



IATA Open Air

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

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What is an Open API?

- In short, an Application Programming Interface (API) made publicly available; "Open" refers to the **access methodology**, it is opening up the data for an external party. However, "open" does not necessarily mean "free" to everyone as the API owners may apply commercial models for exposure of their data.

What does IATA certify in terms of an API?

- The Open Air certification process validates the specification of your API, or in other words - the way the API is documented. The certification process applies for RESTful APIs using JSON format. Higher degrees of certification also exist to validate the data definitions defined in the API comply with those defined in the Airline Industry Data Model (AIDM).

Who can apply for certification of an API?

- IATA and non-IATA Airline Members (in the future audience target may be extended to other type of entities such as system providers, start-ups, governmental bodies and other IATA Strategic Partners) so long as the candidate API targets solutions for the Airline Industry.

What kind of business capabilities are accepted for certification?

- Any API related to the airline industry is eligible for certification including, but not limited to Flight Status, Baggage Tracking, and Distribution so long as it meets the criteria of the Open Air Checklist. Airline partners are also encouraged to register their compliant APIs so long as they offer solutions for airlines.

Where can I find the full list of Open Air certification requirements?

- All requirements are listed in the [Open Air Checklist](#) found on the [Open Air public page](#).

What is the benefit of having my API certified?

- Open Air certification is the first step towards building an Open API Ecosystem as it ensures travel-industry entities are publishing API specifications in a consistent, trustworthy and easy to pick up by potential business partners in the Airline community. As an Open Air certified organization you will be able to promote your compliant APIs for free on the [IATA Open Air Registry](#) which will grant valuable exposure of your APIs to potential consumers.

Can I certify multiple APIs?

- Yes, there is no limit in terms of number of APIs that can be submitted for certification from one organization.

Can I certify XML-based APIs?

- Currently, the Open Air certification program targets RESTful APIs using JSON.

Is there any cost related to certification process?

- No, certification is free of charge.

Is the Open Air Registry publicly available?

- Yes, you can access the Open Air Registry [here](#).

How can my organization be involved in the development of the Open Air best practices and standards?

- If you would like to join the standards settings and development environment, please register yourself to IATA Standards Setting Workspace (SSW) the following the instruction in this [guide](#).