

# Attribute Release Requirements

This document is an attempt to rewrite the R&S specification for clarity and simplicity without breaking existing R&S deployments.



The following draft text is for discussion only! For comparison, the official normative text is shown below the horizontal line.

## 2. Syntax

The following URI is used as the attribute value for the Research & Scholarship (R&S) Entity Category and Entity Category Support attribute:

```
http://refeds.org/category/research-and-scholarship
```

A Service Provider that conforms to R&S exhibits the following entity attribute in its metadata:

### An entity attribute for SPs that conform to R&S

```
<mdattr:EntityAttributes xmlns:mdattr="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:attribute">
  <!-- entity attribute for SPs that conform to R&S -->
  <saml:Attribute
    xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
    NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
    Name="http://macedir.org/entity-category">
    <!-- the refeds.org R&S entity attribute value -->
    <saml:AttributeValue>
      http://refeds.org/category/research-and-scholarship
    </saml:AttributeValue>
  </saml:Attribute>
</mdattr:EntityAttributes>
```

An Identity Provider that supports R&S self-asserts the following entity attribute in its metadata:

### An entity attribute for IdPs that support R&S

```
<mdattr:EntityAttributes xmlns:mdattr="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:attribute">
  <!-- entity attribute for IdPs that support R&S -->
  <saml:Attribute
    xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
    NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
    Name="http://macedir.org/entity-category-support">
    <!-- the refeds.org R&S entity attribute value -->
    <saml:AttributeValue>
      http://refeds.org/category/research-and-scholarship
    </saml:AttributeValue>
  </saml:Attribute>
</mdattr:EntityAttributes>
```

## 5. Attribute Bundle

The *R&S attribute bundle* consists of the following attributes:

- *shared user identifier*
- *person name*
- *email address*

where *shared user identifier* is a persistent, non-reassigned, non-targeted identifier defined to be any one of the following:

1. `eduPersonPrincipalName` (if non-reassigned)
2. `eduPersonPrincipalName` + `eduPersonTargetedID`

and where *person name* is defined to be any one of the following:

1. `displayName`
2. `givenName` + `sn` (surname)

and where *email address* is defined to be the `mail` attribute.

## 6. Attribute Request

Service Providers SHOULD request a subset of the R&S attribute bundle that represents only those attributes that the Service Provider requires to operate its service.

## 7. Attribute Release

An Identity Provider supports the Research & Scholarship (R&S) category if, for some subset of the Identity Provider's user population, the Identity Provider is willing and able to release the R&S attribute bundle to **all** conforming R&S Service Providers without administrative involvement, either automatically or subject to user consent.

An Identity Provider MUST release the R&S attribute bundle to any conforming R&S Service Provider upon request, without regard for any R&S attributes requested in Service Provider metadata.

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## 2. Syntax

The following URI is used as the attribute value for the Entity Category and Entity Category Support attribute: <http://refeds.org/category/research-and-scholarship>

## 5. Attribute Request

Service Providers SHOULD request a subset of R&S Category Attributes that represent only those attributes that the Service Provider requires to operate its service.

## 6. Attribute Release

Identity Providers are strongly encouraged to release the following bundle of attributes to R&S category Service Providers:

- personal identifiers: email address, person name, eduPersonPrincipalName.
- pseudonymous identifier: eduPersonTargetedID.
- affiliation: eduPersonScopedAffiliation.

Where email address refers to the mail attribute and person name refers to displayName and optionally givenName and sn (i.e., surname).

An Identity Provider supports the R&S Category if, for some subset of the Identity Provider's user population, the Identity Provider releases a minimal subset of the R&S attribute bundle to R&S Service Providers without administrative involvement, either automatically or subject to user consent. The following attributes constitute a minimal subset of the R&S attribute bundle:

- eduPersonPrincipalName
- mail
- displayName OR (givenName AND sn)

For the purposes of access control, a non-reassigned persistent identifier is required. If your deployment of eduPersonPrincipalName is non-reassigned, it will suffice. Otherwise you MUST release eduPersonTargetedID (which is non-reassigned by definition) in addition to eduPersonPrincipalName. In any case, release of both identifiers is RECOMMENDED.

## 7. Examples

Standard entity attribute for R&S Service Providers:

```
<EntityDescriptor xmlns="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata"
entityID="https://service.example.com/sp">
<Extensions xmlns:mdattr="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:attribute">
<mdattr:EntityAttributes xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion">
<saml:Attribute
Name="http://macedir.org/entity-category"
NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri">
<saml:AttributeValue>http://refeds.org/category/research-and-scholarship
</saml:Attribute>
</mdattr:EntityAttributes>
</Extensions>
...
</EntityDescriptor>
```

Standard entity attribute for R&S Identity Providers:

```
<EntityDescriptor xmlns="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata"
entityID="https://service.example.com/idp">
<Extensions xmlns:mdattr="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:attribute">
<mdattr:EntityAttributes xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion">
<saml:Attribute
Name="http://macedir.org/entity-category-support"
NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri">
<saml:AttributeValue>http://refeds.org/category/research-and-scholarship</saml:Attribute>
</mdattr:EntityAttributes>
</Extensions>
...
</EntityDescriptor>
```