

Endorsed by SHEEOs, Taxpayers, Students, Public Higher Ed, Workforce Boards

Upon further conversation about the options and availability of credentials of value that could be earned and awarded in the initial years of a REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP, we have revised our thinking to believe that the language as drafted for the most part would encompass options for those years when the apprenticeship agency would not be issuing any credential. However, we do believe that calling out registered apprenticeship is crucial, and perhaps some later guidance and technical assistance could point to the types of credentials that institutions would be encouraged to consider that have value in the marketplace in and of themselves.

- Original text
- Revised text

*Recognized postsecondary credential:* A credential consisting of an industry-recognized certificate or certification, a certificate of completion of a registered apprenticeship, a license recognized by the State involved or Federal Government, or an associate or baccalaureate degree, that meets the requirements under 34 CFR 668.8.

**Rationale:** This language clarifies the role of registered apprenticeship within the award of recognized credentials and maintains flexibility to identify the credentials that have value during the years leading up to the culmination of the registered apprenticeship and subsequent issuance of the culminating apprenticeship credentials.

**Note:** Due to the nature of RA regulations, and the combination of wages earned by apprentices and costs of related technical instruction programs, Pell awards would be likely be fairly minimal. Additionally, pre-apprenticeship programs would likely not be eligible as they are currently administered in many states.