TITLE: **Microcredentials Policy**

EFFECTIVE DATE: **November 12, 2020**

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1. SCOPE

1.1   Authority

This policy is issued under the authority of the President

1.2   Application

This policy applies to all microcredentials at Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology (hereafter referred to as "Canadore" or "the College").

2. PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

2.1   Purpose:

2.1.1   The purpose of this policy is to provide students with credentialing opportunities for completion of competencies that address specific skills and support lifelong learning.

2.1.2   In accordance with the College Strategic Goals of providing access to training and educational programs that lead to meaningful employment, this policy provides guidance to ensure that the microcredentials offered at Canadore are aligned with the Ministry's Qualification Framework and are subject to applicable processes identified in the College's Academic Effectiveness and Quality Assurance Framework.

2.2   Principles:

2.2.1   Microcredentials enhance a learner's knowledge, skills, and attitudes.

2.2.2   Microcredentials are designed in collaboration with industry to provide learners with specialized, industry-relevant training.

2.2.3   Microcredentials are a response to a rapidly evolving economy; it is expected that development timelines will keep pace.

3.   DEFINITIONS

3.1   Microcredential: A microcredential is a short, customizable learning experience designed to provide learners with specialized, industry-relevant training that equips them with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to compete in a global job market.

Microcredentials are succinct, value-added online modules and courses that can be self-paced or follow a more traditional online instructor lead approach. Upon completion of a microcredential, learners will have demonstrated proficiency of discrete skills and knowledge often validated by industry experts.

Where applicable, microcredentials can be applied to laddering and pathway opportunities for larger credentials like courses and programs.

4.   POLICY

4.1   Each microcredential badge, certificate of training, or certification, will undergo an approval process to ensure that it meets the criteria for a microcredential.

4.2   Microcredentials range from 4 hours to 100+ instructional hours. Microcredentials include the following categories: Badge, Certificate of Training, and Canadore College Certificate.

4.3   Microcredentials should not have pre-requisites, nor should they be pre-requisites to other courses in a program. Where applicable, microcredentials can be applied to laddering and pathway opportunities for larger credentials like courses and programs.

4.4   Where microcredential content is part of a program, admission requirements for the program applies.

4.5   Demonstration of a distinct, basic skill, knowledge, or attitude for entry-level employment, professional development, or lifelong learning is required for successful completion or award of the microcredential.

5.   ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1   President
The President is responsible for the overall management and operation of the College. The President will ensure that the policy is implemented and that compliance is monitored.

5.2   Vice-President, Academic
The Vice President, Academic is responsible for the effective implementation of this policy and to resolve any disputes arising over policy interpretation.
Approval of a microcredential offering will come from the office of the Vice President Academic. Should further consultation be required, the Vice President will bring the microcredential proposal to the Board of Governors.

6.   EVALUATION
This policy will be evaluated every 5 years or as required.

RELATED MATERIALS
Minister's Binding Policy Directive Framework for Programs of Instruction Ontario Qualifications Framework
Ontario Qualifications Framework
Canadore's Microcredential Framework (within the Ontario Qualifications Framework)