

Prior Art – Executive Summary

Prior work relevant to this effort spans several established domains, including standardized classification systems for industry, trade, and labor; directory and identity registries for structured discovery; web and semantic standards for interoperable description; platform-based systems that embed eligibility and access logic; and more recent decentralized identity and registry models anchored by cryptographic proofs. Collectively, these approaches demonstrate the longstanding need for shared semantics, discovery mechanisms, and eligibility evaluation across systems. However, they typically bind these functions to centralized platforms, application-specific implementations, or governance-dependent frameworks. As a result, semantic description, eligibility signaling, and clearing outcomes remain tightly coupled to enforcement or control layers rather than operating as neutral, reusable coordination elements.