

**Veterans Data Integration and Federation Enterprise
Platform (VDIF-EP):**

**InterSystems Application Programming Interface (API)
Manager**

Technical Guide



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Office of Information and Technology (OIT)

Revision History

Date	Revision	Description	Author
06/14/2024	1.0	Initial <i>Veterans Data Integration and Federation Enterprise Platform (VDIF-EP) InterSystems Application Programming Interface (API) Manager Technical Guide</i> document.	VDIF-EP API Manager Development Team

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1. Introduction

The Application Programming Interface (API) Manager is an application that resides on an InterSystems IRIS for Health data platform and serves as a gateway between applications and the intended API. This allows organizations to securely access, manage, and analyze their APIs.

This guide focuses on the Developers' portal, which displays information necessary for a developer to code against an API and incorporate that API into application code.

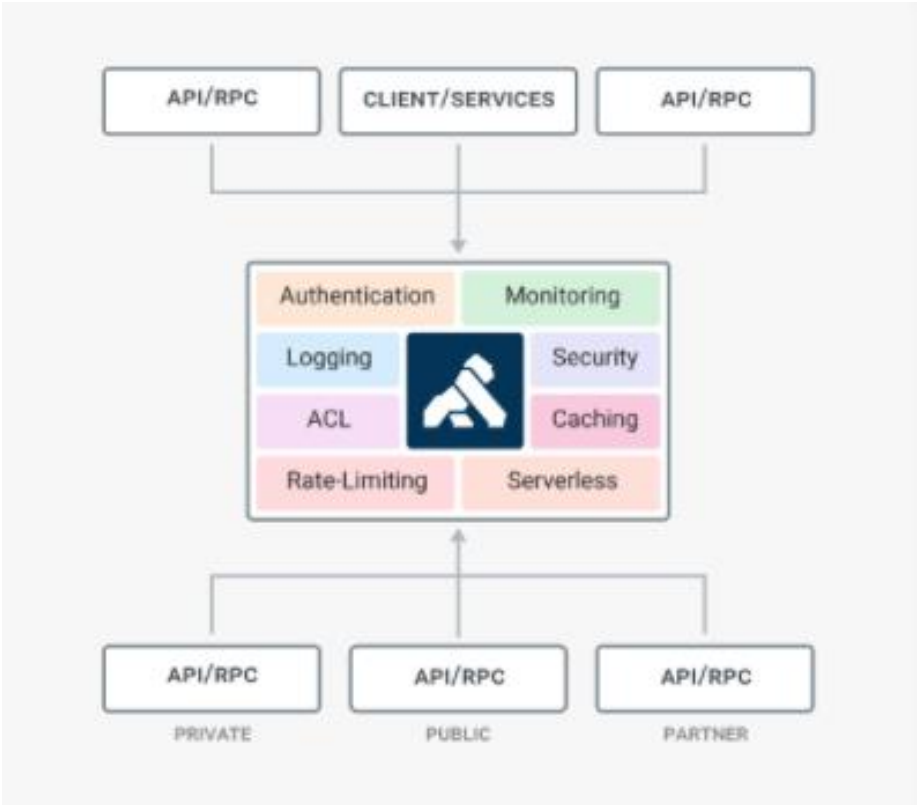
1.1. Purpose

The Veterans Data Integration and Federation Enterprise Platform (VDIF-EP) API Manager is a commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) product from InterSystems that provides a way to route API traffic through a centralized gateway, which then forwards requests to the correct target endpoints. It is an application that resides on an InterSystems IRIS for Health data platform. API Manager serves as a gateway between applications (such as Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources [FHIR] R4 a subset of Health Level Seven [HL7]) and the intended API.



NOTE: The process for project teams to request an application be added is currently under development.

Figure 1: API Manager Overview



2. System Summary

The VDIF-EP API Manager application is hosted on Amazon Web Service (AWS). The system is only accessible within the VA intranet. The Developers' portal is intended for internal VA users to discover existing APIs available for use through self-service.

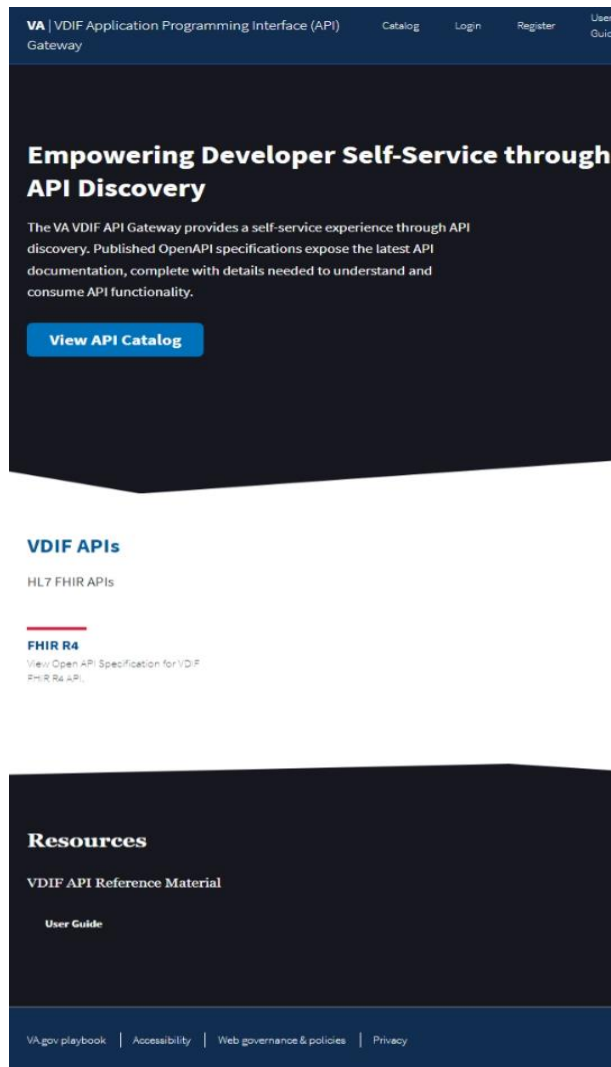
3. Getting Started

The [Developers' portal](#) (Figure 2) is available to all VA users from the VA intranet.



REF: For general login and use of the Developer's portal, see the [VDIF-EP InterSystems API Manager User Guide](#).

Figure 2: API Manager Developers' Portal



3.1. Registering Account

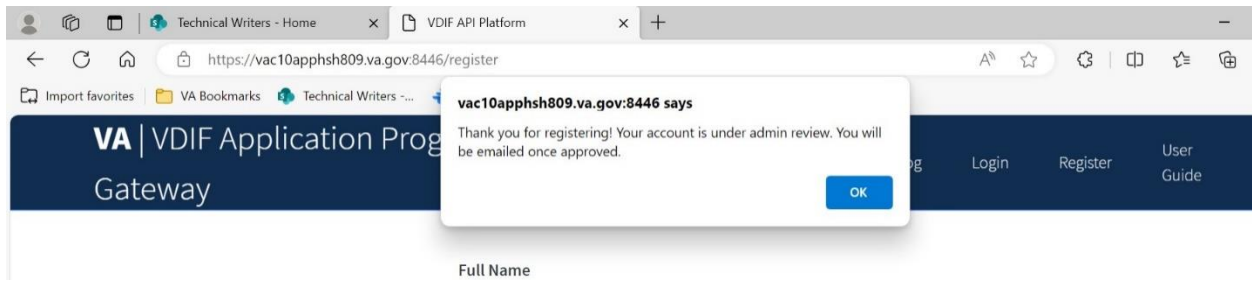
To register an account for the Developers' portal, do the following:

1. Open a browser (such as Microsoft[®] Edge or Google[®] Chrome).
2. Navigate to the [API Manager Developers' portal](#).
3. Select **Register**.
4. Enter values in the following fields ([Figure 3](#)):
 - **Full Name**
 - **Email**
 - **Password**
5. Select **Create Account** ([Figure 3](#)).
6. Select **OK** in the "Thank you Registering..." popup message ([Figure 4](#)).

Figure 3: Registering API Manager Account Screen

The screenshot displays the registration interface for the VA | VDIF Application Programming Interface (API) Gateway. The header includes navigation links for Catalog, Login, Register, and User Guide. The registration form consists of three input fields: Full Name, Email, and Password, each with a corresponding label. Below the fields is a blue button labeled "Create Account". The footer contains links for VA.gov playbook, Accessibility, Web governance & policies, and Privacy.

Figure 4: API Manager Popup Message



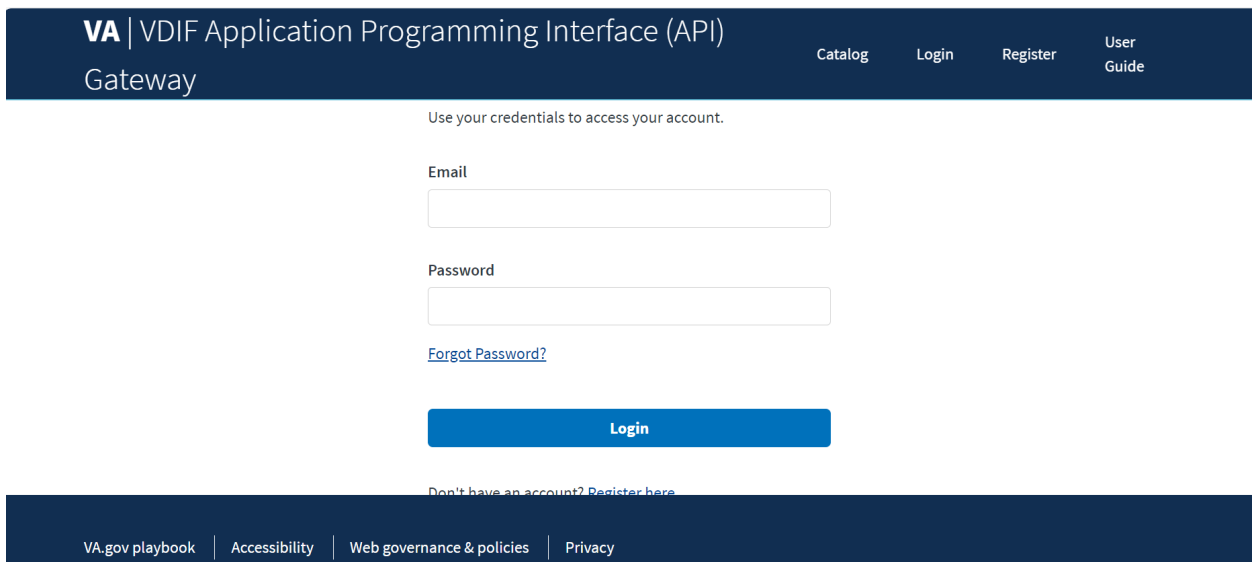
7. An admin will then approve your application registration.

3.2. Logging In

To log onto the Developers' portal, do the following:

1. Open a browser (such as Microsoft[®] Edge or Google[®] Chrome).
2. Navigate to the [API Manager Developers' portal](#).
3. Select **Login** in the top dashboard ([Figure 5](#)).
4. Enter:
 - Email
 - Password
5. Select **Login**.

Figure 5: Logging into API Manager Screen



3.3. Exit System

To exit the Developers' portal, close the browser. Logout is *not* necessary.

4. Testing API Key

4.1. Navigation

Navigation of the Developers' portal is accomplished by:

- Pressing buttons.
- Selecting links.
- Using built-in browser features, such as a link to go back to the previous page.

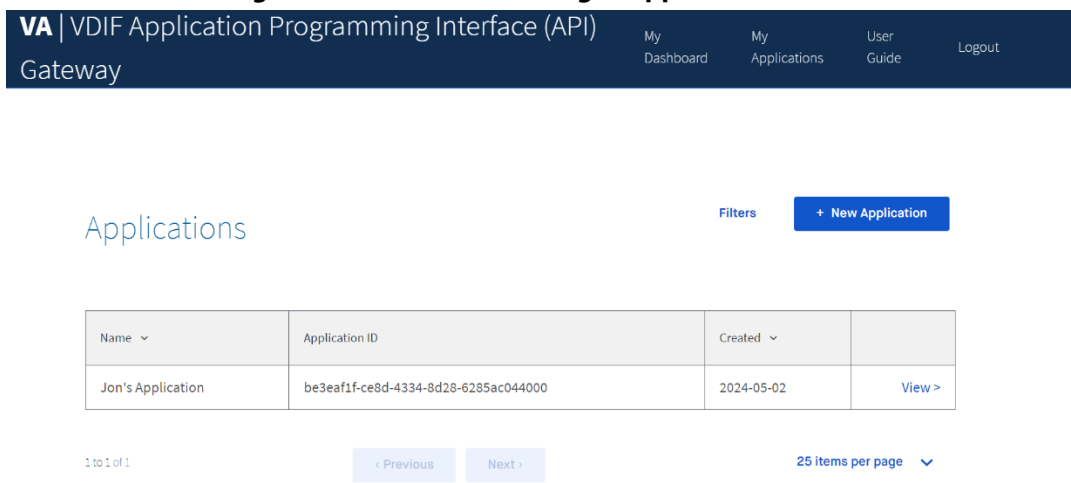
4.2. Registering Application

To use an application outside of the **Try It Out** feature and directly access the Sandbox, a developer *must* register an application and receive an API key.

To register for an application:

1. Open a browser (such as Microsoft[®] Edge or Google[®] Chrome).
2. Navigate to the [API Manager Developers' portal](#).
3. Select **My Applications** in the top menu ([Figure 6](#)).
4. Select **+New Application** ([Figure 6](#)).

Figure 6: VDIF-EP API Manager Application Screen



5. Enter the following fields in the **“Create Applications”** screen ([Figure 7](#)):

- Application **Name**.
- **Redirect URI**.



NOTE: This can be any valid URI, such as <http://www.google.com>.

- **Description**—This is optional and can be filled in with any detail you would like API Manager to know.

6. Select **Create**.

7. A green **success** popup message appears and redirects you to the **My Applications** page.

Figure 7: Create Application Screen

Create Application

Name *
Jon's Application

Redirect URI *
http://www.google.com

Description

8. An admin will then approve your application registration.

4.3. Activate Registration

You need to activate and get your application approved before using your API key.

From your application home page in [Figure 6](#):

1. Select **View** on the Application you are wanting to approve.
2. Scroll down to **Services** ([Figure 8](#)).
3. Select **Activate** ([Figure 8](#)).
4. Application status will appear as **Pending Approval** until approved ([Figure 9](#)).

Figure 8: Approval Status Screens (1 of 2)

Services Filters

Name ▾	Info	Spec	Status ▾	
Registration_R4	ⓘ		Inactive	Activate

Figure 9: Approval Status Screens (2 of 2)

Services Filters

Name ▾	Info	Spec	Status ▾	
Registration_R4	ⓘ		Pending Approval	Deactivate

4.4. Authentication

While waiting for application approval, you can generate an API key for your API Requests. After you login, from the home page:

1. Select **My Applications** in the top menu.
2. Select **View** on your Application.
3. Select **+Generate Credential** ([Figure 10](#)).
4. Copy the **Client ID** to save it in your buffer([Figure 10](#)).

Figure 10: Generate Credential Screen

VA | VDIF Application Programming Interface (API) Gateway My Dashboard My Applications User Guide Logout

test1 Edit

Details

App ID
f325ba5-0ea2-4e6f-a20c-86d08909f90a

Description
testing

Created
2024-06-05

Redirect URI
https://google.com/xyz

Authentication Filters + Generate Credential

Client ID	Client Secret	
Xq4pVtEZMwIFQnCLHVCwpwHn9mq8bud	*****	ⓘ

1 to 1 of 1 Previous Next 25 items per page

Services Filters

Name	Info	Spec	Status	
application registration	ⓘ		Pending Approval	Deactivate

1 to 1 of 1 Previous Next 25 items per page

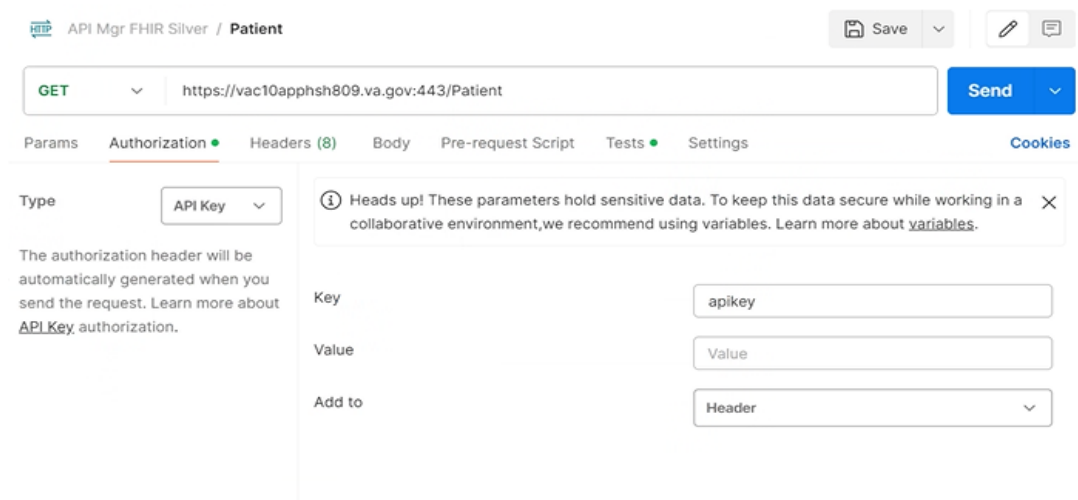
4.5. Testing through Postman

After you have generated your credential, you can now test through the [Postman API Platform](#).

In the Postman **Authorization** tab:

1. Enter the following ([Figure 11](#)):
 - **Key** (apikey)
 - **Value** (Client ID copied in Section [4.4, Step 4](#))
2. From the **Add to** drop-down, select where you want your API key to be shown ([Figure 11](#)).

Figure 11: Postman API Testing Page



5. Troubleshooting

Getting access is manually approved through the admin's developer portal. From the developer portal, admins can view the requested access and approve the request. Admins can also revoke access.

Be sure to reach out directly to the admin via email, so that they may manually approve your access.

6. Acronyms and Abbreviations

Table 1: Acronyms and Abbreviations

Term	Definition
API	Application Programming Interface
AWS	Amazon Web Service
CD2	Critical Decision Point #2
COTS	Commercial-Off-the-Shelf
FHIR	Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources
HL7	Health Level Seven
OIT	Office of Information and Technology
SSOi	Single Sign On internal
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
VDIF-EP	Veterans Data Integration and Federation Enterprise Platform
VIP	Veteran-focused Integrated Process