



# EU Micro-Credential Issuer Playbook

(One-page guide for designing, issuing and validating EU-recognised micro-credentials)

## 1. Core principles

- Based on the **Council Recommendation (2022/C 243/02)** and the **European Learning Model (ELM)**.
- Ensures **interoperability, transparency, and verifiability** across Europe.
- Enables **issuance as an EDC** that can be stored and shared in the **Europass wallet**.

## 2. Mandatory data fields (Annex I + ELM alignment)

Category	Field name (Annex I / ELM mapping)	Example / notes
Identification	<i>Credential Title</i> → title	"AI Ethics in Education – Level 5 EQF"
	<i>Awarding Body / Issuer</i> → issuer.identifier + issuer.name	Legal entity name + EU OID or VAT ID
	<i>Unique Credential ID</i> → credential.id	Persistent URI or UUID
Learner info	<i>Learner name / identifier</i> → credentialSubject	Optional EU ID or email hash
Learning specification	<i>Learning Outcomes</i> → learningOutcome.description	3–6 bullet points, verbs per Bloom
	<i>EQF / NQF Level</i> → learningSpecification.frameworkLevel	"EQF 5 / ISCED 5"
	<i>Workload / Credit Volume</i> → credit.value + credit.scheme	"5 ECTS (125 h)"
	<i>Mode of Learning</i> → learningActivity.mode	"Online asynchronous" / "Blended"
	<i>Language of Instruction</i> → language	"en-EU"
Assessment & QA	<i>Assessment Method</i> → assessment.description	"Online exam + project portfolio"
	<i>Grading Scale / Result</i> → assessment.grade	"Pass / Merit"
	<i>Quality Assurance Mechanism</i> → qualityAssurance	"Internal QA aligned to ENQA ESG 2015"
Issuance details	<i>Date of Issuance</i> → issuedDate	ISO 8601 format
	<i>Expiry (if any)</i> → validUntil	leave blank if permanent
	<i>Electronic Seal</i> → evidence.signature	Qualified trust service (QeSeal)





<b>Portability &amp; Recognition</b>	<i>Framework Link / Qualification Code</i> → learningOpportunity.identifier	QDR / DEQAR ID if available
	<i>Stackability Info</i> → hasPart / isPartOf	“Stackable towards Digital Pedagogy Diploma”
	<i>Verification URL</i> → verification.service	EDC Verifier endpoint

### 3. 5-Step issuance workflow

- 1. Design**
  - Define learning outcomes, workload, and assessment.
  - Map to EQF / NQF levels and QA process.
- 2. Build**
  - Enter data in the EDC Online Credential Builder or API system.
  - Follow ELM schema & metadata rules.
- 3. Seal & Issue**
  - Apply electronic seal (QeSeal) from a trusted issuer.
  - Generate the EDC (.xml + .pdf if needed).
- 4. Deliver to Learner**
  - Send via email link or upload to the learner’s **Europass wallet**.
- 5. Verify & Promote**
  - Anyone can check authenticity through the Europass **EDC Verifier**.
  - Encourage learners to add to LinkedIn / CV with metadata intact.

### 4. Quick resources

**Council Recommendation (2022/C 243/02)** - definition + Annex I fields

**European Learning Model (ELM)** - semantic schema v4.0 (2024)

**Europass EDC Builder + Verifier** - <https://europa.eu/europass/digital-credentials>

**DEQAR / QDR registries** - for issuer and qualification trust metadata

<https://europass.europa.eu/it/how-issue-european-digital-credentials>

<https://code.europa.eu/qualifications-courses-and-credentials/ELM-support/-/wikis/home>

