

# Server Scripts

Version 1.4

## Introduction

Any system that uses QDL as a scripting environment should use the format here to inject configurations. QDL will take these (JSON) and translate them into viable QDL scripts, setting up any environment, passing arguments (suitably processed) etc.

## How scripts are accessed

In OA4MP, scripts are embedded in token handlers. See the token handler documentation for more. What is described here is the basic mechanism that can be utilized by any extension that wants to include QDL as its scripting language.

## Configuration Format

This is the format for the configuration entry used by QDL . This is an element in JSON and may be put any place. This is the grammar for scripts:

```
{"qdl" :  
  BLOCK | [BLOCK+], // Either a block or array of blocks  
}
```

```
BLOCK :  
{  
  CODE  
  [, XMD]  
  [, ARGS]  
}
```

```
CODE:  
  ("load" : LINE) | ("code" : LINE+)
```

```
// NOTE: "load" implies zero or more arguments. "code" has no arguments and  
//       any will be ignored. It is possible to send enormous blocks of code this  
//       way, but is discouraged. Put it in a script and call that.
```

```
// XMD = eXecution MetaData, how this should be loaded by the scripting engine  
//       This sets up the environment. Since 'environment' is overused, we chose  
//       xmd instead.
```

```
XMD:
```

```
"xmd":{
  "exec_phase" : PHASES,
  "token_type":"id" | "access" | "refresh"
}
```

ARGS:  
"args" : ARG | [ARG+] // Either a single arg or an array of them

ARG:  
STRING | INTEGER | DECIMAL | BOOLEAN | JSON

PHASE:  
("pre" | "post") \_ ("auth" | "token" | "refresh" | "exchange" | "user\_info")

PHASES:  
PHASE | [PHASE+] // single phase or array of them. Array means execute each.

One leading question is this: Why have a separate load call? The reason is that many people who will want to use this are not proficient in QDL. This lets them call a script (from a library, *e.g.*) and send along a standard JSON object with no knowledge of how it works. This is probably the most common use case for scripting and lets an administrator delegate the scripting work to others without having to require them to learn yet another language. If they know the name of the script and the inputs, they can quiddle.

## Handlers

There are 3 main handlers:

- id\_token
- access\_token
- refresh\_token

These actually run the scripts in them. They have certain types of information available. For instance, the id\_token handler does not have any information about access tokens, because it is created in the authorization phase before access tokens exist. You only need an access\_token handler if you want to have a JWT returned (such as a SciToken). If there is no access\_token handler, you will get back a plain string for the token. Similarly, the refresh token handler is used when a JWT for the refresh token is required. None of the handlers require QDL scripts and will return very basic information.

## Phases

A phase (denoted as exec\_phase in the xmd block) itells OA4MP when to load the code or script and attempt to execute it.

Scripts are executed in one of 10 execution phases. There are pre- and post- phases for each of authorization, token, refresh, exchange and user\_info. If you specify that the phase is pre\_X then it is run before that endpoint is run (and before any system-wide claim sources are processed), allowing you

to *e.g.* do some initialization. This is typically where you set a claim source(s) or do some type of setup. The `post_X` phase allows you to do anything you need to right before the results are handed back to the user.

## List of phases

- `pre_auth` – executed before any claims are obtained in the authorization phase.
- `post_auth` – executed after the initial set of claims is obtained in the authorization phase.
- `pre_token` – executed before the final set of claims is obtained in the token phase
- `post_token` – executed after the final set of claims is obtained in the token phase
- `pre_refresh` – executed before the claims are refreshed
- `post_refresh` – executed after the claims are refreshed.
- `pre_exchange` - executed before the token exchange
- `post_exchange` - executed after the token exchange
- `pre_user_info` - executed before the user info endpoint is accessed
- `post_user_info` - executed after the user info endpoint has gotten all the information it has.

Certain claims can only be gotten at certain times. For instance, claims that rely on the http headers from the identity provider are only available during the authorization phases, so these claims are gotten and stored. These can never be re-gotten until the user logs in again.

Usually the requirements for the exchange are the same as for the token phases, so the most common use pattern is to just specify exchange, refresh and access phases for a single script. Note that, as always, the current phase is set in the state, so your scripts can check.

## State

When a QDL script is run on the server, its state is stored and then recovered for each subsequent call. If you set something in, say, the `pre_auth` phase, it will be there in the `post_exchange` phase (e.g.) However, see below for the table of system-managed constants. See “Accessing information in the runtime” below. These are injected into the state every time the system loads allowing you to have current state in sync with the flow. If you need something for later, store it in another variable.

## Examples

### Running code directly

Running a single line of code.

```
tokens{  
  identity{
```

```

    type=identity
    "qdl":{
        "code":"claims.foo:='arf';",
        "xmd":{"exec_phase":["post_token"]}
    } //end QDL
  } //end identity token
} // end tokens

```

This will assert a single claim of foo.

## Running multiple lines of code.

```

{"qdl":{"code":[
    "x:=to_uri(claims.uid).path;",
    "claims.my_id:=x-'/server'-'/users/';"
],
"xmd":{"exec_phase":["pre_token"]}}}

```

(This must be in a tokens configuration as part of, *e.g.*, an identity token.) This takes a claims.uid (like 'http://cilogon.org/serverA/users/12345') parses it and asserts a new claim, my\_id == 'A12345'.

## Running scripts

### Loading a simple script that has no arguments

```

{"qdl":{"load":"x.qdl", "xmd":{"exec_phase":["pre_token"]}}}

```

Note that if there were arguments, they would be included in the arg\_list. While arguments to the script are optional (at least as far as the handler goes), some execution phase is always required so the handler knows when to run it. If you omit the execution phase, your code will never run.

### Loading a script and passing it a list of arguments.

```

{"qdl":
{
    "load":"y.qdl",
    "xmd":{"exec_phase":"pre_auth", "token_type":"access"},
    "args":[4, true, {"server":"localhost", "port":443}]
}
}

```

This would create and run script like (spaces added)

```

script_load('y.qdl',
    4, true, from_json('{"server":"localhost", "port":443}'))
);

```

Note that the arguments in the configuration file (which is JSON/HOCON) are respectively an integer, a boolean and a JSON object. These are faithfully converted to number, boolean and stem in the arguments the script gets.

## Loading a script with a single argument

```
{
  "qdl": {
    "load": "y.qdl",
    "xmd": {"exec_phase": "pre_auth", "token_type": "access"},
    "args": {"port": 9443, "verbose": true, "x0": -47.5, "ssl": [3.5, true]},
  }
}
```

In this case, a script is loaded and a single argument is passed. This is converted to

```
script_load('y.qdl',
  from_json('{"port":9443,"verbose":true,"x0":-47.5,"ssl":[3.5,true]}')
);
```

## Loading multiple scripts for a handler

The handler identifies what sort of state you want exposed to the QDL scripts. Again (because it is important), the id token handler does not supply the access token and if you create on there, it will be ignored. Partly this is because in the control flow it makes no sense to be populating the access token at that point. If you have want to run multiple scripts in a single handler, they should have disjoint phases and simply be passed as an array of scripts:

```
{
  "tokens": {
    "access": {
      "lifetime": 1200000,
      "type": "scitoken"
    }
  },
  "qdl": [
    {
      "load": "ga4gh/ga4gh.qdl",
      "xmd": {"exec_phase": ["post_user_info"]}
    },
    {
      "load": "ga4gh/at.qdl",
      "xmd": {
        "exec_phase": ["post_token", "post_refresh", "post_exchange"]
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

In this case, two scripts are run by the handler. The first is **at.qdl** for setting up access tokens, and the second, **ga4gh.qdl**, is run in the user info phase. In this case, QDL needs to know about the access token to construct various bits of new information, a GA 4 GH passport. (As to the advisability of doing it in the user info endpoint, I demur.) The point is that you don't need to drop everything in one massive QDL script and deal with phases – let the system do that. You may also have multiple scripts per phase, but there are no runtime guarantee as to execution order., hence the strong suggestion that the phases be disjoint.

## Accessing information in the runtime.

When a script is invoked, the QDLRuntimeEngine will set the following in the state:

Variable	U	Component	Description	Comment
flow_states.	+	all	Flow states	The various states that control execution. Generally you only need to use these if you need to change the control flow, typically, there is an access violation and you

				terminate the request.
claims.	+	id token	claims	The current set of user claims that will be used to create the ID token.
access_token.	+	access token	claims	The current set of claims used to create the access token (if that token requires them).
scopes.	-	all	requested scopes	The scopes in the initial request. This may include scopes for access tokens too since the spec. allows this to be drastically overloaded. Setting this is ignored – you cannot change the scopes the user requested (though you sure can ignore them).
xas.	-	all	extended attributes	Extra attributes (namespace qualified) that may be sent by a client.
audience.	-	id token	requested audience	Requested audiences in the initial request. This may impact multiple tokens, such as the id token and the access token. Again, the spec. allows this to be overloaded.
refresh_token.	+	refresh token	claims	Claims used to create the refresh token, if supported.
claims_sources.	+	id token	list of claim sources for id token	A list of claim sources that will be processed in order. If you add one, be sure it is in the right place if needed. You may add/remove as needed.
exec_phase	-	all	current phase	This is the phase the script is being invoked in. It may be the case that a script is invoked in several phases (e.g. if there is a lot of initial state to set up) and blocks of code are executed based on the current phase. Only one phase at a time is active.
sys_err.	+	all	Errors	This is a stem you set in order to have the runtime engine generate an exception outside QDL. See below, Errors
tx_scopes.	-	refresh, access token	TX scopes	requested scopes for TX
tx_audience.	-	"	TX audience	requested audience for TX. These are strings that identify the service using the token.
tx_resource.	-	"	TX resources	requested resources for TX. Similar to audience but these are URIs.

U = updateable. + = y, - = no. If it is not updateable, then any changes to the values are ignored by the system.

TX = Token Exchange (RFC 8693). These are sent in the request. They may or may not be sent and in that case, but they always exist inside QDL during the **pre\_exchange** and **post\_exchange** phases (not at other times, since they come from the request itself). You can check with a call to **size(var)** and if it is zero, nothing was requested.

Claims objects are always directly serialized into the token for the JWT. All of these are in the state and you simply use them. When all is done, they are unmarshalled and replace their previous values. NOTE that while your QDL workspace state is preserved, the next time it is invoked, the current values of these will be put into your workspace. i.e., what the system has is authoritative. If you need to preserve some bit of this then stash it in a variable other than one of the reserved ones.

Also, the current set of signing keys are injected into the JWT utilities and available there, so issuing a **create\_jwt(arg.)** will just create a correctly signed JWT.

## Errors

If there is an error inside a script, how can this get propagated to the runtime engine? The answer is that inside QDL, you set the

**sys\_err.**

stem. If absent, then no error has occurred. If present then it has several attributes:

**ok** = a boolean that if true, means no error happened, false means the runtime engine propagates the error.

**message** = A message (probably human readable) that will be returned.

**error\_type** = (optional) the type of error you wish to be thrown. Servers may ignore this. On OA4MP the general set of them is found in [OA2 Errors](#)

**status** = an integer that will be the HTTP status (typically) returned by a web service. The default is a 401 (unauthorized error) if this is not set.

Note especially that this is a variable that only exists inside the runtime engine and is not generally available outside of that. It allows us to easily control which errors in the runtime should be made available to the user (vs. having a try ... catch block that allows the errors to be handled inside the scripts).

## Example: Propagating errors

The example here is Checking the number of arguments for a script to see if it should run and sending a useful message back. The main script, `do_at.qdl`, calls `init.qdl`. The calling script should always check if there is an error to propagate back:

In `do_at.qdl`:

```
script_run('init.qd');
if[!sys_err.ok][return();]; // If there was an error, return
```

In `init.qdl`:

```
if[
  script_args() != 2
]then[
  sys_err.ok := false;
  sys_err.message :=
    'You need to supply both a username and password. Request denied.';
sys_err.error_type := 'access_denied';
  return();
];
// Otherwise, do stuff.
```

The effect would be to throw an exception in the runtime engine which Java then will process as if the exception had happened there. Note that for debugging purposes, (such as running the script inside your workspace) `sys_err` is benign – it just sets a variable which then goes away on the `return()`.

## Example: Checking groups for memberships

QDL allows this quite simply though it might not be apparent. First off, there is a function that is available called `in_group2` (There is a deprecated version called `in_group` – don't use that, which is clunky and old) which has syntax

```
in_group2(group_names, groups.)
```

where `group_names` is a name (a string) or stem of them. `groups.` is the groups from a claim source. Now the rub is that the structure of `groups.` depends on the source. Some sources return just a flat list of names and some return a JSON structure that has to be parsed. `in_group2` handles these cases. The result is conformable with the left argument. So a typical invocation is

```
in_group2('all_ncsa', claims.isMemberOf.)
true
```

which shows that the name `all_ncsa` is in the `claims.isMemberOf.` The result is left conformable, so if you wanted to check a list of names, you might do something like

```
g. := claims.isMemberOf.; // Keep it readable here
g_reject. := ['all_disabled_usr', 'grp_banned', 'mg_deny_all', 'mg_deny_web'];
z. := in_group2(g_reject., g.);
z.;
[false, false, false, true]
```

So the user is in the `mg_deny_web` group. How to check if at least one of those is true? Use the `reduce` function with `||` (logical or):

```
reduce(@||, z.);
true
```



which is identical to evaluating

```
false || false || false || true
true
```

Since the reduce function just slaps `||` between all elements of the list.

## Extended attributes

These are parameters sent to the server by the client in the initial request. First off, the client *must* have the ability to process them turned on. This is in the extended attributes for the client, so in the CLI, set the client id, then issue

```
update -key extended_attributes
```

and when prompted enter

```
{"oa4mp_attributes": {"extendedAttributesEnabled": true}}
```

Now, the client *must* send the parameters as uris that start with either **oa4mp:** or **ci:logon:** and these may be many valued. A typical use is in the webapp client configuration (which allows for static attributes and is useful for testing), so in the configuration file you might have an entry like

```
<client name="myclient">
  <parameters>
    <parameter key="oa4mp:role">researcher</parameter>
    <parameter key="oa4mp:role">admin</parameter>
    <parameter key="oa4mp:/refresh/lifetime">10000000</parameter>
  </parameters>
<!-- bunch of other stuff - - >
</client>
```

If all goes well, then in the runtime environment you would get `xas.oa4mp.` as a stem :

```
say(xas.);
{
  oa4mp : {
    /refresh/lifetime :[10000000],
    role : [researcher,admin]
  }
}
```

A final note is that there is no canonical way for OA4MP or QDL to determine what the types of variables are, so they are all string-valued. In the case of the refresh lifetime, this means it needs to have `to_number()` invoked as needed, etc.

## Flow States

These are the states that the flow may be in. They are boolean values and setting them has an immediate impact on how processing is done.

Name	Description
<code>access_token</code>	Allow creating an access token
<code>id_token</code>	Allow creating the ID token
<code>refresh_token</code>	Allow creating refresh tokens
<code>user_info</code>	Allow creating user info
<code>get_cert</code>	Allow user to get a cert
<code>get_claims</code>	Allow the user to get claims
<code>accept_requests</code>	Deny <i>all</i> requests if false. This is the nuclear option to shutdown access.
<code>at_do_templates</code>	Allow execution of templates for access tokens.

A typical use might be the following. In the `post_auth` phase (so after the system has gotten claims) check membership and deny all access if not in a group:

```
if[
  exec_phase == 'post_auth'
][
  flow_states.accept_requests := has_value('prj_sprout', claims.isMemberOf.);
];
```

The effect is that if the `isMemberOf` claim (these are the groups that a user is in) does not include 'prj\_sprout' then all access to the system is refused after that point. Note that system policies do have the right of way, so if the system would not normally let a user get a certificate, setting `get_cert` to `true` would be ignored.