

ETags and Other REST API Conventions and Features

ETags (Entity Tags)⁹ are mechanisms used to support optimistic concurrency and efficient bandwidth handling. The use of ETags is *recommended* for Ed-Fi REST API implementations.

Other REST API Conventions and Features

Three additional REST API features—case sensitivity, encryption, and version—are discussed in the following table.

Table 7. Additional REST API Features

REST Feature	Ed-Fi Implementation	Explanation
Case Sensitivity	<code>/students?</code> <code>firstName=JOHN</code> <code>/students?</code> <code>FIRSTNAME=John</code>	URIs, parameter names, and parameter values <i>must not</i> be case sensitive. The two URI's to the left will produce the same results.
Encryption	HTTPS	All calls to the API <i>must</i> use SSL.
Version	<code>https://api.</code> <code>example.com/v3/ed-</code> <code>fi/students</code> <code>or ...</code> <code>https://example.com</code> <code>/api/v3/ed-fi</code> <code>/students</code>	The API major version number <i>should</i> be specified in the base URI.

API Guidelines Contents

Find out more about the Ed-Fi API Design & Implementation Guidelines:

⁹ For more information on ETags, see [here](#) and IETF RFC 7232, Section 2.3 [here](#).