

# user-attr-mail

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## Overview

Email address (`mail`) is a user attribute defined in [RFC4524](#). From RFC4524: "The `mail` (`rfc822mailbox`) attribute type holds Internet mail addresses in Mailbox [RFC5321](#) form (e.g., `user@example.com`)."

<b>OID</b>	0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.3
<b>LDAP Syntax</b>	IA5 String {256}
<b># of Values</b>	multi-valued
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">eduPerson</a> , <a href="#">RFC4524</a>

## Use in the InCommon Federation

When working with InCommon Participants, an email address should only be used as a mean of contact. It is not a suitable user identifier (see: [Why is email address not an appropriate user identifier?](#)).

`mail` is a required attribute in the [REFEDS Research & Scholarship \(R&S\) entity category](#).

## SAML Response Example

```
<samlp:Response xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
  xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
  ID="..." Version="2.0" IssueInstant="2020-07-17T01:01:48Z"
  Destination="..." InResponseTo="...">
  ...
  <saml:Assertion ...>
    ...
    <saml:AttributeStatement>
      <saml:Attribute xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:
attribute:X500"
        NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-
format:uri"
        Name="urn:oid:0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.3"
        FriendlyName="mail"
        x500:Encoding="LDAP">
        <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xsd:string">mjc@example.edu</saml:
AttributeValue>
      </saml:Attribute>
      ...
    </saml:AttributeStatement>
  </saml:Assertion>
</samlp:Response>
```

## See Also

- [REFEDS Research & Scholarship \(R&S\) entity category](#)
- [Understanding Federated User Identifiers](#)
- [eduPersonPrincipalName \(eppn\)](#)

## Working with user data

- [Handling User Data Exchange in SAML](#)
- [Getting user data to manage access control](#)
- [Additional user data handling recommendations](#)
- [Person characteristics and contact information](#)
- [givenName](#)
- [eduPersonAffiliation](#)
- [Email address \(mail\)](#)
- [eduPersonScopedAffiliation](#)
- [eduPersonEntitlement](#)
- [eduPersonAssurance](#)

## Related content

- [An Introduction to User Data](#)
- [R&S Explained in Plain English](#)
- [Understanding Federated User Identifiers](#)
- [Why is email address not an appropriate user identifier?](#)
- [Why is eduPersonTargetedID deprecated?](#)

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