

# Response Codes

REST APIs use HTTP response codes to communicate status information. An API consumer should be able to inspect the HTTP response code and understand the status of its request.

## Required Response Codes

The following response codes must be used when responding to requests.

**Table 6. Response and Status Codes**

HTTP Response Code	Name	Reason(s)
200	OK	Returned after a successful operation when a response contains a body.
201	Created	Returned after a successful POST. The response from a POST will also include a location in the header pointing to the newly added resource. A POST response will not contain a body.
204	No Content	Returned when the server has fulfilled the request, but does not return an entity body.
304	Not Modified	Returned when the client includes the "If-None-Match" header containing the requested resource's last known entity tag.
400	Bad Request	Returned if the request is malformed. The body of the response may contain a descriptive error message.
401	Unauthorized	Returned if the access token is invalid. The response will not contain a body.
403	Forbidden	Returned when the server is refusing to fulfill a request in situations such as the requesting client is not authorized to execute the requested action on the requested resource
404	Not Found	Returned if a resource is not found. The response will not contain a body.
409	Conflict	Returned when there is any type of referential integrity violation.
412	Precondition Failed	Returned if an "If-Match" header pre-condition fails.
500	Internal Server Error	Returned if the server encountered an unexpected error during the operation.

## Errors

If an error occurs on the server, a 500 (Internal Server Error) code *must* be returned. A message in the body, containing the error details, *should* be provided. However, raw errors generated by system failures *must not* be returned to the client to avoid inadvertently exposing any sensitive data or technical information to an attacker.

For example:

```
{
  "code": 500, "type": "Internal Server Error", "message": "Unable to
communicate with database"
}
```

## API Guidelines Contents

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