

# Outdoorsville Vaccine Credential Decision Sheet

ANJALI JOSHI, PHIL MARSHALL, RATNA SARIPALLI, JEREMY TOEMAN, NEVIN ZIMMERMANN

## SUMMARY

This document will help the State of Outdoorsville determine whether they should develop a digital vaccine credential. The State should answer the questions that follow. Only when the state can answer all of the questions in the affirmative should the state adopt a vaccine credential.

## STEP 1: DETERMINE IF A VERIFIABLE VACCINE CREDENTIAL IS NECESSARY (“SHOULD WE?”)

A digital credential must be substantively additive to the current system of cards and vaccine portals. Outdoorsville should only pursue a vaccine credential if it can answer “yes” to the following questions:

1. *Has Outdoorsville enabled ubiquitous access to the vaccine?*

If “no,” a digital vaccine credential could exacerbate already-existing inequities. For example, if low-income residents are less able to receive the vaccine because of issues with access, these same residents may be shut out of jobs or schools that require proof of vaccination.

2. *Does Outdoorsville have sufficient event organizer, business, and/or school system demand for a verifiable vaccine credential?*

Vaccine credentials should only be built if there is sufficient demand from schools, businesses, and other event organizers. If private businesses or schools are unlikely to ask for proof of vaccination to enter their facilities, there is no practical use in building a digital credential.

3. *Does Outdoorsville have sufficient popular support to enable such a credential?*

Digital vaccine credentials are a politically fraught topic, with some citizens worried that digital credentials systems could lead to increased government surveillance. As such, Outdoorsville

should ensure that there is sufficient interest from their residents to actually use a digital vaccine credential.

**STEP 2: ASSESS THE TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS OF A VERIFIABLE VACCINE CREDENTIAL SYSTEM (“CAN WE?”)**

Outdoorsville should only pursue a vaccine credential if it can answer “yes” to the following questions:

4. *Does Outdoorsville already have an Immunization Information System that enables residents to have access to vaccine records or a patient identity management system (such as Okta or login.gov) attached to the database of vaccine records?*
5. *Does Outdoorsville’s current immunization registry include name, date of birth, zip code and/or phone number used for account validation and verification?*

**STEP 3: REFER TO “OUTDOORSVILLE VACCINE CREDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS” DOCUMENT FOR INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION ONCE THE FIVE TESTS ABOVE ARE PASSED (“HOW DO WE?”)**