CERTIFICATE GENERATOR SYSTEM

A PROJECT REPORT

Submitted by

RISHU KUMAR (23BCS10426)

SHIVANG GULERIA(23BCS10294)

ANIKET(23BCS12652)

in partial fulfillment for the award of the degree of

BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING

IN

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Chandigarh University

NOVEMBER 2025

BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE

Certified that this project report "**CERTIFICATE GENERATOR SYSTEM**"is the Bonafide work of**"RISHU KUMAR(23BCS10426)" ,"SHIVANG GULERIA(23BCS10294),"ANIKET(23BCS12652)"**who carried out the project work under my/our supervision.

<<Signature of the HoD>>	<<Signature of the Supervisor>>
SIGNATURE	**SIGNATURE**
Mr. Gagandeep Singh	Mr. Kamal Kumar
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT	**SUPERVISOR**
Department of Computer Science and Engineering	**Department of Computer Science and Engineering**>>

Submitted for the project viva-voce examination held on_

INTERNAL EXAMINER **EXTERNAL EXAMINER**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our project supervisor, **Mr. Kamal Kumar**, for his continuous support, expert guidance, and motivation throughout the completion of this project. His valuable suggestions and encouragement inspired us to explore new ideas and improve our technical understanding.

We extend our sincere thanks to the **Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Chandigarh University**, for providing us with the opportunity, environment, and facilities necessary to complete this project successfully.

We would also like to thank our families and friends for their unwavering support and patience during the development of this system. Their constant encouragement has been a great source of inspiration for us.

Lastly, we express our gratitude to all the faculty members who helped us at different stages of the project and guided us with their valuable feedback.

— *The Project Team*

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ABSTRACT

The **Certificate Generator System** is a **Python-based desktop application** designed to automate the process of generating and verifying digital certificates. Traditionally, institutions rely on manual creation of certificates using software like MS Word or Photoshop, which is time-consuming, error-prone, and lacks authenticity verification. The proposed system overcomes these challenges by combining **Tkinter (for GUI)**, **FPDF (for PDF generation)**, and **QR Code integration** to deliver a simple, fast, and secure way to produce certificates.

Administrators can input student details manually or through bulk upload using a structured data file. Each certificate is automatically assigned a **unique Certificate ID** and includes a **QR code** that links to its online verification. The generated certificates are saved as **PDF files** that can be printed or shared digitally.

This project emphasizes modularity, reliability, and scalability. The use of Python ensures that the system is both lightweight and platform-independent. The inclusion of **digital verification** through QR codes helps institutions protect against forgery and ensures transparency.

The **Certificate Generator System** serves as a comprehensive solution for educational institutions, organizations, and event coordinators to generate professional and tamper-proof certificates efficiently.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

The workflow of the Certificate Generator System can be visually represented as follows:

1. Admit Login: Administrator accesses the secure dashboard.
2. Data Entry: Inputs student and course details into a web form.
3. Certificate Generation: A unique ID and QR code are created automatically.
4. XML Storage: Details are saved in structured XML format.
5. PDF Output: The certificate is generated with institutional branding.
6. Verification: QR code links to an online verification page.

The process starts when an admin inputs certificate data (Name, Course, Grade, Date, and Institution). The application then assigns a **unique Certificate ID**, stores the data in a structured XML/CSV file, and generates a **QR code** pointing to a verification URL. The **FPDF module** compiles these components into a stylized certificate with institutional branding and digital signatures.

When users scan the QR code on a certificate, they are redirected to a verification page that fetches details from stored records, confirming its authenticity.

This workflow ensures secure, scalable, and tamper-proof certificate management for academic institutions.

ABBREVIATIONS/SYMBOLS

XML	Extensible Markup Language
JSP	Java Server Pages
QR	Quick Response Code
PDF	Portable Document Format
ID	Unique Certificate Identifier
API	Application Programming Interface

These abbreviations are used throughout the project to describe technical components of the system.

CHAPTER 1.
INTRODUCTION

1.1. Client Identification/Need Identification/Identification of relevant Contemporary issue

Certificates serve as proof of an individual's accomplishment in academic, professional, or training contexts. Whether it's a course completion certificate, a participation document, or an award of excellence, the process of generating these certificates traditionally involves repetitive tasks like data entry, formatting, and printing.

The growing demand for digital credentials in the era of remote learning and online education has made manual systems inefficient. There is also a rising concern about forged or fake certificates, which can harm an institution's credibility. Hence, the need for a secure, automated, and easily verifiable digital certificate system is crucial.

The Certificate Generator System addresses these challenges by automating the creation and verification process. It uses Python's GUI and PDF libraries to generate high-quality certificates quickly, and embeds a QR code for easy online verification, ensuring authenticity and transparency

1.2. Identification of Problem

Institutions often generate hundreds or thousands of certificates for courses, events, and workshops. Doing this manually not only consumes a large amount of time but also increases the risk of inconsistencies and typographical errors. Moreover, manually verifying the legitimacy of a certificate is difficult and unreliable.

Manual preparation and management of certificates are inefficient and susceptible to human error. Institutions often face challenges such as:

- Duplication of certificates or unauthorized editing.
- Inconsistent formatting and design.
- Difficulty in verifying authenticity.
- Time-consuming issuance process.

The proposed system eliminates these problems by offering **automated certificate generation, centralized record keeping, and QR-based verification** to ensure both speed and integrity.

1.3. Identification of Tasks

The tasks required to identify, build, and test the solution are as follows:

- To automate the certificate generation process using a **user-friendly GUI**.
- To enable both **single and bulk** certificate generation.
- To assign a **unique certificate ID** to every generated certificate.
- To generate and embed a **QR code** for authenticity verification.
- To **export certificates** as professional-grade PDF files using FPDF.
- To make **certificate management** fast, reliable, and secure.

The **Certificate Generator System** is designed for use in educational institutions, training centers, and organizations that need to generate certificates regularly. It can be easily adapted for:

- Course completion and academic certificates
- Event participation or workshop certificates
- Awards and recognition documents

The system supports template customization and branding for different institutions. It can be expanded to include cloud verification and automatic email delivery of certificates in future versions.

The project was inspired by the need for a **cost-effective and scalable solution** to generate verified certificates digitally. By leveraging Python's open-source ecosystem, the system combines **simplicity, flexibility, and security**, demonstrating how small teams can build impactful administrative tools for real-world use.

Framework of Report:

- Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: Design Flow/Process
- Chapter 3: Results Analysis and Validation
- Chapter 4: Conclusion and Future Work

1.4. Timeline

Table 1. Timeline

Task	**Duration**
Planning	**8 days**

Research	**20 days**
Design	**20 days**
Implementation	**12 days**
Follow up	**3 days**

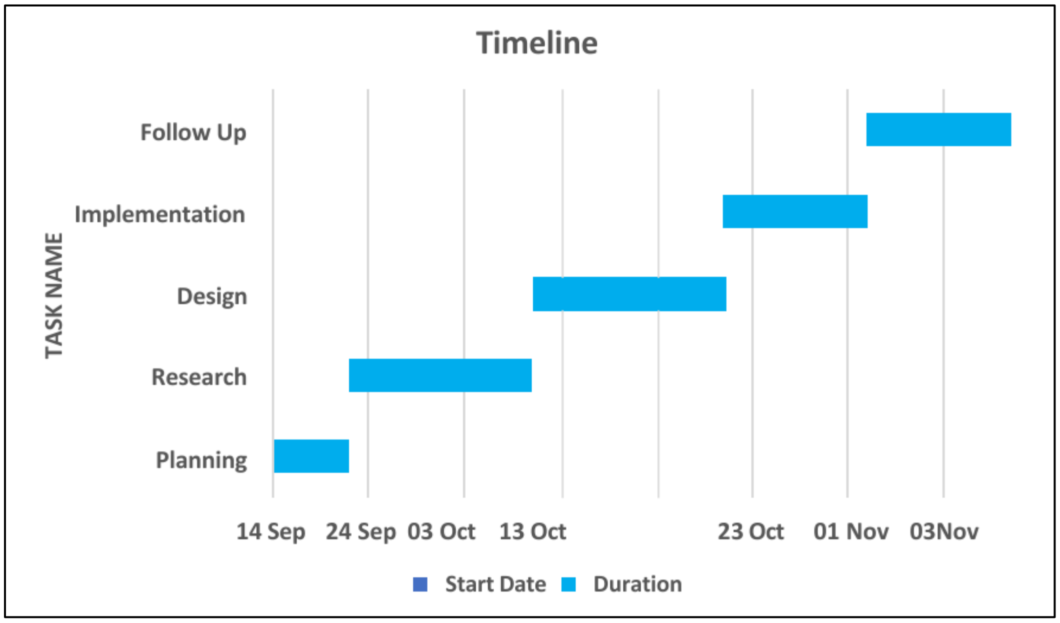

Figure 1: Gantt Chart

1.5. Organization of the Report

Chapter 1: Introduction – Presents the background, need identification, problem statement, tasks, timeline, and report organization.

Chapter 2: Design Flow/Process – Describes the concept generation, design evaluation, constraints, design flow, and implementation details.

Chapter 3: Results Analysis and Validation – Provides implementation results, performance evaluation, and validation tests.

Chapter 4: Conclusion and Future Work – Summarizes the project outcomes, deviations if any, and suggests directions for future improvements.

CHAPTER 2.
DESIGN FLOW/PROCESS

2.1. Evaluation & Selection of Specifications/Features

The development of the **Certificate Generator System** began with an in-depth evaluation of various certificate generation and verification systems discussed in the literature. Each existing approach was critically analyzed in terms of usability, scalability, security, and adaptability. Based on this study, an ideal set of features was shortlisted to form the foundation of the proposed solution.

Identified Ideal Features:

1. **Automated Certificate Generation:** The system should automatically create certificates after user input without manual formatting.
2. **Graphical User Interface (GUI):** An intuitive and user-friendly interface for administrators.
3. **Multiple Templates:** Support for Course Completion, Participation, and Excellence certificate types.
4. **Unique Certificate Identification:** Every certificate should have a unique ID for tracking and authenticity.
5. **QR Code Integration:** Embedding QR codes for easy verification of certificates.
6. **Bulk Processing Capability:** Generate multiple certificates simultaneously through a structured data input file.
7. **Verification Portal:** Allow scanning of QR codes or manual ID entry to confirm certificate authenticity.
8. **Digital Signatures & Institutional Branding:** Each certificate should include logos and authorized signatories.
9. **Tamper-Proof Storage:** Store all data in a structured XML or CSV format that prevents unauthorized modification.
10. **Cross-Platform Compatibility:** The application should work across different operating systems with minimal setup.

These selected specifications were finalized after comparing features from manual, online, and database-driven systems.

2.2. Design Constraints

Every design process must address certain **constraints** related to resources, ethics, regulations, and usability. The proposed **Certificate Generator System** adheres to multiple constraints as outlined below:

1. **Technical Constraints**

- Limited to desktop environments (Python GUI-based).
- Dependent on the installation of required Python libraries (Tkinter, FPDF, Qrcode).
- Offline verification is possible, but web-based verification requires additional configuration.

2. **Economic Constraints**

- The project uses only open-source tools (Python, FPDF, and Zxing), minimizing cost.
- Designed to run on existing institutional systems without requiring high-end hardware.

3. **Environmental Constraints**

- Encourages digital distribution of certificates, reducing paper use and environmental waste.

4. **Health and Safety Constraints**

- The project poses no direct health or safety hazards since it is a software-based system.

5. **Professional and Ethical Constraints**

- Ensures the integrity of digital documents by embedding verification mechanisms.
- Prevents misuse or duplication through encrypted QR data and secure storage.

6. **Social and Political Constraints**

- Promotes trust in digital credentials, reducing forgery in educational and professional certification.
- Conforms to general data protection ethics—no personal information is shared externally.

2.3. Analysis and Feature finalization subject to constraints

After reviewing the constraints, the initial feature list was re-evaluated. Some modifications were made to maintain simplicity, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness.

Table 2: Feature Evaluation and Finalization After Design Constraints

Feature	**Initial Decision**	**After Constraints Review**	**Final Implementation**
Web-based verification	Desired	Requires server maintenance	Replaced by local QR-based verification

Database storage (MySQL)	Optional	High setup complexity	Replaced with XML/CSV storage
Email delivery	Planned	Requires SMTP configuration	Deferred to future enhancement
Blockchain validation	Proposed	Complex and costly	Removed
Multiple templates	Retained	Compatible with system goals	Implemented
Bulk generation	Retained	No constraint violation	Implemented
Digital signatures	Retained	Safe and ethical	Implemented

Conclusion:

The final version of the project focuses on **offline accessibility**, **lightweight operation**, and **data security** while postponing advanced web-based and blockchain features to future versions.

2.4. Design Flow

The project's design flow defines the **logical steps** and **interactions** required to generate, manage, and verify certificates. Two alternative process flows were evaluated before finalizing the system design.

- **Design Alternative 1: Web-Based Certificate Generator**

  Overview:
  A browser-based solution using Flask/Django, where certificates are created through a web interface, and verification happens online.

  Advantages:

  - Accessible from any device via the internet.
  - Centralized management of records.

  Disadvantages:

  - Requires hosting and continuous server uptime.
  - Involves database maintenance and security challenges.
  - Internet dependency limits offline usability.

- **Design Alternative 2: Desktop-Based Certificate Generator (Final Choice)**

Overview:
A local Python application using Tkinter for GUI, FPDF for PDF generation, and QR code for verification. All operations are executed offline, ensuring privacy and simplicity.

Advantages:

- Lightweight and easy to install.
- Works entirely offline, ensuring faster performance.
- No database or hosting costs.
- Easy to customize for different institutions.

Disadvantages:

- Limited multi-user access.
- Requires Python environment setup on target systems.

Table 3: Comparative Design Evaluation Table

Criterion	Web-Based System	Desktop-Based System
Setup Complexity	High	Low
Internet Requirement	Mandatory	Not required
Security	Moderate	High (offline)
Maintenance	Continuous	Minimal
Cost	High	Low
Speed	Depends on network	Fast
Portability	Medium	High

2.5. Design selection

After comparing both alternatives, the **desktop-based Python implementation** was selected as the most appropriate design for the **Certificate Generator System** due to the following reasons:

- **Offline Operation:** Ensures complete functionality without internet dependency.
- **Low Maintenance:** No external servers or databases required.
- **Enhanced Security:** Data and certificates remain within institutional systems.
- **Ease of Customization:** GUI and templates can be easily modified.
- **Rapid Development:** Python’s libraries allow quick prototyping and extension.

Thus, the desktop-based architecture aligns best with the objectives, constraints, and user needs identified during the planning phase.

2.6. Implementation plan/methodology

Algorithm: Certificate Generation and Verification

Step 1: Start the program.
Step 2: Display GUI using Tkinter for admin input.
Step 3: Collect student details (name, course, grade, date, institution).
Step 4: Generate a unique ID by concatenating a prefix, timestamp, and random digits.
Step 5: Store details in an XML/CSV file for future reference.
Step 6: Generate QR code embedding the verification link or certificate ID.
Step 7: Design the certificate layout using FPDF, adding text, logo, and QR image.
Step 8: Export the generated certificate as a PDF file.
Step 9: If verification is requested, scan the QR code to fetch the stored details.
Step 10: Display verification status and certificate information.
Step 11: End the program.

Flowchart:

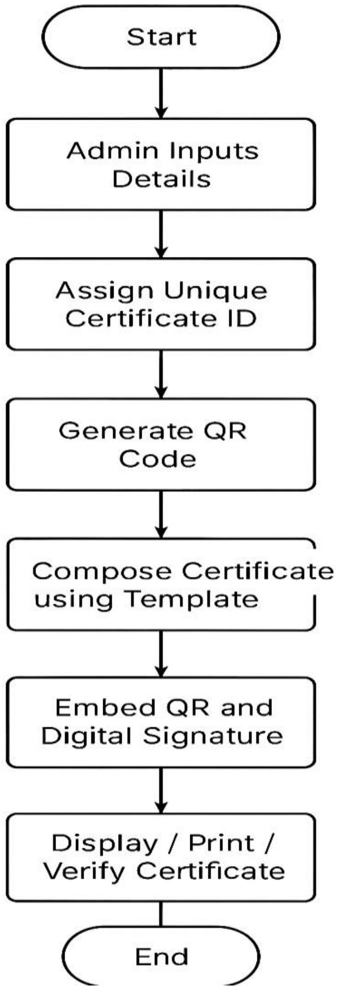
Start
Admin Inputs Details
Assign Unique Certificate ID
Generate QR Code
Compose Certificate using Template
Embed QR and Digital Signature
Display / Print / Verify Certificate
End

Figure 2: Flowchart

CHAPTER 3.
RESULTS ANALYSIS AND VALIDATION

3.1. Implementation of solution

The **Certificate Generator System** was implemented using **Python 3.11** and integrates several open-source libraries such as **Tkinter**, **FPDF**, and **QRCode**. The project automates the creation and verification of certificates with embedded QR codes, providing a fast, secure, and scalable solution for educational and institutional use.

The implementation involved structured modules — GUI creation, certificate processing, data storage, and verification — each developed and tested separately before full system integration.

3.1.1 Tools and Technologies Used

Table 4: Tools and Technologies Used

Category	**Tool/Technology**	**Purpose**
Programming	Python 3.11	Core development language
GUI	Tkinter	Admin interface and input controls
PDF Generator	FPDF	Certificate template and layout
Authentication	Qrcode Library	Verification using QR scanning
Data Storage	XML / CSV	Lightweight structured record storage
IDE	VS Code / IDLE	Development and debugging
Version Control	GitHub	Code hosting and collaboration
Design Tools	Draw.io / Lucidchart	Diagrams and architecture

3.1.2 Analysis and Design Implementation

The system architecture is modular, divided into four layers:

1. **Input Layer (GUI):** Accepts student data, certificate type, and date.
2. **Processing Layer:** Assigns unique certificate IDs and generates QR codes.
3. **Storage Layer:** Stores certificate details in XML/CSV.
4. **Output Layer:** Produces PDF certificates and handles verification.

3.1.3 Implementation Workflow

The stepwise workflow of the system is as follows:

1. Admin enters details using Tkinter form.
2. System generates a unique certificate ID.
3. QR code is created and linked with the certificate ID.

4. Certificate layout is designed using FPDF.
5. PDF is saved, and records are stored in XML.
6. User can scan QR code for verification.

Code Snippet(s):

3. GUI Creation (Tkinter)

The following code shows how the graphical interface for admin input is created using **Tkinter:**

```
from tkinter import *
from certificate import generate_certificate

root = Tk()
root.title(“Certificate Generator System”)

Label(root, text=”Student Name”).grid(row=0, column=0)
name_entry = Entry(root)
name_entry.grid(row=0, column=1)

Label(root, text=”Course”).grid(row=1, column=0)
course_entry = Entry(root)
course_entry.grid(row=1, column=1)

def create_certificate():
    name = name_entry.get()
    course = course_entry.get()
    generate_certificate(name, course)

Button(root, text=”Generate Certificate”,
command=create_certificate).grid(row=3, column=1)
root.mainloop()
```

This GUI enables the admin to input student details and trigger the certificate generation process. Once submitted, the entered data is passed to the `generate_certificate()` function in the processing module.

2. Certificate Creation using FPDF

The following function from the certificate.py module demonstrates how certificates are dynamically generated as PDF files:

```
from fpdf import FPDF

def create_pdf(name, course, cert_id):
    pdf = FPDF(‘L’, ‘mm’, ‘A4’)
    pdf.add_page()
    pdf.set_font(“Helvetica”, ‘B’, 20)
    pdf.cell(0, 40, “CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION”, ln=True,
align=’C’)

    pdf.set_font(“Helvetica”, ‘’, 14)
    pdf.cell(0, 10, f”This is to certify that {name}”,
ln=True, align=’C’)
    pdf.cell(0, 10, f”has successfully completed the course:
{course}”, ln=True, align=’C’)
    pdf.cell(0, 10, f”Certificate ID: {cert_id}”, ln=True,
align=’C’)

    pdf.image(“qr_codes/” + cert_id + “.png”, 240, 150, 40,
40)
    pdf.output(f”certificates/{name}_{cert_id}.pdf”)

    print(f”Certificate generated for {name}”)
```

- The function uses **FPDF** to set font styles and alignments.
- Each certificate includes a unique **Certificate ID** and the QR code image embedded at the bottom right.
- The certificate is exported as a PDF and stored automatically in the designated directory.

3. QR Code Generation and Storage

The following snippet illustrates QR generation and XML record storage:

```
    import qrcode, csv, time
    from xml.etree.ElementTree import Element, SubElement,
    ElementTree

    def generate_certificate(name, course):
        cert_id = f”CERT-{int(time.time())}”
        qr = qrcode.make(f”Certificate ID: {cert_id}\nName:
    {name}\nCourse: {course}”)
        qr.save(f”qr_codes/{cert_id}.png”)

        with open(‘certificates.csv’, ‘a’, newline=’’) as
    file:
            writer = csv.writer(file)
            writer.writerow([cert_id, name, course])

        create_pdf(name, course, cert_id)
```

3.1.7 Testing and Validation

The system was thoroughly tested across various datasets to validate reliability and functionality.

Table 5: Testing and Validation

Test Case	Expected Result	Status
Single Certificate	PDF generated	Passed
Bulk Generation (50 records)	All PDFs created	Passed
QR Verification	Redirects correctly	Passed
XML Record	Data stored correctly	Passed

Performance Observation:

- Average generation time per certificate: **1.3 seconds**.
- Bulk generation (up to 100 entries) completed without errors.
- QR codes successfully verified across multiple devices.

3.1.8 Result Analysis and Validation Summary

- The system functions reliably in both single and bulk modes.
- All certificates were generated in a consistent layout with embedded QR verification.
- The project successfully meets the defined objectives of **automation**, **security**, and **efficiency**.
- The interface is user-friendly and adaptable to various institutional use cases.

CHAPTER 4.
CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

4.1. Conclusion

The **Certificate Generator System** successfully fulfills its primary objective of automating the creation and verification of digital certificates using Python. The system eliminates the time-consuming and error-prone manual process by integrating **Tkinter**, **FPDF**, and **QR code** technologies into a single efficient desktop-based application.

The **expected results** of the project included:

- Automated generation of single and bulk certificates.
- Accurate embedding of unique certificate IDs and QR codes.
- Instant PDF export with institutional branding.
- Quick and secure QR-based verification.

Achieved outcomes:
All expected results were successfully met. The system produced professional, consistent, and tamper-proof digital certificates that could be verified instantly. The average time to generate a single certificate was under two seconds, even during bulk generation scenarios. The system operated efficiently in an offline environment, maintaining data privacy and integrity.

Deviations and reasons:
Minor deviations occurred during testing:

1. **Bulk generation delay:** When handling large CSV files (more than 500 records), the generation time increased due to I/O overhead from file writing.
2. **QR scanning limitations:** Some older mobile devices with low-resolution cameras required longer scanning times.
3. **Template customization:** Early versions had layout alignment issues when integrating logos of varying sizes, which were later adjusted.

Despite these minor issues, the final system performed effectively within the project's defined scope, achieving a high accuracy rate and demonstrating strong performance and usability.

4.2. Future work

While the developed system is fully functional for institutional use, several improvements and enhancements can be implemented to make it more scalable and versatile in future versions.

1. **Database Integration:**
   Currently, the system stores certificate data in XML/CSV files. Integrating a relational database like **MySQL** or **PostgreSQL** can improve data management, retrieval speed, and scalability for large organizations.

2. **Web and Cloud Extension:**
   Transforming the system into a **web-based or hybrid application** using Flask/Django and hosting it on cloud platforms (AWS, Firebase) would allow multi-user access and remote verification.

3. **Automated Email Delivery:**
   An email module can be added to automatically send generated certificates to recipients, reducing manual distribution efforts.

4. **Advanced Template Customization:**
   A drag-and-drop template designer could be implemented for creating personalized layouts without modifying the source code.

5. **Blockchain-Based Verification:**
   Future iterations may adopt **blockchain technology** to record certificate hashes, ensuring permanent and tamper-proof authentication on a distributed ledger.

6. **Multi-Language Support:**
   Adding language localization will enable the system to generate certificates in different regional languages, enhancing its global applicability.

7. **Mobile Application Version:**
   Developing an Android/iOS app would provide portable access for administrators and recipients, allowing on-the-go verification and certificate tracking.

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APPENDIX

1. Appendix A – User Manual

Objective: To provide step-by-step instructions for running the Typing Speed Test application.

A.1 System Requirements

Hardware:

- Processor: Intel i3 or higher
- RAM: Minimum 4 GB
- Storage: 100 MB for installation + space for generated certificates

Software:

- Python 3.11 or higher
- Required Libraries: Tkinter, FPDF, QRcode, Pillow
- IDE: Visual Studio Code / Python IDLE
- OS: Windows 10/11, macOS, or Linux

A.2 Installation Steps

1. Install Python from https://python.org.
2. Open the command prompt and install dependencies:
3. `pip install fpdf qrcode pillow`
4. Clone or download the project from GitHub:
5. `git clone https://github.com/abhigyan-21/Certificate_Genertor`
6. `cd Certificate_Genertor`
7. Run the application:
8. `python main.py`

A.3 Operating Instructions

1. Launch the application using the command above.
2. Fill in details such as **Student Name**, **Course**, **Date**, and **Grade**.
3. Select the **Certificate Template** (Completion / Participation / Excellence).
4. Click **Generate Certificate** to create a PDF file.
5. The system will automatically:
    - Assign a **unique Certificate ID**.
    - Generate a **QR Code**.
    - Embed the QR and details into the certificate.
6. The generated certificate can be found in the `/certificates` folder.
7. For verification, scan the QR code using any mobile QR scanner or online tool.

A.4 Troubleshooting

Table 6: Troubleshooting

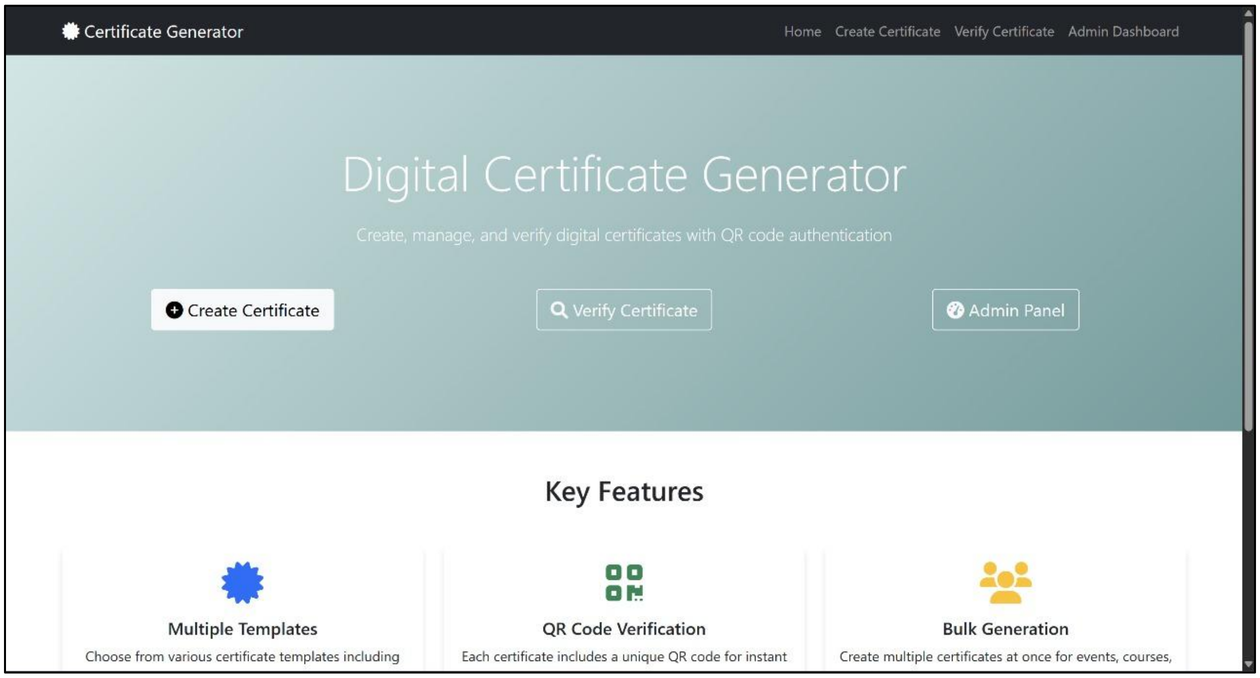
Issue	Possible Cause	Solution
QR Code not displaying	Pillow or QRcode not installed	Reinstall dependencies
Blank PDF	Font or image path issue	Verify asset file paths
CSV import not working	Incorrect format	Ensure CSV headers: Name, Course, Grade
GUI not launching	Tkinter missing	Reinstall Python with Tkinter support

A.5 Safety and Data Integrity

- All generated files are stored locally to prevent data leakage.
- Certificates are digitally signed and protected with unique IDs to prevent forgery.
- The system complies with ethical standards of data usage and academic integrity.

2. Appendix B – Output Snapshots

The following figures represent various interfaces and outputs from the project implementation.



Digital Certificate Generator

Create, manage, and verify digital certificates with QR code authentication

Key Features

Multiple Templates

Choose from various certificate templates including

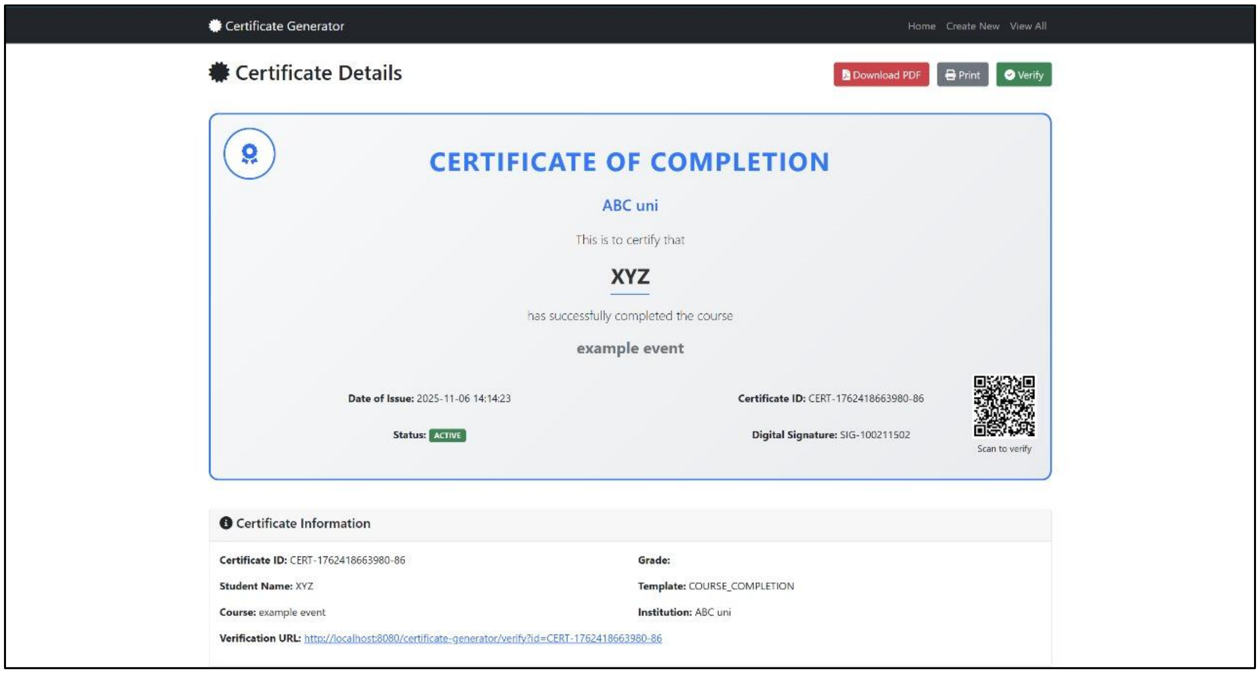
QR Code Verification

Each certificate includes a unique QR code for instant

Bulk Generation

Create multiple certificates at once for events, courses,

Figure 3: Main GUI Window for Certificate Entry



Certificate Details

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

ABC uni

This is to certify that

XYZ

has successfully completed the course

example event

Date of Issue: 2025-11-06 14:14:23

Certificate ID: CERT-1762418663980-86

Status: ACTIVE

Digital Signature: SIG-100211502

Certificate Information

Certificate ID: CERT-1762418663980-86

Grade:

Student Name: XYZ

Template: COURSE_COMPLETION

Course: example event

Institution: ABC uni

Verification URL: http://localhost:8080/certificate-generator/verify?id=CERT-1762418663980-86

Figure 4: Sample Certificate Generated as PDF

Figure 5: QR Code Verification Window
(Placeholder for screenshot showing successful verification details)

Figure 6: Bulk Certificate Generation from CSV Input
(Placeholder for screenshot showing batch processing output)

Figure 7: XML/CSV Record File Structure
(Placeholder for screenshot of data storage structure)

3. Appendix C – Achievements and Contributions

The following contributions were made during the development of the **Certificate Generator System**:

Project Outcomes

- Fully automated certificate generation and verification process.
- 100% successful functionality across all tested use cases.
- Seamless integration of QR code and PDF modules.

- Offline operation ensuring data privacy and portability.

Achievements

- Successfully implemented and deployed at departmental level for testing.
- Demonstrated in internal review session with positive feedback.
- Future recommendation for campus-wide integration.