

# Digital Badges 101

## What is a digital badge?

- A digital badge represents a young person's accomplishments in a key skill (*see reverse side for badge details*)
- These key skills are valued by colleges and employers and are not always represented in high school grades or transcripts
- Digital badges are virtual
- Each digital badge includes an electronic link that:
  - Showcases what the badge represents and what work youth did to earn their badge
  - Allows instructors and youth to upload documents, photos and videos as evidence of the student's work
- Digital badges are easy for youth to share electronically with teachers, schools, families and friends through social media, as well as future employers and colleges

## How can youth earn a digital badge?

- Youth must be enrolled in a PASA Advanced Course Network (ACN) course to be eligible to earn a digital badge
- When a student reaches exemplary in an ACN course's rubric area (which means they consistently demonstrate all components of that skill), they will be awarded a badge in that particular skill
- The instructor helps youth identify how they can improve their skills in each area of the rubric to work toward exemplary levels

## What can youth do with a digital badge?

- Once youth earn a digital badge, it is theirs to keep forever
- Youth can upload their badges onto social media accounts, send them to potential employers, add them to their resumes or share them in college applications
- Digital Badge earners who are Providence residents and are eligible to work in the United States are given priority in the City of Providence's One Providence of Youth summer employment initiative.

# PASA Digital Badges – For ACN Courses



## ***Critical Thinking***

The ability to process information, reason effectively, make analytical judgments and decisions, and solve non-familiar problems in both conventional and innovative ways



## ***Communication***

The ability to convey and receive information effectively, including elements of oral, written and non-verbal skills



## ***Perseverance***

The ability to apply a growth mindset, remain focused and on task while working through challenges, and display initiative and thinking outside the box



## ***Engagement in Learning***

The desire to learn and grow, displaying self-empowerment and self-reflection through focused attention, participation, and eagerness to reflect on experiences



## ***Teamwork***

The ability to listen and contribute constructively to large and small group settings, while maintaining healthy relationships with diverse individuals and groups, including instructors and peers