



## PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD

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### MICRO-CREDENTIALS

Micro-credentials offer educators an opportunity to demonstrate competency of topic-specific subject matters. The rise in popularity of micro-credentials stems from their focus on supporting educator targeted professional development. Through micro-credentials, educators are able to select specific skills they want to learn based on their students' needs and their own interests. As a result, micro-credentials make professional development more personalized, engaging, and relevant to teachers. The opportunity for educators to broaden their skill set through micro-credentialing provides a unique opportunity for content-specific, educator-driven, professional development.

### PTSB'S INTEREST IN MICRO-CREDENTIALS

PTSB's interest in micro-credentials derives from exploring alternative paths toward earning meaningful and recognizable professional development. By developing and implementing micro-credentials, it will allow educators to focus on a specific content area in a micro-credential field and allow PTSB the opportunity to reward that effort with a badge to educator certificates. The content areas offered through micro-credential programs vary, and are not considered to be one-size-fits-all program.

### PTSB MICRO-CREDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS, PROCESS, & EXPANSION OPTIONS

- Programs MUST be submitted approved by PTSB for PTSB recognition
- Program Length: The length of time necessary to earn a micro-credential depends largely on the program requirements. Typical micro-credentials take approximately 10-15 hours to complete.
- Program must verify and validate that specific skills/competencies have been achieved by participant
  - This verification must be endorsed by the institution/vendor who submitted the program
  - Must demonstrate highly meaningful and high-quality professional development
- Any changes to the program must be pre-approved by PTSB
- Once a program has been approved the institution/vendor is required to communicate with PTSB when a participant has completed their program
- PTSB will award the micro-credential to the participant's educator license upon confirmation of completion.
- Micro-credentials will count toward professional development. Completion of a micro-credential program will result in the complete 0.5 credit hours awarded per PTSB Rules Chapter 8.



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### PTSB MICRO-CREDENTIAL GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
Badge	Digital or physical representation of a micro-credential, stack, or credential to represent learning achievements.
Credential	The acknowledged completion of a thoughtfully designed series or multiple sets of recognized competencies in a program that an educator earned by demonstration of the defined skills or competencies.
Competence-Based Professional Learning	Learning activities that result in the participants demonstrating evidence of achievement of specified outcomes.
Continuing Education Unit (CEU) PTSB Rules Chapter 8	Credit for hours spent participating in professional learning at a ratio of 5 semester hours of university/college credit and/or 75 contact hours.
Earners	The educator or professional submitting evidence for the micro-credential.
Issuer	The group or organization that has created the PTSB approved micro-credential program and validates the educator's competence in the defined skill or set of skills.
Micro-credential	Recognition achieved through demonstrating competency of a defined skill or competency, including industry-recognized competencies.
Stack	One organized set of credentials that an educator earns by demonstrating competency of the described skills or competencies. Also referred to as a cluster, collection, assemblage, or amassment.
Stackable Credential or Career Pathway	The idea that micro-credentials act as part of a sequence of credentials to build upon an individual's qualifications and help that individual move along a career pathway and/or further education/endorsement.