ACE Microcredentials Overview & Criteria

Definition:
A microcredential is what students earn after passing a performance based assessment that shows the student has mastered a discrete set of workforce and industry related skills. These skills are ones that employers and higher education institutions in ACE (Architecture, Construction and Engineering) Industries and related fields are looking for in prospective applicants. Microcredentials earned by individual students are documented in a database and will be listed on a reference letter from the school provided to each student and graduate

Purpose:
ACE is a unique school- designed to support student learning for careers in industry related fields. NM State Standards do not adequately prepare students for this future. The purpose of microcredentials is to bridge this gap. Additionally, community industry partners have helped develop the list of microcredentials based on skills they wish to see more of in job applicants. ACE is filling this gap in our local workforce and making graduates more competitive for industry related jobs.

Scope:
1. Must be aligned with ACE mission as articulated in:
    a. ACE (Architecture, Construction and Engineering) Industry Framework
    b. ACE Graduate Profile
2. Grain size
    a. Does not require months to learn
    b. Cannot be taught in a few days: requires cycles of teaching, observing, refining,
    c. Can be clearly articulated in a phrase with specific tools/skills listed
3. Mastery demonstrated through discrete performance assessment (high quality)

Application:
The ACE Industry Framework and Graduate Profile will be used to help determine the microcredentials students can earn at ACE. Some microcredentials are 'core' to the ACE experience and are embedded within projects while others will happen during electives, Work-Based Learning and internships, or through afterschool enrichment. Students are expected to earn at least two microcredentials each year, with the goal of graduating with at least 10.

Microcredential Examples

Microcredential: Hand Tool Safety and Use Level 1		
Descriptor	**Success Criteria**	**Notes**
Identify common hand tools, describe their properties and uses, and independently use them as appropriate to complete a task or project.	Independently, I can... ● Name and describe at least 5 common hand tools ● Given the particular task, students will choose the correct tool(s) for the task ● Use the proper tool to successfully complete a task.	**Menu of Tools:** ● Screwdriver ● Pliers ● Hammer ● Handsaw ● Wrench ● Utility knife ● Clamp

Microcredential: Blueprint Reading Level 1	
Descriptor	**Success Criteria**
Identify and describe the major elements of construction plans and use them to complete a materials list for a chosen element of the plans.	Independently, I can... ● List the project name, client and designer of plans. ● Identify page description and describe. ● Identify the scale for each page. ● List the different types of plans within a set of blueprints. ○ Site Plan ○ Electrical ○ Mechanical ○ Framing ○ Elevations ● Develop a quantity of materials from any section of the plans. (concrete for footing, wall framing lumber, roof decking, window size etc.)