Overview

givenName is a user attribute defined in RFC4519 (Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP): Schema for User Applications). From RFC4519: "The 'givenName' attribute type contains name strings that are the part of a person's name that is not their surname. Each string is one value of this multi-valued attribute."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OID</th>
<th>2.5.4.42</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LDAP Syntax</td>
<td>Directory String</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Values</td>
<td>multi-valued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>eduPerson, RFC4519</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use in the InCommon Federation

givenName is commonly used to transmit a person's first (given) name. Some IdPs may send multiple permutations of the person's name in the givenName attribute.

givenName, in conjunction with surname (sn), satisfies the REFEDS Research & Scholarship (R&S) entity category's requirement for person name.

SAML Response Example

```
<ds:Response xmlns:ds="http://xml.apache.org/axis/"
             xmlns:dssoap="http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope"
             xmlns:soap="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
             xmlns:act="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
             xmlns:assert="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
             xmlns:attr="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attrname-format:uri"
             xmlns:imp="http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope"
ID="..." Version="2.0" IssueInstant="2020-07-17T01:01:48Z"
Destination="...." InResponseTo="...">
  ...</ds:Response>
```

See Also

- displayName
- Surname (sn)
- Common name (cn)