



## **Digital Promise Launches a Free, Open-Source Badging Technology to Support Institutions with Issuing Badges**

*Badge Engine is publicly available for organizations to support the needs of their learners*

**OCTOBER 31, 2024 | Washington, D.C.** - Global nonprofit, [Digital Promise](#) has launched [Badge Engine](#), an open-source badging technology for teaching and development institutions. Since 2013, Digital Promise has been at the forefront of the micro-credential and digital credential space, awarding more than 20,000 micro-credentials in partnership with numerous organizations. With Badge Engine, organizations can recognize learning with digital badges—all while keeping the learner in the driver’s seat.

Badge Engine is a free and publicly available open-source technology that enables organizations to have low-cost digital badging technology to support their badging programs. Additionally, organizations such as workforce training and development institutions, higher education institutions, P16 education institutions, professional development providers, corporations, nonprofits, governments and governmental agencies, NGOs, will be able to more closely govern the data and exercise control over the technology implementation. Badge Engine adheres to the [1EdTech Open Badges 3.0 standard](#), which prioritizes interoperability and learners' ownership of learner records.

“Options are one of the best things we can provide learners to support them in their lifelong learning journeys,” says Rita Fennely-Atkinson, senior director of credentials at Digital Promise. “Open-source technologies in digital credentials help unlock greater opportunities for learners by providing organizations with low-cost options to verify and recognize knowledge and skills. This equitable access fosters lifelong learning and enables seamless recognition of skills across institutions, industries, and borders.”

High-quality, learner-centered credentialing products are the key to providing learners with opportunities for recognition, advancement, and empowerment. Throughout the development of Badge Engine, Digital Promise considered the needs of diverse learners, especially historically and systematically excluded learners, and the organizations that serve them, recognizing the need for organizations to have access to a free, open-source solution to support the adoption of digital badging technology at scale.

“Digital Promise has been an innovator and pioneer in using digital badging technology for more than 10 years,” says Jean-Claude Brizard, president and CEO at Digital Promise. “We are eager to continue advancing the ecosystem by making a free, open-source digital badging technology widely available to support skill recognition for learners globally. Free, open products such as Badge Engine equip organizations to build learner-centered systems that recognize achievements transparently. With this technology, organizations can empower learners to seize opportunities and steer their own personal and professional pathways.”

Digital Promise’s [Badging Coalition](#) and advisory board collaborated with the development team to share ecosystem, audience, and stakeholder insights into what is necessary to support the diverse digital badging needs of learners and organizations. In particular, key technical insights were provided by the Badging Coalition Advisory Board, which included the following key contributors:

- Bill Brown, Web Accessibility Lead, Capellic
- Rob Coyle, Technical Program Manager of Digital Credentials, 1EdTech
- Kerri Lemoie, Director, MIT Digital Credentials Consortium
- Philipp Schmidt, Vice President of Technology Innovation, Axim
- Rita Fennelly-Atkinson, Senior Director, Credentials, Digital Promise
- Christina Luke Luna, Chief Learning Officer, Digital Promise
- Stef Mills, Senior Director of Technical Product Development, Digital Promise

The development of Badge Engine v1.0.0, an open-source badging technology, was funded by [Walmart](#).

These collective contributions ensure that all learners can benefit from digital badging technologies and provide learners with options for sharing their lifelong learning achievements.

To learn more about Badge Engine, visit Digital Promise’s [website](#).

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### **About Digital Promise**

Digital Promise is a global nonprofit working to expand opportunity for every learner. We work with educators, researchers, technology leaders, and communities to design, investigate, and scale innovations that support learners, especially those who've been historically and systematically excluded. Our vision is that every person engages in powerful learning experiences that lead to a life of well-being, fulfillment, and economic mobility. For more information, visit the [Digital Promise website](#) and follow [@digitalpromise](#) for updates.