standards, micro-credentials could be included in existing PLAR processes.***