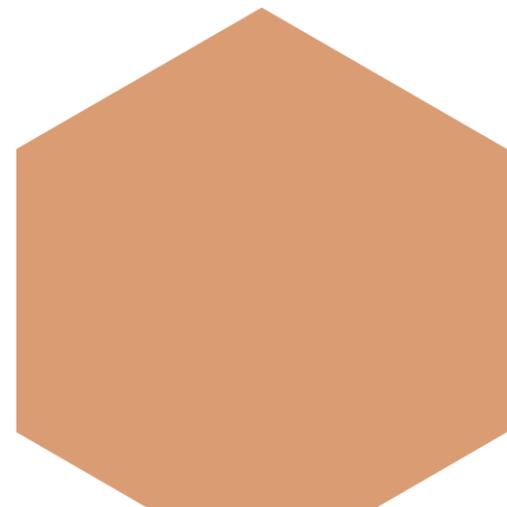
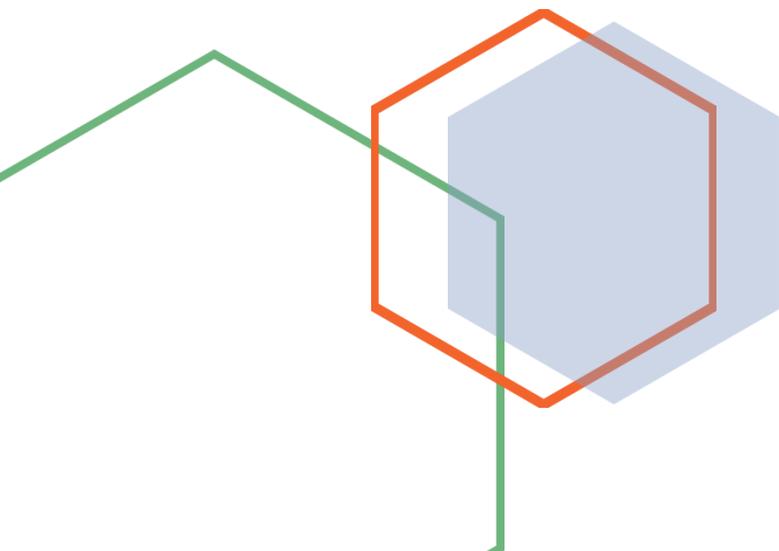


# SDPC Resource Registry

## *POD Consumers Guide*

June 2025



# Introduction

The Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC) is a Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Access 4 Learning (A4L) Community. It is a unique collaborative of schools, districts, regional, policy makers, trade organizations, marketplace providers, territories and state agencies addressing real-world, adaptable, and implementable solutions to growing data privacy concerns. The Consortium also leverages work done by numerous partner organizations but focuses on issues being faced by “on-the-ground” practitioners.

The SDPC POD (Privacy Obligation Document) Consumer API is designed to be a machine-readable version of contract information closely aligned with a standard SIF POD. A POD is “an artefact derived from a paper contract which contains details of the parties involved, the data which can be transferred from one party to another, details of the technical benchmarks which must be adhered to (e.g. encryption levels) and details of any additional parties which may handle the data.” While this API aspires to provide PODs that can serve as a solid start, technical details will usually need to be added in order to meet production requirements.

This document is designed to facilitate POD creation by seeding the POD structure with information from real world contracts.

**Infrastructure:** At this time, no effort has been made to make these PODs available through the SIF Infrastructure. Instead, they are provided using the same authentication and delivery mechanisms as the SDPC Registry.

**Data Model:** While these PODs attempt to follow the schema defined by SIF, we have not yet adjusted the database to hold additional conformant fields. This is most notable in the lack of UUIDs and the brevity of the PODs. In fact, as of this writing, most PODs generated by this system are sparsely populated.

## AUTHENTICATION

Initial authentication is done using the same username and password an SDPC member uses to log into the SDPC Resource Registry. To prevent compromising of data and to ensure easy access, these credentials **MUST** be submitted using HTTP headers. Please keep in mind that the username and password are case sensitive.

Required Headers:

- username
- password

**NOTE:** Please be sure all your exchanges are using HTTPS and that headers are logged securely to protect your login credentials. If you decide to change your password in the system, please remember to update your API headers to the new password to maintain access.

By using this API, you are automatically agreeing to the [SDPC Resource Registry API Usage Policy](#) and the [SDPC Privacy Policy](#).

## ACCESS NOTE

The following API links require authentication and will not work without valid credentials. **Premium membership is required** to access the SDPC API. If you're unsure whether your organization has Premium access, please contact your state SDPC administrator or the A4L support team.

## ACQUIRE A COOKIE

You can retrieve your cookie, which acts as your access token, by posting credentials to: <https://sdpc.a4l.org/api.php>. Because web browsers typically don't have a way to set custom headers without customization, this is expected to be done in your client code using the required headers above. However, other API client tools may be used for proof-of-concept purposes.

## EXAMPLE RESPONSE HEADERS

### HTTP/1.1 302 Found

```
Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
Keep-Alive: timeout=5, max=100
Pragma: no-cache
Content-Security-Policy: default-src 'unsafe-inline' data: *
Set-Cookie: PHPSESSID=4bk3glvfa1tk64kbb19u2osvak; path=/,
AutoLogin_email_address=deleted; expires=Thu, 01-Jan-1970 00:00:01 GMT; Max-
Age=0; path=/, AutoLogin_password=deleted; expires=Thu, 01-Jan-1970 00:00:01 GMT;
Max-Age=0; path=/
Server: Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
changesSinceMarker: 2022-05-05 18:01:45.1651773705
Expires: Thu, 19 Nov 1981 08:52:00 GMT
Cache-Control: no-store, no-cache, must-revalidate
Date: Thu, 05 May 2022 18:01:45 GMT
Location: api_read.php?page=0
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=63072000; includeSubdomains;
Content-Length: 0
Connection: Keep-Alive
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
```

**Redirection:** Both success and failure result in 302. Failure is indicated by a location header pointing to “error.php.” Success points you to the generic JSON API with a location header of “api\_read.php?page=0.” Neither of these are the PODs this document is teaching you to retrieve. Therefore, do not follow redirection when using this API!

## AUTHENTICATING WITH YOUR COOKIE

You can retrieve data by using your cookie rather than your username and password at the following URL: [https://sdpc.a4l.org/download\\_pod.php?page=0](https://sdpc.a4l.org/download_pod.php?page=0)

Required Headers:

- Cookie

## API RESPONSES

If you have authenticated correctly the first page of data will start to flow.

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<pods
  xmlns="http://www.sifassociation.org/infrastructure/3.3">
  <pod id="ba526d76-c5c0-11ec-a466-06665ed37550">
    <podStatus>Draft</podStatus>
    <podToken>40:2015-10-28</podToken>
    <podVersion>2015-10-28</podVersion>
    <partyId>Lifelong Kindergarten Group at the MIT Media Lab:
Scratch</partyId>
    <privacyList>
      <privacy>
        <default>Y</default>
        <privacyObligationsDocument>
          <contract>
            <contractURI>https://sdpc.a4l.org/agreements/Scratch_Pr
ivacy_Agreement.pdf</contractURI>
            <contractName>Legal Drafted Guardian
Release</contractName>
            <dateValidFrom>2015-10-28</dateValidFrom>
            <dateValidTo/>
            <lawList/>
            <studentDataIPRights>Cambridge School
District</studentDataIPRights>
          </contract>
          <dataProcessor>
            <privacyPolicyURL>https://scratch.mit.edu/privacy_polic
y</privacyPolicyURL>
            <purposeList>
              <purpose>Free programming language and online
community where you can create your own interactive stories, games, and
animations</purpose>
            </purposeList>
          </dataProcessor>
        </privacyObligationsDocument>
      </privacy>
    </privacyList>
  </pod>
```

**Note:** Above is the *start* of a page of data one might receive upon accessing the API.

**Errors:** If your request fails, you will get a 302 response code redirecting you to error.php. This failure could be due to incorrect login credentials. If you continue to have issues then, please contact the [A4L support team](#).

You can get subsequent pages by changing the page query parameter [https://sdpc.a4l.org/download\\_pod.php?page=1](https://sdpc.a4l.org/download_pod.php?page=1). When you attempt to retrieve the page after the last page with data you will receive “null” as the body.

## FILTERS

The API supports the following query parameters to narrow your results:

### **State**

The following URL returns all the agreements for the state of Illinois (one page at a time).

[https://sdpc.a4l.org/download\\_pod.php?page=0&state=IL](https://sdpc.a4l.org/download_pod.php?page=0&state=IL)

### **District**

This URL returns all the agreements for the Cambridge School District.

[https://sdpc.a4l.org/download\\_pod.php?page=0&districtid=457](https://sdpc.a4l.org/download_pod.php?page=0&districtid=457)

### **Company**

This URL returns all the agreements for McGraw Hill.

[https://sdpc.a4l.org/download\\_pod.php?companyid=63](https://sdpc.a4l.org/download_pod.php?companyid=63)

### **Id**

This URL returns only the agreement for Clever Prototypes, LLC: Storyboard That.

[https://sdpc.a4l.org/download\\_pod.php?id=ba5548c8-c5c0-11ec-a466-06665ed37550](https://sdpc.a4l.org/download_pod.php?id=ba5548c8-c5c0-11ec-a466-06665ed37550)

**Sharing Your POD:** Making a call like this one does not require authentication.

## Change Since Marker

At the start of each synchronization batch, capture the value of the changesSinceMarker header. Use this value consistently throughout the entire next batch. It's essential to apply the changesSinceMarker from the previous batch during the current one to avoid missing data or causing inefficiencies in the process.

This URL returns just the agreements that have been added or changed since roughly Thu, 05 April 2022 21:34:34 GMT.

[https://sdpc.a4l.org/download\\_pod.php?page=0&changesSinceMarker=2022-04-05%2021%3A34%3A34.1651786474](https://sdpc.a4l.org/download_pod.php?page=0&changesSinceMarker=2022-04-05%2021%3A34%3A34.1651786474)

**URL Encoding:** The changes since marker includes special characters that need to be properly encoded for use in URL query parameters.

## DATA KEY

When using this API, the following data fields will be exported:

Field XPath	Description
/pods/pod/@id	The ID that uniquely identifies this object.
/pods/pod/podStatus	The status value for this POD.
/pods/pod/podToken	The token reference for the POD.
/pods/pod/podVersion	The POD version number. PODs are expected to change over time.
/pods/pod/partyId	The name of the party (typically the data processor) which will receive the data from the school, district or state and has entered into an agreement to process the data and respect the privacy obligations of the data.

Field XPath	Description
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy/default	Is this the default privacy template?
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /contract/contractURI	URI Associated with contract
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /contract/contractName	Name associated with contract
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /contract/dateValidFrom	Date the contract is valid from.
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /contract/dateValidTo	Date the contract is valid to.
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /contract/studentDataIPRights	Who owns the IP rights of this contract?
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /legalRequirements/clauseList /clause/clauseLabel	The label which should include a brief description.
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /legalRequirements/clauseList /clause/clauseContent	The actual detailed content of the clause.
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /legalRequirements/clauseList /clause/obligationList/obligation /obligationDescription	A description of the requirement imposed by the contract.
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /legalRequirements/clauseList /clause/obligationList/obligation /benchmarkList/benchmark /benchmarkId	The local id of the benchmark.

Field XPath	Description
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /legalRequirements/clauseList /clause/obligationList/obligation /benchmarkList/benchmark /benchmarkDescription	A description of what the benchmark is and how it should be applied.
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument/dataProcessor /privacyPolicyURL	URL Associated with contract.
/pods/pod/privacyList/privacy /privacyObligationsDocument /dataProcessor/purposeList /purpose	The purpose for which data may be used.

## FEEDBACK & CONTACT INFORMATION

We welcome feedback from the education marketplace regarding this document.

If you have any feedback, or questions regarding the contents of this document, please contact:

John Lovell, Technology Director

A4L Community

[jlovell@A4L.org](mailto:jlovell@A4L.org)