



through our

Libraries are all about non-traditional learning.

The Washington State Library provides statewide access to both Microsoft Imagine Academy and Lynda.com for online learning. Imagine Academy provides online videos curated from free Microsoft sources, mapped to certification, as well as comprehensive eTextbooks, and exam eBook Study Guides for all the Office exams and many MTA. For our less-resourced libraries these are the only online resources available. For the very small, aside from books purchased by the program for their circulating collections and public access computers for self-

study, this may be all they provide.

Learning shouldn't – and doesn't



Adding certifications to a LinkedIn profile, including them on a resume, email signature – all can get hiring manager's and recruiters' attention.

More and more colleges and universities offer college credit for students who can demonstrate they have the knowledge and skills equivalent to college courses; in Washington it's legislated. Certification is an easy way to prove proficiency because the objective domains are transparent and consistent – unlike degree programs. According to Best Colleges, PLAs can save degree seekers a considerable amount of time and money, and they improve enrollment and graduation rates for the colleges and universities

that accept them. Research from the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning ([CAEL](#)) shows that among adult students, graduation rates are two and a half times higher for students with PLA credit.

: This is a free offering through Cisco's philanthropic arm we learned about from the Toronto Public Library, and libraries in Maryland. It's a completely free-to-libraries online learning platform with a limited number of self-directed courses from entry-level digital literacy to a 70-

This quote is from Amy Johnson, the Director of Florida Division of Library *and* Information Services, slightly modified by me, from a presentation Amy gave to the Libraries Work group a few years ago. Florida is one of several states that funds statewide access to Gale's Career Online High school – an adult high school completion program. Thousands of adults have earned their High School diplomas from Career Online High School, often funded statewide or locally through public libraries.

This photo is te

is a program of Literacy Minnesota. They provide online digital literacy assessments and online learning modules, as well as a digital literacy certification – which can be taken online with no registration, or in a proctored setting. Washington is hoping to purchase statewide access to their teaching and learning content and fund certification locations in libraries, colleges, and at community partner organizations.

Thanks for listening! I hope I've been able to convince some of you to at least consider supporting certification at your libraries. Please get in touch – I am happy for you to learn from my missteps and successes.

I felt I shouldn't end without walking the talk – showing off my own certification badges.

Education (def): the process of