



What is a Digital Badge?

A verifiable, digital representation in an easily shareable format of a physical credential that recognizes proof of achievement. Successful completion of an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)-accredited certificate program, certification (such as Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS)/board certification), or successful completion of an exam or degree are examples. Digital badges include metadata that may describe how the badge was earned, the date it was earned, who issued it and what the badge represents. Digital badges are a representation of a credential and not a credential unto themselves. (Council on Credentialing in Pharmacy, Washington D.C., May 16, 2023)

Why award a Digital Badge?

Digital badges are issued, verified, and shared online. Recipients receive a unique URL for their digital badge which can be shared to social media, added to LinkedIn profiles, embedded in email signatures and on digital resumes, and uploaded to smartphone wallets.

What is included in digital badge?

Metadata which may be associated with digital badges includes, but is not limited to:

- Badge name
- Badge description
- Issuing organization
- Links to the issuer's website
- Badge earning criteria
- Issue and expiration (where applicable) dates
- Reference to completion of an ACPE-accredited activity, if applicable

How do digital badges relate to CPE credit obtained by learners?

Digital badges awarded for the completion of an ACPE-accredited certificate program or other CPE activity should not be described as a credential. Importantly, completing a certificate program and/or receiving a digital badge for program completion should not be confused with certification and/or a credential.

Certification and/or credentials for program completion should be awarded by credentialing, certification, licensing bodies, or other organizations with the authority to issue credentials reflective of the digital badge obtained by the learner or the specific training they complete.