

Subj: **NVC 012314 "Non-Degree" Credentials**  
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***NAEPDC***  
*News, Views, and Clues*  
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**“Non-Degree” Credentials**

One of our colleagues, Mary Alice McCarthy with the New America Foundation (formerly with OVAE), has a career pathway-related article in Ed Central regarding adults who are obtaining credentials, certifications and occupational licenses.

You will want to read the article but here are two tidbits:

On January 16th the U.S. Census Bureau released its first-ever report on the prevalence of alternative (non-degree) credentials. According to the report, **over 50 million U.S. adults – one in four – have obtained a professional certification, occupational license, or educational certificate.** These alternatives to Bachelors and Associates degrees make up the large and growing world of non-degree credentials that Americans are earning in record numbers as they try to get a leg up in today’s competitive labor market.

Also:

**There were 11.2 million adults with a high school diploma or less education who held a professional certification or license.** If this alternative credential were incorporated into an expanded measure of education, these adults might be re-categorized into the “more than high school” category, representing a shift of almost 5 percent of the adult population.

See the entire article at: <http://www.edcentral.org/certified/#sthash.nmLiG4cT.dpuf>

Because those links go away sometimes, I have also attached a copy of Mary Alice’s EdCentral article.

Thanks to Mary Alice for this important work.

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[http://naepdc.org/news\\_views\\_clues/nvc\\_home.html](http://naepdc.org/news_views_clues/nvc_home.html)

Keep up the good work. Let me know when we can help.

**NAEPDC**

*A Natural Resource For Adult Education State Directors and their Staff Members*

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Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.

Will Rogers

US humorist & showman (1879 - 1935)

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