**Kicking off the Velocity Network™ Education Cluster**

**What is a Velocity Network Foundation® Cluster?**

The [Velocity Network Foundation](http://www.velocitynetwork.foundation)® is a non-profit membership organization that works to build, govern, and drive adoption of a shared utility layer supporting global exchange of verifiable digital credentials. To drive adoption, the Foundation organizes Clusters that convene members around industry/geography-specific foci and facilitate collaboration to advance participants’ mutual adoption goals. Clusters are action-oriented and coordinate go-to-market (GTM) strategies. Participants meet to shape plans, share information, engage partners, organize events, support their technical builds, and generally perform activities that increase adoption of verifiable digital credentials.

**Why is the Velocity Network Foundation® focusing efforts on Education Cluster?**

Velocity Network Foundation® has already convened several Clusters centered on specific geographies/industries –the healthcare market in the United States, the financial services industry in Europe, and the tech sector in India – where the Foundation members believe there is the most value and market readiness.

Based on the interests of our members, the Foundation is exploring efforts to launch an Education Cluster to drive adoption of Velocity-enabled credentials from the perspective of the education ecosystem.

The term “education” is a broad one that can mean many different things to stakeholders, as education is multi-dimensional (K12/Post-secondary, Public/Private, Formal/Informal/Training). In addition, education can be viewed as its own industry, in addition to being a partner in all other industries. With the launch of the Education Cluster, we anticipate that our Members will help to refine and prioritize our work in the space by identifying specific use cases and closed-loop ecosystems upon which to focus our adoption efforts.

**What are the goals of the Education Cluster?**

Initial Objectives include the following:

* To increase adoption of verifiable digital credentials in the education market(s)
* To facilitate members’ strategic roadmaps with Velocity
* To enable collaboration and expansion of Velocity partnerships

**What will the Education Cluster do?**

The Education Cluster will convene members with a vested interest in the Education Sector to solution adoption strategies, initially by beginning with the below discussion topics and then leveraging this exploration to drive identified GTM strategies. Initial exploratory topics include:

* Members’ business interests in the Education ecosystem
* Most promising target markets and opportunities
* Relationships to existing solutions
* Roles members see themselves playing in the ecosystem
* Depth and breadth of participant relationships

**How do I participate?**

Participants must be current [Members](https://www.velocitynetwork.foundation/main2/membership) of the Velocity Network Foundation. Members can join the Education Cluster on [Hivebright](https://velocitynetwork.hivebrite.com/topics/35520/feed). Efforts will be taken to regularly inform the broader Credentialing ecosystem.

**When do I participate?**

The Education Cluster will meet every-other-Tuesday at 10am EST (Feb 7, Feb 21, Mar 7, Mar 21).

It will determine future meeting dates and activities from there; current ideas include:

* Potential Gathering around 2/27-3/1
* Potential for Monthly meetings thereafter (with offline GTM support)
* Potential for a Spring (May) Soft Launch Event
* Potential for a Fall (Sept) Full Launch Event