KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

Policy History
Policy No. AC15
Approving Jurisdiction: Board of Governors with the advice of Senate
Administrative Responsibility: Provost and Vice President Academic
Effective Date: September 30, 2021 – December 31, 2025

Micro-credentials Policy

A. CONTEXT AND PURPOSE

This policy establishes a framework for the development and approval of short, non-traditional educational offerings at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) in line with section 35.2(5) of the *University Act*. It aims to create a clear distinction between those offerings which are approved by Senate and those which are approved by the Provost.

B. SCOPE AND LIMITS

This policy applies to all educational offerings at KPU which fall outside of the jurisdiction of KPU Policy AC14 *KPU Credential Framework*. This includes a framework for the approval of Micro-credentials and Digital Badges. Micro Courses are noted for definitional purposes only, but fall under the scope of AC14. Short courses are also noted for definitional purposes.

C. STATEMENT OF POLICY PRINCIPLES

1. Micro-credentials are short, competency-based offerings.
2. Micro-credentials are represented by verifiable, portable, and shareable Open Badges that allow learners flexibility in the way they articulate their competencies.
3. Micro-credentials are subject to an expedited Senate approval process to facilitate just-in-time development of new training needed by learners, employers, and the wider community.
4. Micro-credentials will be offered in accordance with existing university bylaws and policies, including those concerning student tuition and fees and student evaluation and grading.
5. Digital Badges are distinct from Micro-credentials in their content and assessment and are subject to a clear development and approval process under the oversight of the Provost and Vice President, Academic. This process should be shared with Senate and regular reports on Digital Badges sent to Senate in line with section 35.2(6)(c) of the *University Act*.

D. DEFINITIONS

Refer to Section A of AC15 *Micro-credentials* Procedure for a list of definitions in support of this Policy.

E. RELATED POLICIES & LEGISLATION

AC14 *KPU Credential Framework*

F. RELATED PROCEDURES

AC15 *Micro-credentials* Procedure