

## JSU Certificate Programs and Microcredentials

### Approved Definitions and Credit Hour Ranges

**Certificates:** Certificates are academic programs (undergraduate, graduate, or professional levels) based on a free-standing body of knowledge, often interdisciplinary in nature. They typically have a minimum number of credits and are smaller than major programs of study. Completed certificates are recorded in academic records and displayed on transcripts.

*Alabama ASSET* designation at the graduate-level can be sought for certificate programs. To receive this designation, a culminating assessment is required and must support workforce development needs. Documentation regarding the process for receiving this designation is available from the Dean of Graduate Studies.

**Microcredentials:** A competency or skills-based recognition that allows a learner to demonstrate mastery and learning in a particular area. A microcredential is generally a subset of learning achievements or outcomes that is less than a full degree or certificate. A microcredential is offered by an institution of higher learning should be asserted by a recognized campus authority. Badging will be awarded for microcredentials.

### *JSU Classification Designations*

	<i>Undergraduate</i>	<i>Graduate</i>
Microcredential	6 to 9 hours	6 to 9 hours
Certificate	12 to 15 hours	12 to 18 hours
Minors	18 to 24 hours	N/A

## A Model for the Future? A Stackable Credentials Pathway

*A stackable credentials pathway allows for competencies to be converted into courses that build up into for credit or non credit programs*



Graphic Courtesy UPCEA, “An Update on Microcredentials and Digital Badges,” September 2020 (p. 12)