



Tips for Choosing a Micro-Credential

- Create your criteria for your choice. Before you begin searching the micro-credential database, decide what you want from this experience. Do you hope to grow in a new skill? Look for micro-credentials that might inspire you to learn about something new. Do you want to demonstrate expertise you have already developed? This narrows things down. These are the micro-credentials that cause you to nod in agreement as you read them. Other criteria: Are you looking for a particular topic? Do you need to combine this effort with other professional growth plans? Are you part of a team working together? Write down your criteria. Once you start searching the database, you'll be glad you did!
- Gather enough choices, but no more. There are many micro-credentials available. Decide how many you'd like to consider. Limit your choices to a manageable size; too many choices can be overwhelming.
- Once you narrow your choices, take a break. Sometimes quick decisions are good. Sometimes, upon reflection, it would have been better to let your decision marinate. Take a week or two and reflect. What has been on your mind? Where has your professional focus been? Which micro-credential(s) match up? Which don't?
- Seek another perspective. There are many who know you and your work well. Ask for their thoughts and input.
- Share your choice. Sharing a decision with someone always makes it feel more "official." That accountability can help get us in motion. Shout your decision from the mountaintop! (or at least tell the teacher next door.)
- It's not final until it's final. Remember, you can always change your mind!
- Begin with the end in mind. What do you want to learn? What do you want to improve? What do you want to demonstrate?