

Bug Report / Feature Request: URL Parameter Standardization

Title: Standardize URL Parameter Generation in company_sidebar.js to use company_id (snake_case)

Detail	Specification
Component(s) Affected	company_sidebar.js, application_create.js
Severity	High (Potential for Data Load Failure)
Status	Open - Needs Standardization
Reported By	Gemini Assistant
Date	2025-11-07

1. Description of the Problem

The application currently suffers from ambiguity regarding the casing of the company ID URL parameter. The expected standard across the backend API (and thus the client-side handlers) is **snake_case** (company_id).

However, the URL generated by or observed in the environment (e.g., when linking from the sidebar or using manual input) frequently uses **camelCase** (companyId).

This inconsistency leads to silent failures where pages like application_create.html fail to recognize the company ID passed in the URL, resulting in the "Select a company from the sidebar..." error message.

2. Impact

- Page Failure:** Pages relying strictly on the snake_case parameter (company_id) will fail to load the required company data if the link uses camelCase (companyId).
- Code Bloat (Workaround):** Client-side scripts must implement workarounds to check for both parameter formats, which is a maintenance overhead (e.g., see the fix implemented in application_create.js).
- Inconsistent DX (Developer Experience):** Developers must constantly remember which casing is currently being used by which part of the system.

3. Proposed Solution (Standardization)

The source of the dynamic link generation, which is primarily the `company_sidebar.js` module, must be audited and updated to ensure **ALL** generated links adhere to the `snake_case` standard.

Action for `company_sidebar.js` Team:

1. **Review Link Generation:** Specifically audit the `handleCompanyLinkClick` function (or equivalent function responsible for building the URL) within `company_sidebar.js`.
2. **Enforce `company_id`:** Ensure that the query parameter used for the company identifier is always `company_id` (`snake_case`) when constructing the `window.location.href` or the link URL.

Reference: Current Workaround

The current version of `application_create.js` includes a defensive measure to mitigate this issue. Once the links are standardized in the sidebar, this defensive code can be simplified in future refactorings:

```
function getCompanyIdFromUrl() {  
    const urlParams = new URLSearchParams(window.location.search);  
    // Check for standard snake_case first  
    let id = urlParams.get('company_id');  
  
    // Fallback: Check for camelCase (the current inconsistency)  
    if (!id) {  
        id = urlParams.get('companyId');  
    }  
  
    return id && id.length > 0 ? id : null;  
}
```

Standardizing the links will eliminate the need for the fallback check (`if (!id) { id = urlParams.get('companyId'); }`).