



What Is an ENLIGHT Lifelong Learning Micro-Credential

An ENLIGHT lifelong learning micro-credential is:

- A short, targeted learning offer (smaller than a degree) designed primarily for lifelong learners
- Focused on clearly defined, concrete learning outcomes responding to societal, professional, or labour-market needs
- Developed and delivered jointly by at least two ENLIGHT partner universities
- Typically, worth 1–30 ECTS, offered as
 - a single course, or
 - a meaningful cluster of courses
- Delivered in flexible formats (online, blended, hybrid, or intensive) suitable for working learners
- Assessed and quality-assured through internal institutional procedures, with support and guidance from the ENLIGHT framework
- Stackable and portable, allowing learners to combine learning experiences over time

In the lifelong learning context, micro-credentials are not simplified teaching products, but high-quality, outcome-driven learning offers designed for experienced, time-constrained, and fee-paying learners.

Why Create a Lifelong Learning Initiative within the ENLIGHT Alliance?

Internal Added Value for Academics and Learning Creators

Creating a lifelong learning micro-credential within ENLIGHT builds on existing high-quality teaching initiatives and enhances their European visibility, sustainability, and impact through shared expertise, networks, and dissemination.

1. Shared Knowledge and Co-Creation

- Access to shared expertise, pedagogical approaches, and tested lifelong learning formats
- Co-creation of learning offers with peers across institutions and disciplines
- Reduced duplication through reuse and adaptation of Alliance knowledge and practices
- Continuous mutual learning across different institutional and national contexts

2. Shared Pool of Experts

- Immediate access to a broad network of academics, practitioners, and professionals
- Easier identification of complementary expertise for interdisciplinary or challenge-based offers
- Ability to involve external experts through Alliance connections, not only local networks
- Stronger academic quality through peer exchange and joint ownership

3. Amplified Dissemination and Reach

- Built-in dissemination across 10 countries and Alliance partner universities
- Significantly greater visibility than single-institution initiatives
- Easier access to diverse learner groups and professional communities
- Stronger European-level positioning of academic expertise

4. Connection to Regional and External Actor Networks

- Direct links to regional ecosystems connected to ENLIGHT universities
- Easier engagement with public institutions, industry, NGOs, and societal actors
- Better integration of real-world challenges into learning design
- Increased relevance for labour-market and societal needs

5. Academic Impact and Recognition

- Contribution to Alliance-level educational innovation and strategic priorities
- Visibility for teaching excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration
- Strengthened academic profiles through transnational engagement
- Opportunity to build sustainable, recurring lifelong learning offers

6. Efficiency, Support, and Sustainability

- Shared frameworks, templates, and quality principles reduce development effort

- Support for coordination, alignment, and communication across partners
- Shared responsibility lowers the risk of piloting new learning formats
- Greater sustainability through joint delivery and repeated offering

7. Stronger Joint Funding and Resource Opportunities

- Potentially increased competitiveness in European and international funding calls
- Shared capacity for proposal development and project management, which may support funding applications
- Opportunities to explore combinations of institutional, regional, national, and European funding sources, where feasible