

# Developing New Federal Survey Data on Education, Training, and Credentials for Work

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# Background

- The need for better data on education, training, and credentials for work (other than degrees) became apparent during the recession
- Interagency Working Group on Expanded Measures of Enrollment and Attainment (GEMEnA) formed in fall 2009
- GEMEnA member agencies: Education, Labor, Commerce (Census Bureau), National Science Foundation, Office of Management and Budget, Council of Economic Advisors

# Four Strands of Work

1. Establish and deploy a core set of survey items related to the prevalence and key characteristics of *industry-recognized certifications and professional licenses*.
2. Establish and deploy a core set of survey items related to the prevalence and key characteristics of *subbaccalaureate educational certificates*.
3. Consider new measures of *participation in education and training* designed to prepare out of school youth and adults for work.
4. Support NCES in the development of a *new household study* focused on education, training, and credentials for work.

# End Goal: Counts and Analysis

- **Counts:** Add key “do you have it?” items to on-going federal surveys (e.g., Current Population Survey, NCES surveys) → Better measures of education and credential attainment
- **Analysis:** Start a new survey of adults in households to get detailed information on portfolio of skill development (skill area; costs; perceived benefits; role of education institutions) → Better understanding of how adults acquire and build skills with labor market value

## For More Information

Website: [nces.ed.gov/surveys/gemena](https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/gemena)

Newsflash: [ies.ed.gov/newsflash/](https://ies.ed.gov/newsflash/) (adult and career education)

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