



PROJECT INFUSE

DEMOCRATIZING ACCESS TO DIGITAL CREDENTIALS

Project Infuse is a collaborative national initiative designed to democratize access to digital credentials and Learning and Employment Records (LERs) at scale in higher education.

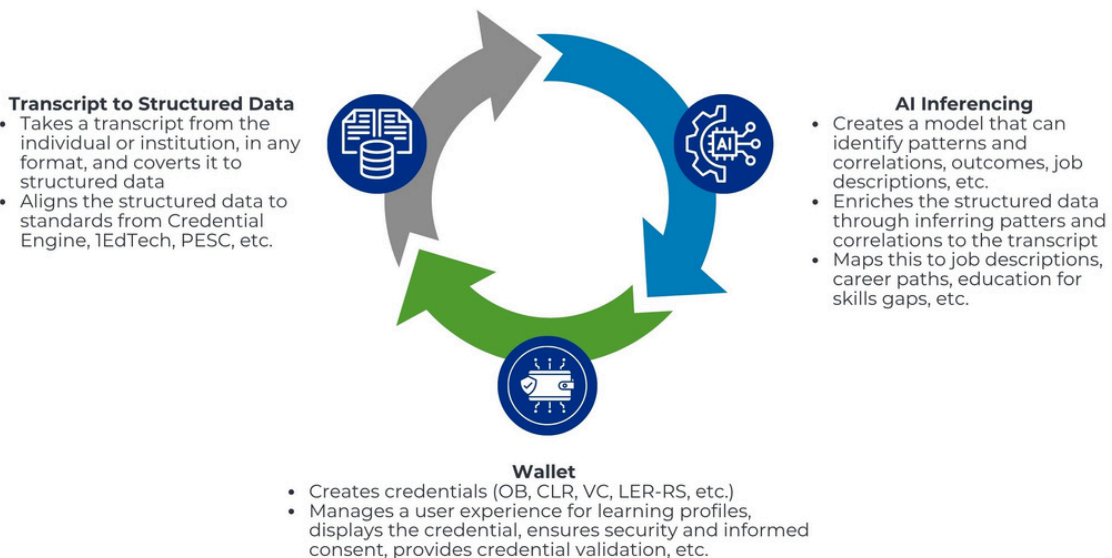
As learning pathways become more flexible and skills-focused, the need for a trusted and portable way to represent learning outcomes has never been greater. Yet most institutions and workforce partners lack a clear, scalable, and affordable method for securely connecting and sharing verifiable digital credentials. Project Infuse addresses these barriers by advancing a **shared, low/no-cost public infrastructure** that enables institutions of all sizes to participate in the digital credential ecosystem. This approach also expands learner opportunities nationwide.

Infuse envisions a trusted, open, and interoperable infrastructure that empowers learner agency, supports institutional participation, reduces duplicative investments, and strengthens alignment between higher education and the evolving skills-based economy.

Core Approach

Project Infuse structures its work around a standard technology development methodology. It began with a design and requirements phase and is now ready for proof-of-concept (PoC). The PoC will mirror the full credential lifecycle and focus on proving a conservative approach to reach national scale.

- **Ingest:** Integrate existing institutional data (SIS, PDFs, CSVs) into structured, digital formats using a universal translator that supports open data standards. Enable institutions to submit existing academic records, starting with widely available PDF transcripts, through an “easy button” approach.
- **Infer:** Apply AI-driven skill extraction to enrich credentials with inferred competencies and career-aligned data, strengthening connections between learning and employment.
- **Issue:** Convert enriched records into standards-based, verifiable digital credentials issued through open, interoperable services. Learners receive lifelong access and control through low-/no-cost, public-good credential wallets and repositories compatible with a growing ecosystem of demand-side services.



To achieve Infuse's objectives, the solution will leverage both existing technologies and open-source software. This will allow it to provide low/no-cost services to all higher education institutions in the US. Infuse will use an open-source orchestration layer, delivered via openly available source code along with a hosted Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) option. Infuse is intentionally designed to enable swappable components and provide flexibility as it evolves. This will enable continuous innovation and prevent limitations on institutional access.

THE COALITION

Infuse is a collaborative project involving a broad coalition of partners across sectors. Following a national convening and year-long, structured design and decision-making process, the Coalition reached consensus on the technical, governance, and sustainability foundations of the PoC, grounded in real institutional constraints and a shared commitment to learner-centered, equitable, and interoperable solutions.

AACRAO	Jobs for the Future	Velocity Network Foundation
USCCF/T3 Innovation Network	Jobspeaker	Vital Source
1EdTech	Learning Economy Foundation	GW Institute for Public Policy - Leveraging AI for Skills
Credential Engine	Level Data (RANDA)	Extraction & Research (LAI SER)
Digital Credential Consortium	Lightcast	Ed 3.0 Community
C-BEN	National Student Clearinghouse	Experience You - USCCF
Bardic Systems	Open Syllabus	Northeastern University - Syllabi as a Rich Skill Source
DegreeSight	Parchment - An Instructure Company	Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC)
Digital Promise	Public Consulting Group	Learner Information Framework
DXtera Institute	Quality Information Partners	Western Governors University
EBSCOed	Stellic	Bristol (MA) Community College
Gobekli	Territorium	
iDatafy - SmartResume	Trusted Learner Network	
iQ4	Unicon	

Where We Are Now

Project Infuse seeks PoC funding to validate its open orchestration model for converting academic records into interoperable digital credentials. We have completed rigorous design work addressing core institutional, technical, and market requirements. Key risks are mapped and staged for systematic learning. Governance and accountability structures are operational.

This investment will deliver concrete evidence on cost, scalability, and institutional implementation requirements - the critical unknowns blocking nationwide adoption. The PoC is intentionally scoped to generate actionable data, not premature scale. Outcomes will directly inform governance frameworks, sustainability models, and clear pathways to MVP development and national expansion.

Project Infuse is ready to move from design to demonstration. Strategic investment will de-risk the path forward for the entire digital credentialing ecosystem. We plan to work with 3-5 institutions representing approximately 5,000 students as real-world examples of Infuse in action.