

API Endpoint Reference Entry

API reference documentation, endpoint entry | Marked-up specimen

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An endpoint entry recased to match the project's own conventions, with two disputed requirement levels queried rather than resolved.

ORIGINAL, WITH EDITS MARKED

SPECIMEN, PREPARED BY EDITFAST FOR ILLUSTRATION. NOT A REAL RECORD.

Torrance Labs (fictitious) - Ledger API reference

EXTRACT FROM THE PROJECT'S DOCUMENTATION CONVENTIONS (reproduced unchanged in both panels)

DC-1.1 This reference adopts BCP 14. A key word carries its defined requirement level only in all capitals.

DC-1.3 Requirement levels for POST /entries, as set by the API owners: the Idempotency-Key header is REQUIRED; the memo field is OPTIONAL; a client retrying a request SHOULD reuse the original key.

DC-1.5 On a duplicate key the endpoint returns 200 with the original entry. On a missing key it returns 400.

DC-1.7 An abbreviation is expanded at its first appearance in an entry.

POST /entries

Creates a ledger entry. The Idempotency-Key header must be supplied.¹ The memo field may be omitted.² Clients should reuse the original key when retrying³, and MUST handle a 200 response on a duplicate⁴. Requests without a key MAY be rejected.⁵

WHAT CHANGED, AND WHY

#	Was	Now	Reason
1	The Idempotency-Key header must be supplied.	The Idempotency-Key header is REQUIRED (DC-1.3).	DC-1.3 sets this level as REQUIRED, and DC-1.1 gives the defined meaning only to the capitalized form. A lowercase must in the same entry as an uppercase MUST leaves a reader deciding which sense each carries.
2	The memo field may be omitted.	The memo field is OPTIONAL (DC-1.3).	The same fault runs the other way here. DC-1.3 sets OPTIONAL, and lowercase may is ordinary English in a document that has reserved the capitals.
3	Clients should reuse the original key when retrying	A client retrying a request SHOULD reuse the original idempotency key (DC-1.3).	DC-1.3 sets SHOULD. The word key on its own could mean the idempotency key or an authentication key, and the extract names only one.

#	Was	Now	Reason
4	and MUST handle a 200 response on a duplicate	[Query to the API owners: ... Please confirm the intended levels.]	DC-1.3 records three requirement levels for this endpoint and this is not among them. Setting a level is the owners' decision, so the draft wording stands and the point is raised as a query. What a 200 means is stated separately, from DC-1.5.
5	Requests without a key MAY be rejected.	[Query to the API owners: ... Please confirm the intended levels.]	DC-1.5 records a 400 on a missing key rather than a permission to reject, so the draft and the conventions do not agree. Which one is right is the owners' call, and the query puts it to them.
6	(no statement of the convention in the entry)	Key words in this entry follow Best Current Practice 14, or BCP 14 (DC-1.1).	DC-1.1 governs the whole reference and appeared only in the conventions document. Printing it in the entry puts it in front of whoever is reading the capitals.

EXAMPLE
FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY