

WebMentor LMS version 8.6 includes one major enhancement (“Gamification”), plus bug fixes and performance improvements. Customers of Avilar’s hosted learning management service receive the updates automatically as they are deployed on the hosting servers. Licensed customers may contact Avilar Customer Support to arrange for upgrades to their installations.

GAMIFICATION

Points for Participation

An Organization may now choose to award “points” to Students for participating in a wide range of activities, including:

- **Assignment Completed** – points awarded for completing an assignment
- **Course Completed** - points awarded for completing a course
- **Course Passed** - points awarded for passing a course including completion and passing any tests
- **Course Rated** - points awarded for rating a course
- **Course Registration** - points awarded for registering for a course
- **Handout Accessed** - points awarded for accessing a handout
- **Logon** - points awarded for a student logon
- **Presentation Viewed** - points awarded for viewing a presentation
- **Study Group Post** - points awarded for posting in a study group
- **Study Group Read** - points awarded for reading a study group post
- **Survey Submitted** - points awarded for submitting a survey
- **Test Passed** - points awarded for passing a test

An Organization can choose which activities, if any, will generate points and can specify the number of points to be awarded for each activity. Activities for which points are awarded can be very specific, such as “Test Passed for course number WMDemo session 4 final exam” or very general, such as “Test Passed for ALL COURSES, ALL SESSIONS, ALL TESTS” with the full gamut of variations between the two extremes.

Rewards for Extraordinary Student Participation

An Organization can specify that students who have earned a specified number of points for participating in specific activities will receive “rewards”. The Organization may describe the reward however it likes and/or assign a “badge” that Students receive as part of the reward.

Built-in Badge Library

WebMentor LMS now offers a built-in badge library containing several icons that can be used for rewards. An Organization may also choose to upload its own badge icons, if preferred.

Student Leader Board to Rank Students

A Student Leader Board is available to the Organization and its Administrators, Instructors and Students. The Student Leader Board displays the top twenty achievers in each activity for which the Organization

awards points. It also displays the top twenty achievers in total points. By sorting, the bottom twenty achievers in each activity, as well as total points, can also be displayed.

You may click on the name of any Student who has achieved one or more “rewards” displayed in the Student Leader Board to see the rewards achieved by that student.

Benefit: Students are incentivized to achieve visible milestones and potentially to compete with themselves and others to accomplish goals.

SELECTIVE SSL SECURITY FOR COURSE RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT

WebMentor LMS has always supported both traditional HTTP and HTTPS environments on a server-wide basis; i.e., the server can be run either openly or securely. (NOTE: e-commerce transactions are ALWAYS processed securely, regardless of the overall server setting.) The v8.6 release allows the Course Provider to specify the SSL security setting on a course-by-course basis, if desired.

Benefit: You may choose to run the LMS through http for maximum server performance, and still launch specific courses using HTTPS for increased security within that course.

API ENHANCEMENTS

The web services application programming interface (API) has been extended.

- **AddOrganization()** – you may now specify whether or not the new Organization’s students may register themselves in Open and/or Private course sessions.
 - Field name: “Allow Open Session Registration”, Value: “true” or “yes” | “false” or “no” (default: “no”)
 - Field name: “Allow Private Session Registration”, Value: “true” or “yes” | “false” or “no” (default: “yes”)