# VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.



- Verifiable Credentials are based on new international standards and have been designed on the principle of Privacy by Design to comply with strict data privacy regulations such as the GDPR.

- These credentials provide inbuilt cryptographic proof of issuance, proof of integrity and proof of ownership. This aims to address problems of fakes, forgeries and identity theft. Verifiable credentials have also been developed to enable the concept of Self Sovereign Identity empowering data control and minimal disclosure for the individual.

- This technology will enable education providers to issue any formal or non-formal qualification in a machine and human readable format to a learner.

- Any qualification type can be issued including shorter form credentials such a micro-credentials, MOOCs, professional and vendor qualifications, foundation courses, short courses, incomplete qualifications, skill sets and recognition of prior learning.

- The credentials issued are owned and controlled by the learner in their own personal repository contributing to a true lifelong learning portfolio. These can be shared with third parties providing secure cryptographic proof of the issuing authority, that the presenter is the original holder and that the credential has not been tampered with.

- The verification process does not require access to a central repository and can be validated on a global platform even if the issuer no longer exists.

- Each qualification type requires a formal schema that identifies the characteristics, including version control, credential format, data elements and descriptions. It can include course content, learning outcomes, grades, measures, badges, issuance branding and can include a co-signed regulatory authority for quality assurance.

- Verifiable Credentials can be issued to enable stacking or combining credentials and allow multistep accreditation processes. Credential version control can even allow learners to maintain currency of existing qualifications by introducing short course updates.

- The Australian higher education sector can now harness this technology to develop a 21st century solution built by the sector for the sector.