

# Overview

An Axelar network validator participates in block creation, multi-party cryptography protocols, and voting.

Convert your existing Axelar node into a validator by staking AXL tokens and attaching external EVM-compatible blockchains.

## Prerequisites

- Hardware:
- Minimum: 16 cores, 16GB RAM, 1.5 TB drive. Recommended: 32 cores, 32 GB RAM, 2 TB+ drive.
- You have downloaded the Axelar blockchain and are comfortable with [Basic node management](#)
- .

MOVE:

- Your Axelar node has an account named validator
- that you control. Let {VALIDATOR\_ADDR}
- denote the address of your validator
- account.
- Backup your validator
- secret mnemonic and your Tendermint consensus secret key as per [Quick sync](#)
- .

## Steps to become a validator

1. [Configure companion processes](#)
2. [Create and backup accounts](#)
3. [Launch companion processes](#)
4. [Register broadcaster proxy](#)
5. [Stake AXL tokens on the Axelar network](#)
6. [Health check](#)
7. [Set up external chains](#)

## Other setup-related tasks

- [Troubleshoot start-up](#)
- [Recover validator from mnemonic or secret keys](#)
- [Leave as a validator](#)
- [Missed too many blocks](#)

[Edit this page](#)

On this page \* [Prerequisites](#) \* [Steps to become a validator](#) \* [Other setup-related tasks](#)