Credentialing
PDG Blueprint

Credentialing is a process—which may be more manual or more automated—used by an organization to demonstrate that it is duly licensed/registered and is the organization it claims to be.

Why It Matters: The volume of electronic interactions between trading partners *without* an established commercial relationship will increase in 2023, and credentialing enables each trading partner to confirm the other is an appropriate entity with which to interact.

Key Terminology

Credential is a tool by which an organization can demonstrate that it meets a set of requirements that demonstrate it is authorized, as required by the DSCSA, and identity proofed.

Credentialed means, for a trading partner, having demonstrated both authorized status and identity according to PDG-defined credentialing process.

Authorized means a trading partner is duly licensed or registered, as required by the DSCSA.

Digital Credential is an OCI-specified representation of a W3C Standard Verifiable Credential meeting the business requirements associated with credentialing within the electronic network.

Five Things to Know

1 Credentialing is a required part of the verification and tracing process but is not required for TI exchange (because TI exchange occurs within an established commercial relationship).

2 ATPs may choose to execute the credentialing process by leveraging digital credentials *or* through alternate processes, such as manual processes that build on KYC/KYS practices.

3 Credentialing processes must validate the trading partner's authorized status (*i.e.*, are they duly licensed/registered) *and* the trading partner's identity (*i.e.*, are they who they claim to be).

4 A trading partner's credential/authorized status must be reconfirmed on a regular basis, most often on a weekly basis.

5 A trading partner's authorized status must be confirmed using an official data source maintained by the licensing/registration authority.

For Educational Purposes Only—Please review the Blueprint for requirements.