



USAF First Sergeants' Digital Badging

BACKGROUND

Members of the first sergeant community participated in a special duty manager led working group to establish a digital badging construct for the 8F community. This project is part of a Collaborative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) between HQ AETC/A3BA and Credly, Inc.

The goal of the CRADA is to develop a Department of the Air Force digital framework that recognizes Airmen's knowledge, skills, abilities, and experiences through an easily-accessible, verified and validated digital portfolio, which will ultimately enhance response capabilities for emerging mission requirements. The CRADA will extend through the calendar year; however, any individual who earns a badge will retain the credential indefinitely.

Our vision is that digital badges will serve in lieu of legacy training systems (TBA, AFTR, 623s) by providing a more comprehensive representation of the knowledge, skills, and abilities our members gain through military service; additionally, as members transition from military service, digital credentials will follow members to non-military (industry, academic, civilian, etc.) sectors.

Digital badges are unlike a traditional learning history and archive systems because they provide consumers with access to underlying metadata (i.e., digital portfolio of programs, training, and developmental experiences). Each badge recognizes a unique skill set and provides an opportunity for first sergeants to showcase their abilities. This is a new method to recognize talent and track development.

EARNING PROCESS

As part of the badge-earning process, individuals will compile evidence that substantiates their achievements, which will require a higher-level validation review. The first sergeants' working group recommended the First Sergeant Council (FSC) act as the badge review authority. Each badge has an attached rubric for portfolio review and recommendation for award of the badge.

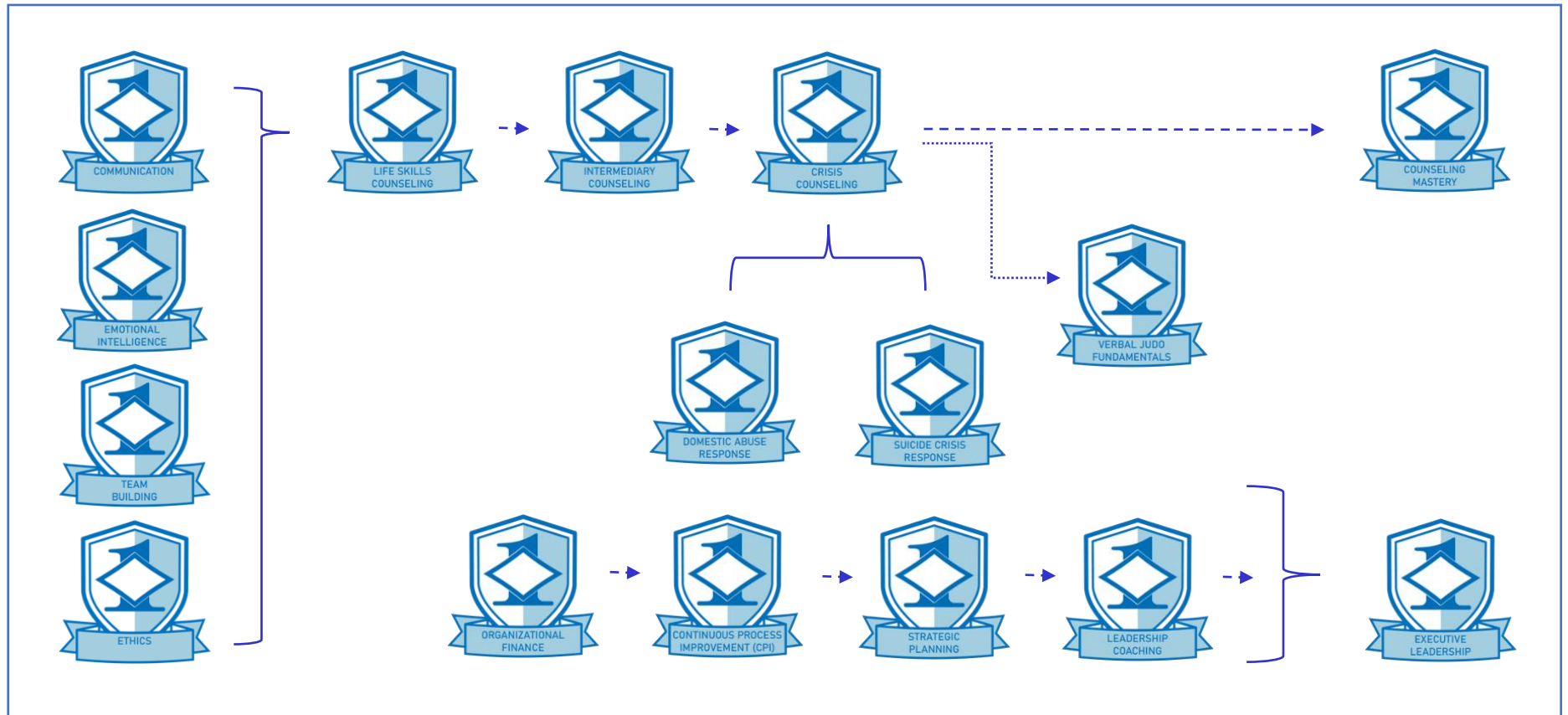
After the earner reviews the badge criteria, completes the requisite tasks, compiles a portfolio of evidence, and has the evidence reviewed according to the badge rubric, the earner will need to submit the entire portfolio with rubric review to:

EAKERCENTER.FSA.DigitalBadging@us.af.mil

Note: Please upload a single PDF with naming convention:

FirstnameLastname_Badgename_YYYYMMDD

DIGITAL BADGING PATHWAY



The digital badging pathway is a recommendation for the order in which earners should achieve badges. Some badges have prerequisite requirements. For example, Life Skills has the requirement to earn Communication, Emotional Intelligence, Team Building, and Ethics. Counseling Mastery has the requirement to earn Life Skills, Intermediary Counseling, and Crisis Counseling; in this pathway, Life Skills and Crisis Counseling have prerequisites, but Intermediary Counseling does not. Badges without prerequisites can be earned at any time and in any order.

For additional information, please direct questions to: EAKERCENTER.FSA.DigitalBadging@us.af.mil