

# SkillStack® badges clearly communicate an individual's skills to the world.

SkillStack® is a microcertification platform that allows Idaho's educators to validate the skills their students demonstrate proficiency in; leading to industry-relevant badges.

## Anticipatory Set

What is your passion? What are you interested in doing and exploring? What problems or challenges do you want to help solve?

What type of education or workforce training will you need to accomplish after (or during) high school in order to achieve the lifestyle you want to have (car, house, travel, etc.)?

How will you get hired? How can you fully communicate the 'real you' to potential employers or colleagues?

## Learning Objectives

Introduce SkillStack® badges and Next Steps to students as a tool to help them reach their college and career goals.

Understand how earning SkillStack® badges in their CTE pathway will provide opportunities to articulate college credit and/or be relevant to employers when they apply for jobs.

Explore Next Steps to identify career pathways and view the training opportunities to reach their goals.

## Prompted Activities

Provide or share link for SkillStack® Student User Guide  
Encourage students to become familiar with digital badge and microcertification terminology.

View the SkillStack® for Individuals video clip as a class.

Show students the Technical Competency Credit badges they will be working toward. Explain how the badges they will be earning will stack towards college credit (i.e. they have to earn all the badges required by the TCC badge, pass their Technical Skills Assessment and complete an assessment at the postsecondary institution if required)

Share with students that they will be earning badges that are developed by engaging industry, college faculty, secondary faculty, and other stakeholders.

Explore <http://www.nextsteps.idaho.gov>

Ask students to list the important dates and steps they would need to take to apply for the postsecondary program – even if they would not do so for a few years.

Ask students to choose one of the jobs they are interested in and explore training options by checking out the postsecondary institutions website; including how to apply.

If students are ready to apply to one of Idaho's eight public institutions, refer them to Apply Idaho!

Apply Idaho allows Idaho students to submit applications to any or all eight of Idaho's public colleges and universities at one time, without paying any application fees.

## Materials Needed

Computer/Laptop/Tablet Access

List of state Student ID – EDUID

Student User Guide  
(handout or electronic copy)

SkillStack® Video Clip  
<https://youtu.be/bFiyOz3C5pk>



<https://skillstack.idaho.gov>

## Making the Connection

Share what you learned about badges or anything you found interesting.

Discuss the earning potential with additional education and training after high school, and the ability to communicate their true self and skill to employers.

Encourage sharing SkillStack® and Next Steps with their family as they progress toward college and career goals.

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