



Division of Information Technology

**INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY
AND NEW MEDIA**

Explore, Empower & Innovate with Digital Credentials

1EdTech Higher Ed Briefing on Digital Credentials

November 2022



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Session Outcomes

- ◆ Identify partners and opportunities
- ◆ Elevate courses, faculty, and staff
- ◆ Provide resources and support
- ◆ Apply lessons learned for scaling efforts



About UMBC

- University of Maryland, Baltimore County - Founded in 1966
- One of 12 institutions in the University System of Maryland
- 14,000 FTE students (80% FT)
- 925 FT/PT faculty
- Designated R1 - one of three research universities in USM
- Community-engaged University by the Carnegie Foundation
- Number-one university producing Black and minority PhD and MS students



UMBC
AN HONORS UNIVERSITY



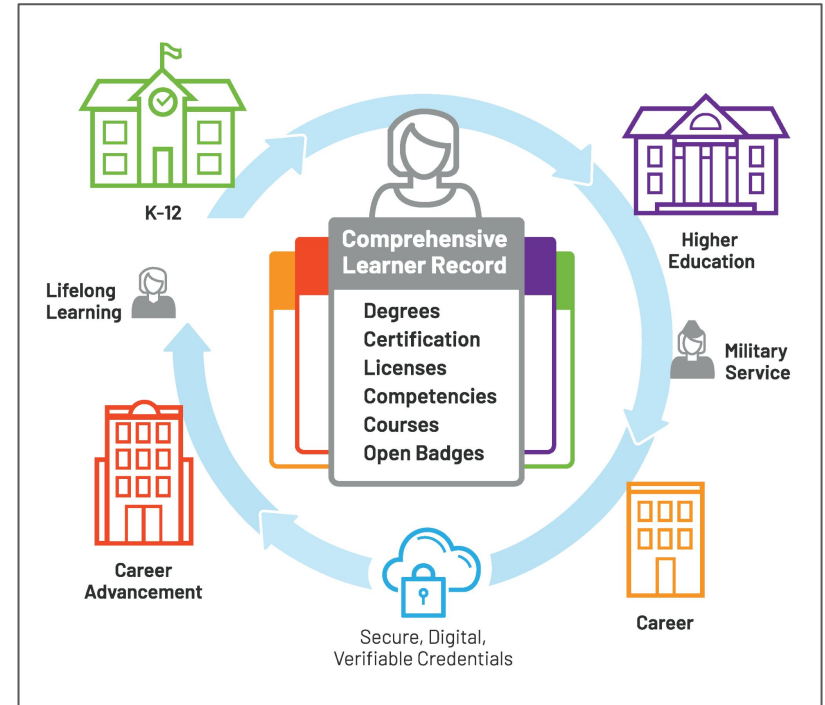
Vision

“We take pride in calling ourselves, an Honors University in Maryland.

How do we ensure that all students, not just our scholars, leave UMBC with the academic and co-curricular experiences to give them the skills to succeed when they leave UMBC?”

– Dr. Diane Lee, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education, Emeritus

From Transcript to Comprehensive Learner Record





Why digital credentials?

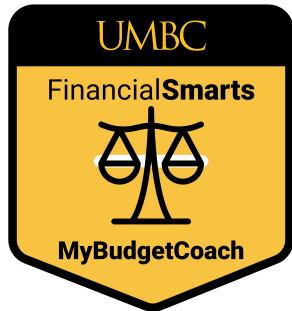
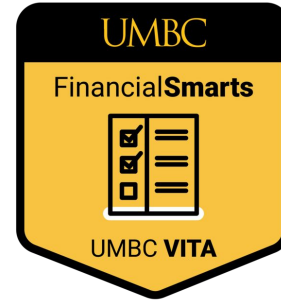
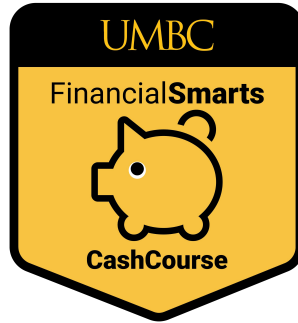
- Shift from **static educational records** & transcripts to **online, digital credentials** focused on achievement or skills
- Central to the “**unbundling**” of degrees into shorter-form credentials that can stack into a larger **lifelong curriculum**
- **Market is demanding** higher ed move beyond bachelor’s degrees toward more **nimble, lower-priced, credentials**
- Move away from **one-and-done degrees** and towards **lifelong learning and upskilling**





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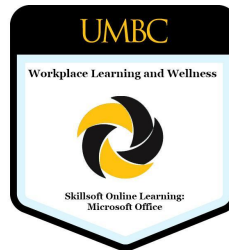
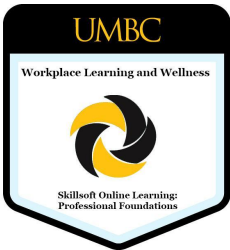
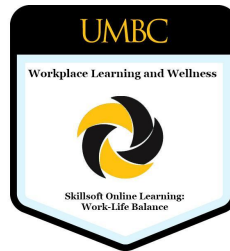
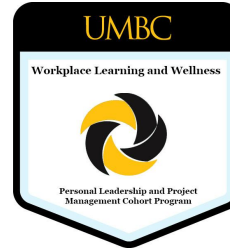




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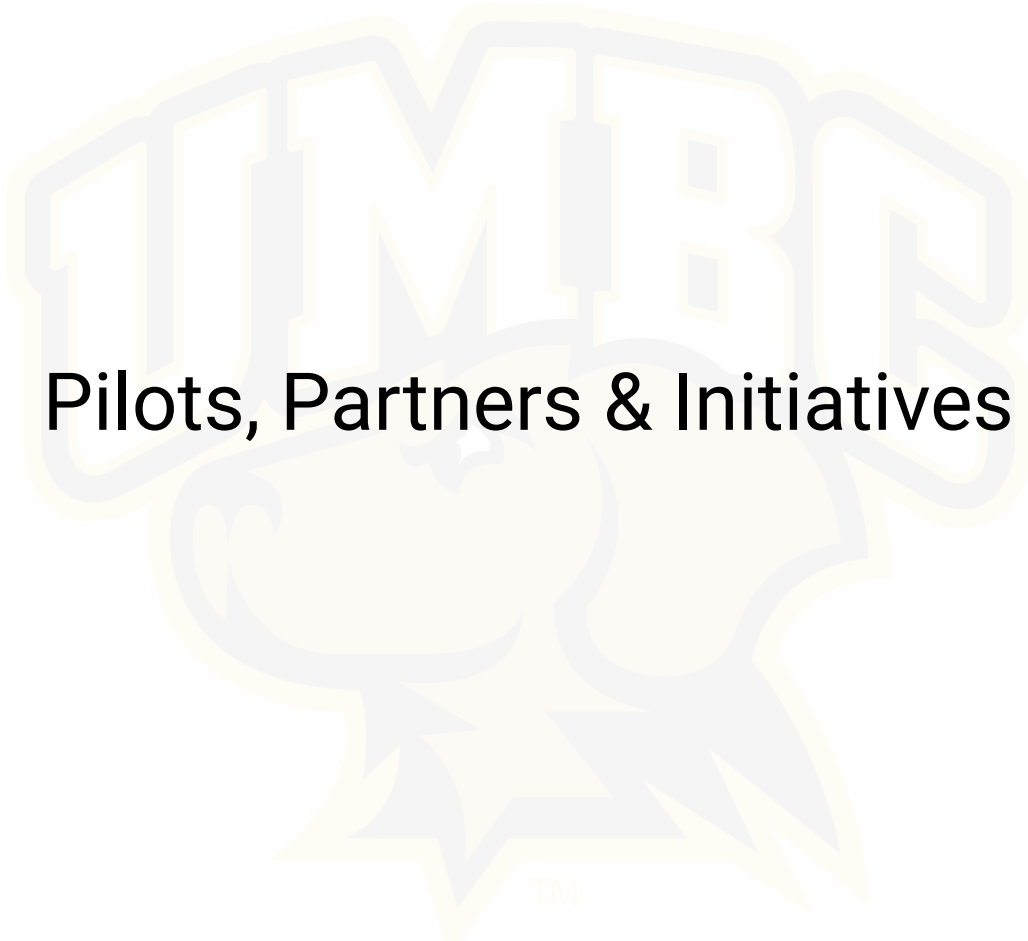




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Pilots, Partners & Initiatives





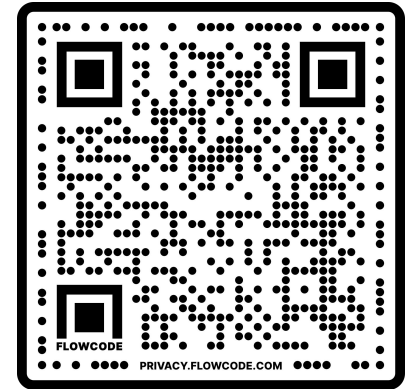
Greater Washington Partnership (GWP)



GREATER WASHINGTON
PARTNERSHIP

“Pilot of the Pilots”

- The “what” and “why”
- Pathways for earning badges
 - ◆ Curricular
 - ◆ Co-Curricular
 - ◆ Stackable credentials to itemize knowledge, skills, and abilities
- Awarded dozens of Digital Tech badges since 2020



*For more information
about the GWP Capital
CoLAB, Scan this QR
Code*



Badging & Promoting Equity

The conferral of a bachelor's degree **requires the completion of a series of courses**; a **series of badges** can compose **a pathway to earn a stackable badge**.





Lessons Learned

- Buy-in
 - ◆ Program director, faculty
- Instructional design support
 - ◆ Specific, measurable learning outcomes (LOs)
 - ◆ Alignment between external KSAs and our graduate courses
- Assessment support
 - ◆ Student artifacts appropriately measure stated LOs
- Time and training
 - ◆ Learning management system/platform
 - ◆ Assessment management tool to capture student achievements



STEM Ready Initiative

- Pathways for incoming 11th grade students at Montgomery County Public Schools for STEM related-majors offered at UMBC at USG
- Competencies acquired through curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities
- Badges are tracked and follow learners throughout high school, community college, the four-year institution, and beyond
- Individualized learning - students complete competencies that are right for them

Maryland's Largest School District

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

MC MONTGOMERY
COLLEGE





Lessons Learned

- Does our current technical infrastructure identify and collect data we need for non-UMBC students?
- What will be our internal processes in issuing badges for students along the journey?



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A Strategic (R)Evolution

A large, faint watermark of the UMBC logo is centered in the background of the slide. The logo consists of the letters 'UMBC' in a stylized, blocky font, with a large 'U' and 'M' on the left and 'B' and 'C' on the right. Below the letters is a stylized figure of a person or a creature, possibly a mascot, with a star above its head. The entire watermark is rendered in a light yellow/gold color with a slight transparency.



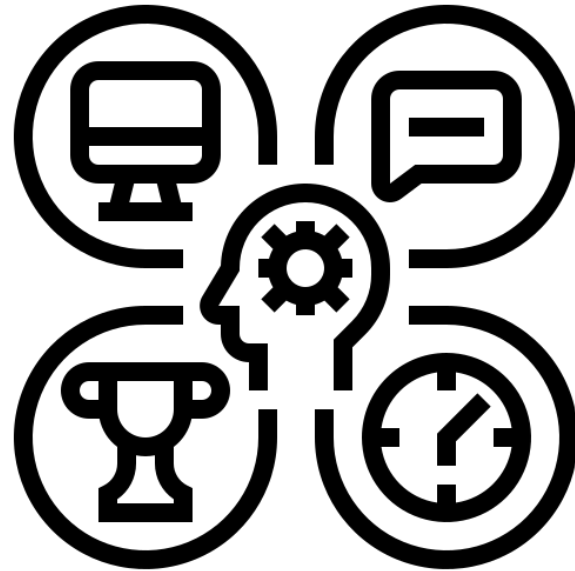
People - Partners and stakeholders

- Career Center (GWP)
 - Badging specific and discrete technology skills
- Academic programs
 - Mapping curriculum to industry
 - Center for Teaching & Learning Sciences
- Experiential learning
 - Center for Democracy and Civic Life experience and achievement
 - The Shriver Center

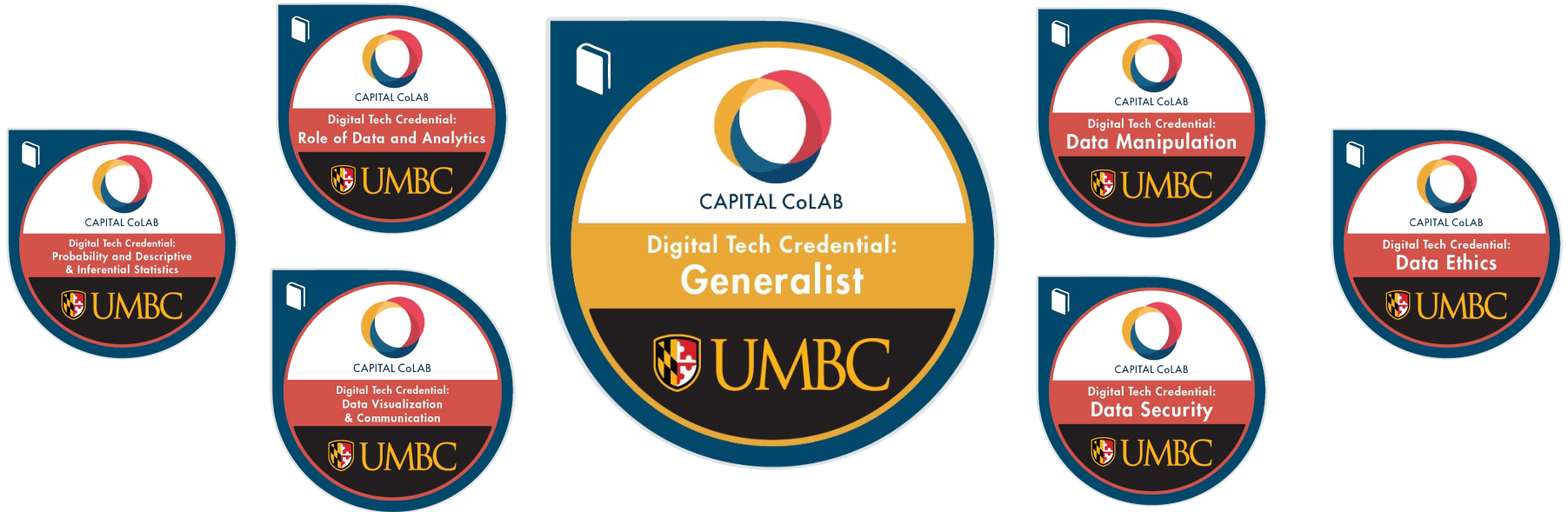


Process - A flexible infrastructure

- Institution
- Partners
- Learners

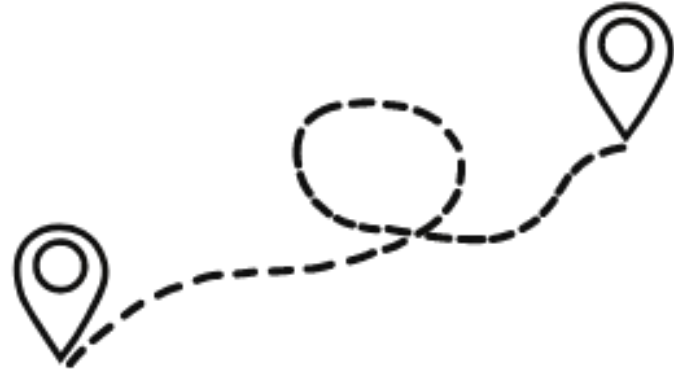


Product - Promote the pathways



Lessons Learned - How Will You Proceed?

- Not one-size-fits-all
- Buy-in and added value
- Identify, collaborate with existing programs or departments
- Define your processes





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Thank you!



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