



# InAcademia - Online Student Validation

[www.geant.org](http://www.geant.org)



## What is InAcademia?

InAcademia

- InAcademia is a service, based on eduGAIN, used to enable commercial and non-commercial Service Providers (Merchants) to verify the educational status of their customers
- It is a lightweight, easy to use system which is safe and secure





## Why do we need InAcademia?



- At present if a Merchant wants to offer services to academia they need to register as a Service Provider in their national Identity Federation
  - Depending on the Federation there may need to be Merchant to Institution agreements as well.
  - If they wish to offer international services then they may need to register with multiple Identity federations
- This is a non-trivial task and requires substantial investment from both the Merchant and the Identity Federation
- InAcademia reduces this effort and leverages the existing work in eduGAIN to maximise coverage and minimise cost.
- This allows smaller merchants to take part



## How does it work?

- InAcademia acts like a traditional Service Provider to eduGAIN

## **BUT**

- It only provides a simple “Yes/No” response to a question “Is this person a student/Academic/Staff Member”
- It sits between the IdP of the customer and the website of the merchant protecting the student data and simplifying the connectivity for the merchant



## InAcademia for Merchants

InAcademia

- InAcademia allows merchants to offer educational discounts without the need to manually check photo IDs or assume an academic email address is valid
- It offers a real-time, accurate, up-to-date identity check, making offering online discounts/special offers much easier and more attractive





## InAcademia for Institutions



- InAcademia allows Institutions to offer online discounts to their users without having to manage the custom interconnection of IdP to merchant system
  - Avoids the needs to connect SPs to individual IdPs
  - Massively reduces workload
- Makes it much more attractive for merchants to work with institutions



## InAcademia for Students

InAcademia

- InAcademia makes getting discounts or special offers much easier and much more secure
- InAcademia is safe and privacy protecting. It only passes a simple Yes/No answer to the merchant.
  - Uses the Institutions recognisable sign-in screens to increase confidence





## InAcademia Current Status - Pilot



- InAcademia pilot is happening
- currently signing up the first Merchants and NRENs
  - Amazon
  - DeIC, SURFnet, JISC
- Pilot will involve real Merchants and real authentications







## InAcademia Plans



- Aim is currently one NREN per month for AWS then accelerating
- Focusing on large Merchants first
  - No “active” recruitment (yet) but if you find opportunities

[info@inacademia.org](mailto:info@inacademia.org)





Find Out More

InAcademia

# InAcademia.org



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Thank you

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Users: Arts and Education



Users: Earth Observation



users: Energy



Users: Health and Medicine



Users: Space



Users: Physics



User Groups



Cloud Services



Strategy and Vision



Schedule



TFs and SIGs



Latin America region



Storage



Trust & Identity and Security



Real-Time Communications



CAREN region



EUMED region



AC2 region



GÉANT Logo



GÉANT People



GÉANT Services



Location



Professional Services



Research Programmes



Asia Pacific region



GÉANT Community



Connectivity and Network



Efficiency



EU Logo



Events



Finance



GÉANT Network



Eapconnect region



Compass



Strategy & Vision



Strategy & Vision



Design



Pilot



Production



Glue



Campus



Vision



Journal/Library



Developer



Vision



Service cogs 1



Service cogs 2



North America



Legal



NREN