Appedix Resources

Featured SkillsFWD Resources

R&D QUESTIONS

The R&D team crafted questions to capture grantees' progress and learnings as their projects evolved throughout the grant period. Questions for each quarter are associated with a distinct phase of work and objective for that time.

R&D METRICS TEMPLATE

SkillsFWD grantees used this table to track metrics throughout the grant period. This enabled comparison across projects and recognize variation across use cases. These metrics can be modified or added to depending on use cases.

6-MONTH REPORTING TEMPLATE

Grantees used this template to report on progress toward their action plans and how each step was related to the R&D dimensions of progress throughout the grant period.

R&D TIMELINE AND PROCESS

This timeline and process was collaboratively designed collaboratively with the grantees to capture learnings throughout the grant period as projects progressed. This can be used as reference for teams looking to develop their own process.

TECHNICAL INTEROPERABILITY ASSESSMENT PLAN

The assessment team followed this plan to assess technical interoperability of each of the projects. Teams can use and modify this process to help set expectations and create accountability with vendors.

TECHNICAL INTEROPERABILITY ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

The assessment team used this template to document technical interoperability assessment results. Teams can use and modify this template to document actual functionality areas in need of improvement in their tech systems.

INTEROPERABILITY WORKFLOW OVERVIEW

This guide gives examples of end-to-end LER workflows. It outlines three common models that can be followed to achieve an end-to-end demonstrations.

IUX ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

The assessment team used this template to document IUX assessment results. It can be modified and used by teams to document progress toward and areas of improvement for incorporating IUX principles in their work.

SKILLSFWD LER FUNDING GUIDE

This resource includes a breakdown of the types of costs associated with LER implementation and questions teams should consider to help determine the overall cost of a specific initiative.

SKILLSFWD BUDGETING TEMPLATE

This is the template SkillsFWD grantees used to plan for spending their funds. It includes both a table for planning spending over time and for a more detailed breakdown based on the use of funds.

SKILLSFWD MESSAGING GUIDE

This resource was created in partnership with SkillsFWD grantees and includes questions to consider when determining how best to engage different key user groups and stakeholders.

SKILLSFWD PRINCIPLES RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES PLANNING TEMPLATE

This table is designed to be completed in conjunction with selected project vendors to identify outstanding needs in order to ensure adherence to standards and functional interoperability.

SKILLSFWD ACTION PLANNING TEMPLATE

This is a flexible tool used by grantees to track progress toward self-defined milestones. It was designed to be iterative and allow for goals to be modified over time while documenting how and why changes occur.

BADGE SUMMIT POSTER TEMPLATE

This is the template teams used to present on their projects at the Badge Summit in July 2025. It can serve as a guide as to the type of information key stakeholders may be interested in as your project progresses.

FWD THINKING

This brief summarizes themes that emerged in grantee projects each quarter throughout the grant period. It was the primary way we shared cohort-wide lessons as work was ongoing.

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Featured T3 resources

LER ECOSYSTEM MAP

T3's LER Ecosystem Map was a foundational component of SkillsFWD's design and highlights many of the key stakeholders in the LER ecosystem and the roles they play.

TOOLKIT: SAMPLE BUDGET

This tool can be used at a starting point for budget creation and modified to meet project needs. It includes guidance to consider around each component.

TOOLKIT: TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This tool can be used to help teams understand concepts and options related to how LERs are issued with Verifiable Credentials and to document and describe decisions.

TOOLKIT: VALUATION PLAN

This tool can be used to identify, track, and monitor key metrics across project activities and partners, ensuring alignment on KPIs, supporting reporting needs, and improving outcomes.

TOOLKIT: TEAM AND PARTNER DESIGN

This tool can be used to help project leads identify team members with the right skills and mindset, define responsibilities, and identify potential risks or gaps that you can plan to address.

Other featured resources

ASPEN INSTITUTE EMPLOYER MESSAGING GUIDE

This guide supports advocates of LERs with information, resources, data, ideas, and visuals that are likely to resonate with people in talent, workforce strategy, and hiring roles in all sectors.

DIGITAL PROMISE: LEARNER CENTERED TOOLKIT FOR BUILDING INCLUSIVE LER SOLUTIONS

This resource provides an understanding of Inclusive User Experience (IUX) during the development of LERs and provides practical strategies for building accessible solutions.

EDUCATION DESIGN LAB CREDCOMPARE

This resource evaluates features across multiple providers, from accessibility to interoperability, all tailored to educational and workforce needs for select vendors in the LER space.

LER PROJECT SHOWCASE

This site highlights many existing LER projects and is a great way to see organizations involved in implementation and can be a resource for connecting with others who have experience in this space.

SMARTREPORT LER ECOSYSTEM MAP

This report, updated annually outlines the organizations and companies involved in issuing, sharing, and consuming LER data in the United States.