

Generating authentication tokens for end-users via the API

The API provides a method to generate an OpenAthens authentication token for a given account.

Generating a new token

Prerequisites

To generate a new token, a client application must

- authenticate to the API as described in [Authenticating to the API](#). You should use the read-only 'https://login.openathens.net/api/v1/...' address.

Procedure

Perform a GET request to the following URL:

```
/api/v1/example.org/organisation/<id>/account/session
```

With the following querystring parameters:

Querystring Parameter	Description
username email persistentUID	Exactly one of these parameters must be included to identify the account.
returnUrl	The URL that the user will be returned to after the session has been established. This will usually be a link to a page in the application making the request, e.g. a resource catalogue

The request **must** also be accompanied with a 'returnUrl' parameter.

Accounts are identified using one of the following three unique identifiers:

- The OpenAthens account username
- The unique email address associated with the account – i.e. the 'uniqueEmailAddress' attribute, if set.
- The persistent user ID (PUID) for the account.

To generate a token for an individual account based on username perform a GET request to:

```
/api/v1/example.org/organisation/<id>/account/session?username=expuser01&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fexample.org%2Fmy-app
```

To generate a token for an individual account based on email address perform a GET request to:

```
/api/v1/example.org/organisation/<id>/account/session?email=alex@example.org&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fexample.org%2Fmy-app
```

To generate a token for an individual account based on PUID perform a GET request to:

```
/api/v1/example.org/organisation/<id>/account/session?persistentUID=abcd1234%3A456789a&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fexample.org%2Fmy-app
```

Response payload

The response payload is an `application/vnd.eduserv.iam.auth.transferToken-v1+json` object.

`application/vnd.eduserv.iam.auth.transferToken-v1+json` object

Object field	Description
username	The account username
expiry	The time at which the given token expires
sessionInitiatorUrl	The location to which the user should be redirected to establish the session

Response codes

HTTP Response Code	Description
200	The token was generated

