

## Employment Ontario Bulletin

April 27, 2022

Micro-credentials are an emerging training option offered by postsecondary institutions across Ontario. Micro-credentials are flexible, rapid training programs for in-demand skills that help learners develop the experience that today's employers are looking for.

These programs:

- take less time to complete than degrees or diplomas
- may be completed online and may include on-the-job training
- are often created with input from business sectors, so the skills being taught match employer needs
- may be taken alongside full-time work

Check out the government's new <u>micro-credentials portal</u>, which makes it easier for learners to explore rapid training opportunities in one place. Over 1,000 micro-credentials are now listed in the portal, with more being added regularly. Micro-credentials currently found on the portal cover topics ranging from biometrics and health care to software quality assurance and testing.

Ontario is the first jurisdiction in Canada to offer student financial assistance for microcredentials, ensuring loans and grants are available to more learners looking to rapidly upskill and reskill for the in-demand jobs of today and tomorrow. More than 1,500 micro-credentials are approved for the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), with more being approved regularly.

Please feel free to share the attached flyer with your networks.