40 Equity and Transparency for Education and Credentials

Jasen:

pathway tools are using those data in ways that actually help an individual sort through this maze of credentials, find what they need. and be able to act on that information. and so that they can maximize the likelihood of having their best outcome.

Jasen: Why was it important to more clearly define the equity issues?

Scott: Knowing that there are lots of different definitions, there are lots of different approaches to equity, the council sat down and decided on a definition of equity that would guide this body's work. We're not suggesting that it is only definition. We're not suggesting it is the best definition, but it was the definition that this council came to

Jasen: Scott, I appreciate how customer-focused design informs each tier.

Scott: So, the first tier of data we refer to as, no excuses, and really we're saying to the field, this is information you have now, you should be making this public, and we encourage you to step up and publish that information right away. There's really no reason you shouldn't do this. The second tier we recognize is going to maybe take a little bit of work on in institutions or providers, aside. So, you know, that could be a community college, it could be a university, it could be an apprenticeship program, it could be an industry certification body, whoever it is that's actually providing that

should do. And you're flipping through the trip tix as you're making your way across country. And now you call up Triple A and they're going to send you a link to their app that does all of it for you and allows you on the fly to be looking at all of the options for all of the museums and all the restaurants and all the hotels. As you're approaching Topeka, you're still 60 miles away, but you're trying to think about, you know, where am I going to stay and where am I going to eat and what should I see the next day? It's not on trip tix, it's on your phone. That's linkable data. And we want all of these companies to think about,

said we're going to change what it is we're requiring of those contractors in order to use open data. We want to actually see them now begin to adopt these exact principles into those RFP and procurement processes.

Jasen: Scott, how do you recommend listeners connect with you on this important work?

Scott: We're here as a nonprofit organization with the mission of ensuring open, transparent data. And we do that through a data language that is open source and Creative Commons license. So, we're not asking you to come use a proprietary credential engine system. We're asking you to make a commitment to open data using an open tool that anyone can use. We have free resources on the website in order support you being able to publish. It is becoming the standard for describing providers credentials competencies out there.

So, we would invite anyone to come to credential engine dot org. You can go to our equity web page that has the report. It has all the tiers and it has a link to help you set up an account and then to begin to publish. We have resources that lay out each of those three tiers of data and show you exactly how to publish those data points into open data language. You can also contact us at info@credential

Jasen: Check out our show notes page for a link to the Credential Engine Equity Advisory Report and Recommendations along with the video we just shared. Their July 20th webinar link, helps you dig deeper on this opportunity.

Representing ACT on the Equity Advis

Audio on ACT Center for Equity in Learning from YouTube video with captions at youtu.be/rUzvgx04QPs

Jasen: If you enjoyed the theme of toda
the 2023 ACT Workforce Summit on the Future of Higher Education and Workforce Success. ACT CEO Janet Godwin moderates a panel with powerhouse leaders such as Maria Flynn of Jobs for the Future and Sarita Brown from Excelencia in Education. Registration is now open at act.org/workforcesummit. We hope to see you this October in Nashville.

Closing with Jingle: Ready for Work is a service from your friends at ACT, a mission-driven non-profit dedicated to helping people achieve education and workplace success. Discover more at act.org/readyforworkpodcast.