

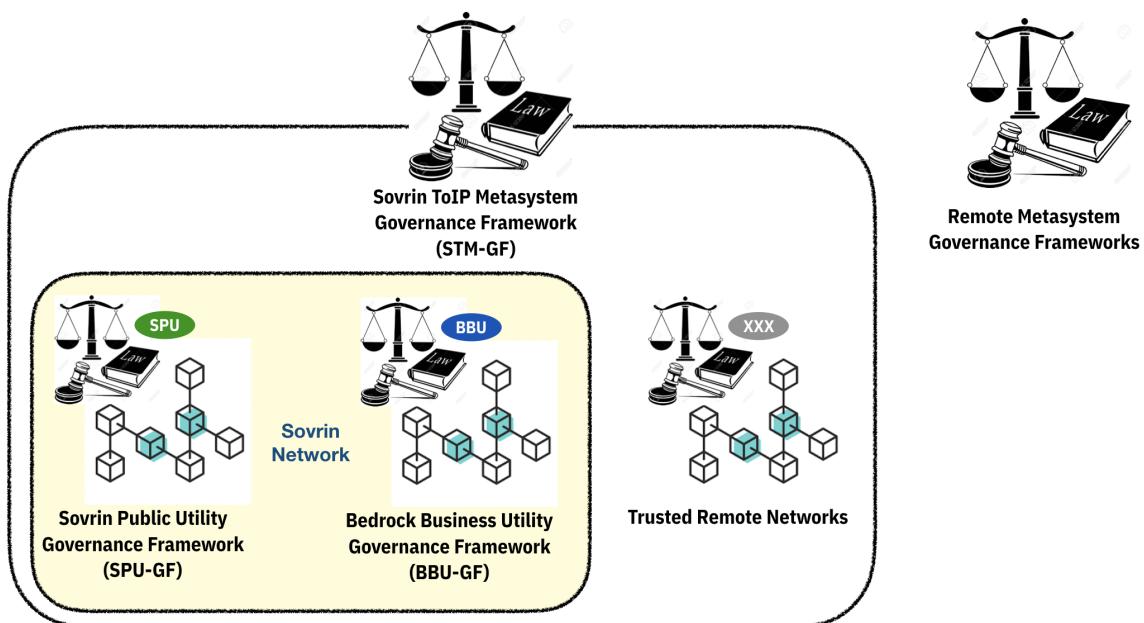
# Overview

As the proliferation of decentralized identity utility networks continues to increase, the global identity industry needs a way to categorize and position independent networks for discovery, access and trust.

This is the official document of the Bedrock Governance Framework (BGF) which serves as the *constitution* for one such network, the *Bedrock Business Utility*.

## Ecosystem

The [Sovrin ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework \(STM-GF\)](#) provides the legal governance for all [Identity Utility Networks](#) within the Sovrin ToIP Metasystem (STM) ("ecosystem"). Building on the notion of a network of ledgers, the STM represents an ecosystem comprised of Identity Utility Networks ("DID Ledgers") that are either part of the Sovrin DID Root Namespace (did:sov) or represented by a unique DID Root Namespace. The collection of all such Identity Utility Networks pertains to the a white-list of trusted ledgers. This white-list is referred to as the **Sovrin Ecosystem of Trust** and it is a by-product of the STM.



## Sovrin Network

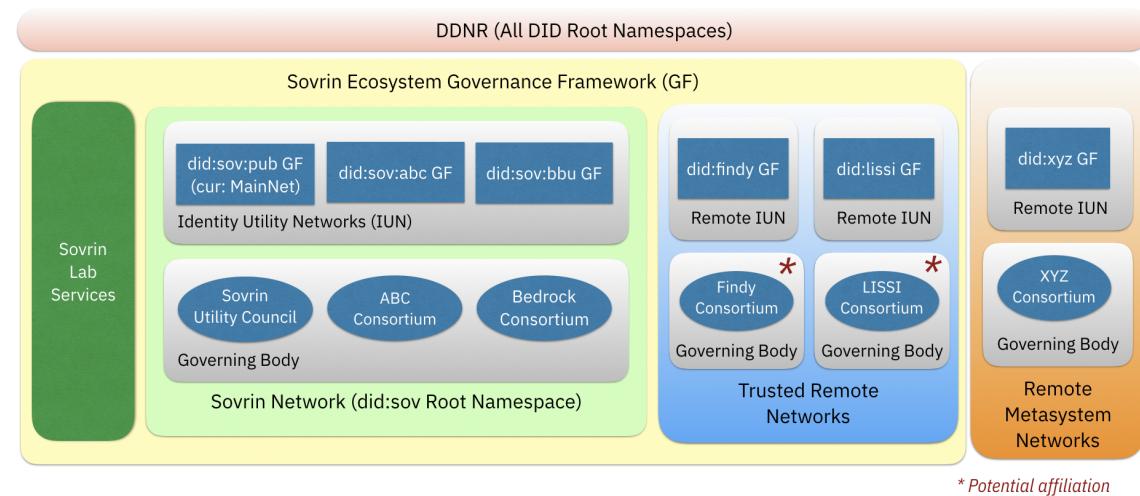
There will be a variety of global ecosystems that implement the concepts outlined in the [DID Specification](#). The **Sovrin Network** represents one such ecosystem where a number of [identity utility networks](#):

- all adhere to the STM-GF
- are all associated with the Sovrin DID Root Namespace (`did:sov`)
- are managed by independent governing bodies that are guided by a specific governance framework

Minimally there are two Identity Utility Networks within the Sovrin Network:

- Sovrin Public Utility (`did:sov:pub`)
- Bedrock Business Utility (`did:sov:bpu`)

## Bedrock Business Utility



The Bedrock Business Utility ("BBU") is intended to serve as a safe-zone for organizations that desire to participate in the Sovrin Ecosystem but require an enterprise grade governance framework that will:

- Enforce Permissioned Writes with contractual instruments that will ease GDPR concerns

- Establish financial sustainability of the Consortium without the use of Tokens
- Establish a governing board so no single organization owns the DID Ledger
- Require adherences to a specific stack of open standards and protocols

To meet these requirements, the BBU is an independently operated Identity Utility Network. A consortium of organizations operate the BBU as a public identity utility under its own governance framework. Consortium members pay annual membership fees and provide supporting infrastructure to maintain a sustainable permissioned identity utility that is structured as an enterprise safe-space and purpose built for trusted commerce. As an Identity Utility Network within the Sovrin Network, the consortium leverages the Sovrin Foundation as a fee-based provider for the administration and delivery of a the DID Ledger associated with the *did:sov:bbu* namespace.

# Consortium

## Non-Profit Organization

The **Bedrock Consortium** ("Consortium") is a private-sector, international non-profit association of companies that share a common interest in collaborating on the governance of a dedicated trusted decentralized identity utility that can reliably serve the physical and online identity needs of international commerce. The Consortium is focused on the governance of a dedicated decentralized identity utility for trusted commerce.



## Legal Registration

The **Bedrock Consortium** is a registered *subsidiary non-profit* entity in the state of XXXXXX. It represents a formal Trust Community consisting of participating members that adhere to the Bedrock Governance Framework (BGF). The registration of the legal entity is administered by the Sovrin Foundation, which is responsible for obtaining the necessary licenses and permits.

## Consortium Name

Our membership shares a keen interest towards the establishment of trusted commerce. They believe in a set of fundamental privacy by design principles while mitigating financial and regulatory compliance risks.

The term `bedrock` carries two pertinent meanings:

1. Gold accumulates at this solid foundational layer of the earth because water can't "wash it down" any further. The implication here is that our ledger is the bedrock for business trust worldwide.
2. A bedrock principle is one that forms the basis for others principles. Our ledger aims to provide the foundational principles for the exchange of trusted personal data.

## Board of Directors (BoD)

The Consortium will appoint a Board of Directors comprised of representatives from membership.

## Bylaws

The BoD is responsible for establishing and maintaining the governance framework for the operation and administration of the *Bedrock Business Utility* ("BBU") along with [the bylaws for the Consortium](#).

# Motivation

## Global Growth

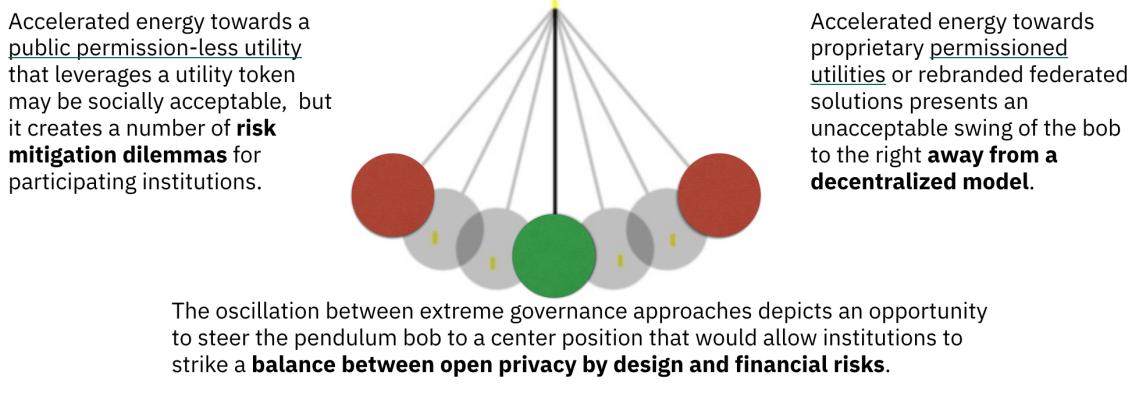
Sovrin's entry into the decentralized identity market began as a permissioned public ledger. Over several years, it has become an industry brand associated with decentralized identity. It represents more than an instance of a decentralized identity network based on a DLT, it is a trusted community of like-minded people and institutions from a variety of geographic regions and industry sectors. The Sovrin Community aspires to help all the entities (citizens, governments, businesses, devices) of the world to fix identity for both online and physical interactions.

During this same period, we have seen a global spotlight on privacy protection that has spawned regulation, such as GDPR and CCPA, which complements the spirit of the decentralized identity movement. However, these regulations also place additional financial risk and compliance constraints on businesses that desire to participate in and contribute to this privacy protection movement.

At the same time, the grassroots energy focused on "identity for all" has shifted or accelerated the thinking within the Sovrin Community towards a public permission-less utility that leverages a utility token. These philosophical changes, while socially acceptable, create a number of risk mitigation dilemmas for participating institutions. As a result, some businesses have exited the community while others have been hesitant to join.

Meanwhile, the hype around decentralized identity has also spawned new federated identity systems like the [Global Association for Digital Identity \(GADI\)](#) from the [DID Alliance](#) that promote marketing messages under the banner of decentralized identity while actually establishing architectures that contradict the core Privacy by Design Principles. GADI architecture enables a collection of Digital Address Providers (DAPs) to centrally manage identities for individuals whereas the Sovrin Community advocates for an architecture that allows identities to be managed without reliance on any external administrative authority.

The Sovrin Community is comprised of minimally two disparate market segments. Both segments can agree on an Open by Design governance approach. While the members within each market segment may require incompatible governance models, both segments adamantly disagree with any deviation from an open approach at the technology or governance levels.



To counter the pendulum bob swinging so far to the left, we have witnessed proposals for alternative proprietary solutions that reflect an unacceptable swing of the bob to the right. This oscillation between extremes depicts an opportunity to steer the pendulum bob to a center position that would allow institutions to strike a balance between open privacy by design and financial risks.

## Transition

As the Sovrin Foundation transitions to the [Sovrin ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework \(STM-GF\)](#), flexibility now exists for the establishment of one or more Identity Utility Networks that can serve the needs of the diverse segments of the Sovrin Community.

The Bedrock Business Utility is intended to address three key concerns:

1. Policy Gridlock
2. Permissioned Safe Zone
3. Token-free Economics

## Policy Gridlock

The Sovrin approach for decentralized identity is to tackle it at global scale. The Sovrin Community, much like the global societies it seeks to represent, struggles with the formation of policies that can be embraced all at once by its members. The balancing of diversity goals at the operational level, risk mitigation for privacy regulation compliance, identity access for all, and the sustainability of a stable and reliable network is a non-trivial exercise. The technology adoption lifecycle teaches us that we cannot assume that all interested stakeholders will be able to embrace and adopt the technology at the same rate.

The Sovrin Foundation must find ways for it to [a] stay true to its vision; [b] aid all stakeholders on their decentralized identity journey; and [c] remain financially sustainable. ↩

Businesses and Governments around the world must be able to balance risk mitigation and technology adoption if Sovrin desires to be an open community for all. Additionally, all stakeholders must accept the fact that a single network (DID ledger) cannot serve the entire globe. As an example, the Sovrin Network uses Hyperledger Indy, which like many consensus algorithms, carries an expected threshold of optimal validator nodes, thereby limiting the scalability of a single network.

The decentralized identity community cannot afford to have disputes at the network level. We should be focused on market creation not market bifurcation. We live in a heterogeneous world of networks where interoperability is paramount. ↩

A single network cannot meet the needs of everyone and continued attempts to do so will minimally yield increased complexity and confusion. In fact, we have seen this within the Sovrin Foundation as it has been difficult to obtain closure after nearly a year on Version 2 of the Sovrin Governance Framework.

The fact is that the Sovrin Foundation has been in gridlock due to apprehension between policy decisions that may be necessary for one market segment and uncomfortable for another. This concern impacts the business market segment as well as external coalitions such as FINDY and KIVA who may desire to have their own governance framework while participating in the Sovrin Community. One approach to breaking the gridlock while still enabling two market segments

to co-exist is to establish a community bound to a common vision but comprised of safe-spaces for each segment to establish their own governance.

## Permissioned Safe Zone

Preventive measures for avoiding the possible insertion of personal data into an immutable ledger has been the focus of much discussion. While many have agreed that a 100% guarantee is not possible, the implementation of a public write model only increases such exposure thereby making interested stakeholders more apprehensive to embrace a permission-less governance model. A diligent effort has been made within the Sovrin Foundation to address the GDPR risks associated community stakeholders. In collaboration with legal experts, the community has established a series of contractual instruments that address these risks for each stakeholder under both the public-write and permissioned write models. Unfortunately, this effort has resulted in a greater degree of complexity to the governance framework. It has also yielded an increase in costs for Stewards that need to comply with a broader set of technical and operational requirements.

One approach to reducing the complexity of governance policies is to transition the existing Sovrin Network (DID Ledger) into a dedicated ledger for public write access and then add a new DID Ledger that would operate under a separate governance model for permissioned writes.

## Token-free Economics

Sovrin is amidst a transition from the Sovrin Provisional Trust Framework to a new Sovrin Governance Framework that favors the use of a crypto-token to enable a payment model for public-write interactions with the ledger. The combination of public write access coupled with the conveniences of a payment token would open identity access up to a very diverse community that is currently unable to establish a trusted identity reputation.

While the social benefits of such an approach are appealing to many, the ability for many enterprises and some governments to embrace tokens at this point in time is limiting. Once again, a compromise that will allow two market segments

to co-exist is to establish a community bound to a common vision but comprised of safe-spaces for each segment to establish their own governance.

## Common Ground

The pathway to a common vision for decentralized identity is rooted in open standards and open source communities. As a community, we agree on:

- an Open by Design approach
- avoidance of any deviation from an open approach at the technology or governance levels
- the need to support a network of networks model that enables disparate market segments to deploy different governance

Fundamentally, no single organization can own a network (system of ledgers) and the network must be built upon open standards and protocols where interoperability has been achieved.

# Membership

## Membership Types

Building on our [Glossary](#), participants in Consortium are referred to as *Trust Community Members*. These business entities agreed to participate in the *Trust Community* known as the Bedrock Consortium. Participation in the Consortium is possible via formal legal contracts or membership agreements.

### Annual Membership

Private sector entities (businesses) can join and renew membership on an annual basis under three possible membership types:

Membership Type	Validator Node Hosting Required	Authorized Endorser Privileges (Ledger Writes)
Founding Steward	Yes	Yes - Unlimited
Steward	Yes	Yes - Unlimited
Subscriber	No	Yes - Limited by Subscription Plan

#### 1. Founding Steward:

- **Description:** Members that are willing to contribute to the infrastructure, management, and financial needs of the Network. Minimally, this requires the member to contribute a *Validator Node* to the operation of the Ledger.

- **Ledger Roles:**

- a. *Validator Node*: MUST contribute hosting of one ledger node.
- b. *Transaction Endorser*: APPROVED for the endorsement for *Transaction Author* write requests.

- **Restrictions:**

- a. Membership is limited to the number of Board of Director seats available.
- b. A FIFO waiting list is maintained to allow for new members to fill voids left by exiting members.

- **Benefits:**

- a. Seat on Board of Directors.
- b. Automatic approval to operate as a Transaction Endorser.
- c. Unlimited transactions for Transaction Endorser role.

## 2. Steward

- **Description:** Members that are willing to contribute to the infrastructure, management, and financial needs of the Network. Minimally, this requires the member to contribute a *Validator Node* to the operation of the Ledger.

- **Ledger Roles:**

- a. *Validator Node*: MUST contribute hosting of one ledger node.
- b. *Transaction Endorser*: APPROVED for the endorsement for *Transaction Author* write requests.

- **Restrictions:**

- a. Membership is limited to the number of nodes required to maintain optimal consensus performance. The optimal limit here must take into consideration a balance with decentralization requirements. The BoD will annually determine the number of Stewards required to meet both consensus, decentralization, and budgetary requirements.

- **Benefits:**

- a. Automatic approval to operate as a Transaction Endorser.
- b. Unlimited transactions for Transaction Endorser role.
- c. Members with continuous participation, can reserve a position to be invited as a Founding Steward via a FIFO waiting list.

### 3. Subscriber

- **Description:** Members that are willing to be responsible for the endorsement of transactions to the ledger.

- **Ledger Roles:**

- a. *Transaction Endorser*: APPROVED for the endorsement for *Transaction Author* write requests.

- **Plan Options:**

- a. Enterprise
  - b. Service Provider

- **Benefits:**

- a. Approval to operate as a *Transaction Endorser*.

## Non-Membership Roles

### 1. Transaction Author

- **Description:** Any entity (member or non-member) that is the submitter of a write transaction. **Ledger Roles:**

- a. *Transaction Author*: Interacts with a *Transaction Endorser* for the processing of write requests.

- **Restrictions:**

- a. Only the transaction types outlined in the Consortium's [ledger access policies](#) and [ledger data policies](#) are permitted.

- b. MUST sign a *Transaction Author Agreement*.

- **Benefits:**

- a. Ability to use ledger for decentralized identity interactions.

# Term Sheet

## Optimal Consensus Threshold

A balance between budget requirements and technology limitations will define the number of validator nodes required to operate the Bedrock Business Utility ("BBU"). Initially this will be set at 25. The set of active nodes on the network will be periodically pulled from a pool of available nodes.

## Validator Node Pool

In order to efficiently operate the Ledger associated with the BBU, a combination of production and test nodes are necessary. The BoD is responsible for defining the requirements associated with the validator pool. It is important to note that such BoD decisions will be influenced by both technical performance restrictions as well as budgetary demands.

Framework Facet	Required Quantity	Comment
BoD Seats	9	Minimum Founding Stewards. BoD can increase but MUST not exceed 15
Minimum Production Pool Size	25	Considers production and BoD factors. Each Steward must contribute a Test Node.
Minimum Stewards	16	
Minimum Test Pool Size	9	Each Steward must contribute a Test Node.

## Board of Directors (BoD)

Founding Members will have the right to appoint a board director. Each Founding Member will be allocated one vote for each appointed Director. The BoD will establish a charter that will establish Officer roles and responsibilities. The BoD will establish terms for Officers, but no term shall exceed 3 years.

## Budget

BoD is responsible for defining and approving the Network budget. Income for the budget will be derived from membership dues. The budget will be limited to expenses for the administration, operation, and maintenance of the Network.

Minimum Annual Operational Budget: \$TBD

## Membership Dues

1. Founding Stewards: \$TBD/yr
2. Stewards: \$TBD/yr
3. Subscribers:
  - a. Enterprise Plan: 1000 write transactions/yr for \$TBD/yr
  - b. Service Provider Plan: 1500 write transactions/yr for \$TBD/yr

## Membership Obligations

### Founding Stewards

1. Sign Steward Agreement
2. Sign Transaction Endorser Agreement
3. Sign Transaction Author Agreement (optional)
4. Host 3 nodes (main, test, dev), each running Network approved code.
5. Host Network approved Transaction Endorser code.

## Stewards

1. Sign Steward Agreement
2. Sign Transaction Endorser Agreement
3. Sign Transaction Author Agreement (optional)
4. Host 3 nodes (main, test, dev), each running Network approved code.
5. Host Network approved Transaction Endorser code.

## Subscribers

1. Sign Transaction Endorser Agreement
2. Sign Transaction Author Agreement (optional)
3. Host Network approved Transaction Endorser code.

## Governance Framework

BoD is responsible for the refinement and evolution of an acceptable set of control and legal documents for the Network.

## Management

The BoD will be required to manage a budget and hire resources to coordinate the management of the Network. An initial candidate for such Services SHALL be the Sovrin Foundation as an *Identity Utility Administrator*.

The BoD will hire a Network Manager who will report to the BoD and will be responsible for activities such as:

1. Financial Accounting
2. Legal
3. Public Communications
4. Administrative

## **5. Membership Management**

The BoD will appoint a representative of the Network to serve on the Sovrin Foundation Board of Trustees.

The BoD will appoint a Network Architect who will be responsible for interfacing with the Sovrin Foundation for activities such as:

- 1. Technical Strategy & Architecture**
- 2. Build and Test**

# Master Document

## Preface

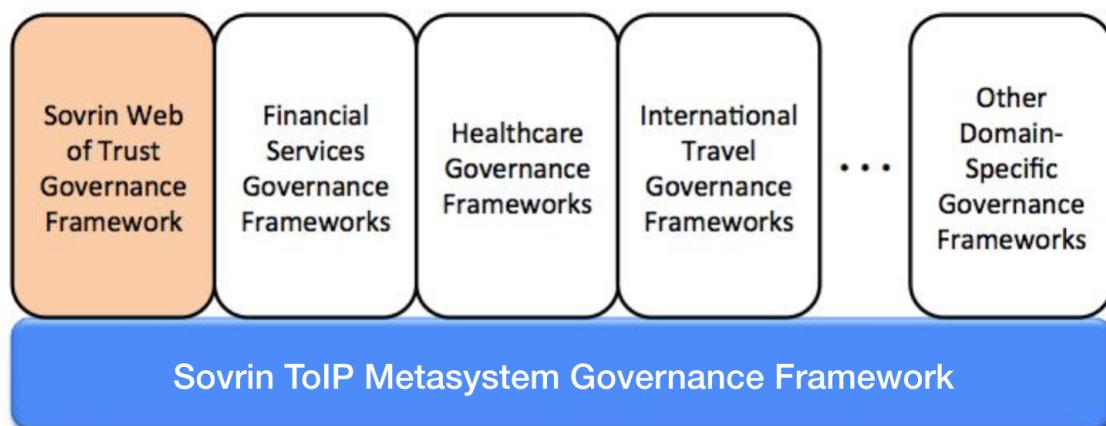
This is an official document of the Sovrin Governance Framework V2 approved by the Sovrin Board of Trustees. If you have comments or suggestions, we invite you to contribute them to the living community version of this document—access is open to anyone. If you are interested in joining the Sovrin Governance Framework Working Group, please visit our Meeting Page.

## Acknowledgements

This document was produced on behalf of the Board of Directors by the Governance Framework Working Group.

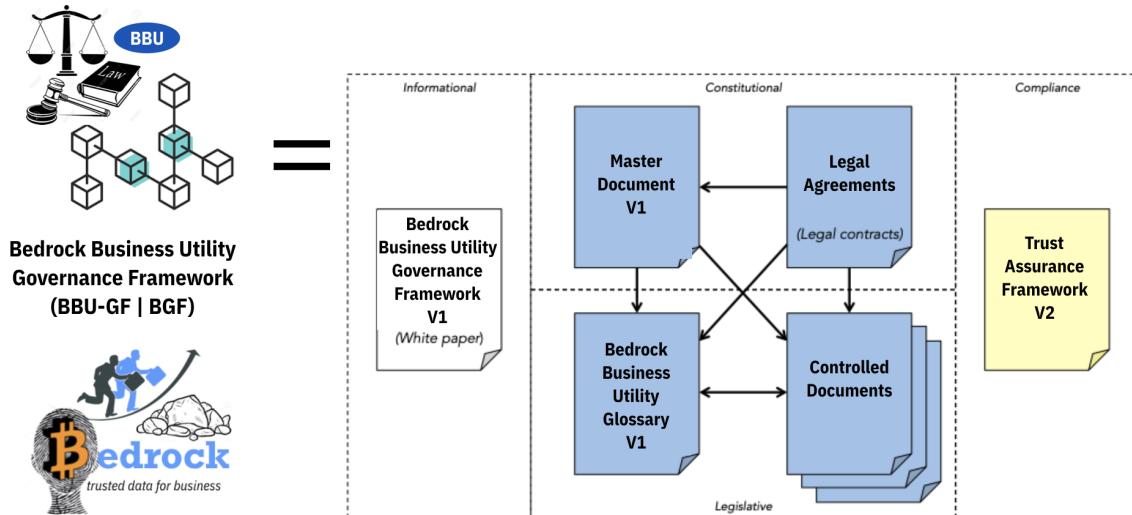
## Introduction

The Bedrock Governance Framework (BGF) serves as the *constitution* for the *Bedrock Business Utility*. The BGF (also referred to as "BBU-GF") is a specialized Domain-Specific Governance Frameworks (DSGFs) as described in the [Sovrin ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework \(STM-GF\) Master Document](#).



The BGF leverages the principles, policies, terminology, and standards defined in the STM-GF to enable trusted digital commerce based on decentralized identity.

A key objective of the BGF is to address any concerns or risks that Consortium members may have with participation compliance with Data Protection Regulations such as the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), and the Canadian Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA).



The BGF formally consists of a set of interrelated documents that collectively forms the governance model for the Consortium and the DID Ledger (`(did:sov:biz)`) that the Consortium manages. The documents are organized in three (3) categories; Blue = Normative, Yellow = Assessment, White = Informative.

Category	Name	Description
Primary (White)	Bedrock GF Whitepaper	Introduction to the Bedrock Governance Framework V2
Primary (Blue)	Bedrock Governance Framework (BGF) Master Document	The “constitution” of the Consortium, this document defines the purpose, core principles, and core policies, and also references all other documents in the GF.
Primary (Blue)	Bedrock Glossary	A comprehensive glossary of terms used throughout all the GF documents
Primary (Yellow)	Bedrock Trust Assurance Framework	This document defines criteria and processes for assessing conformance of different consortium stakeholder to the policies of the Bedrock Governance Framework.
Legal (Blue)	Bedrock Founding Member Agreement	Contractual instrument between the Consortium and a Founding Member.
Legal (Blue)	Bedrock Steward Member Agreement	Contractual instrument between the Consortium and a Steward Member.
Legal (Blue)	Trust Anchor Agreement	Contractual instrument between the Consortium and any person or organization initiating a write transaction to the Identity Utility Ledger.
Controlled Documents (Blue)	Governing Body Policies	The governance policies that apply to all Bedrock Governing Bodies.
Controlled Documents (Blue)	Ledger Access Policies	Governing policies for reading and writing to all Bedrock Ledgers and the processing of BBU transactional data.
Controlled Documents (Blue)	Member Business Policies	Governing qualification, application, activation, operation, suspension, and termination of Founding Members.
Controlled Documents	Member Technical Policies	Governing the security, node operation, node selection, and reporting requirements for

## Purpose

The purpose of the Bedrock Business Utility is to provide a decentralized global public utility for trusted commerce. It is one of many possible DID Ledgers ("Peer-Nets").

The purpose of the Bedrock Governance Framework (BGF) is to define the business, legal, and technical policies for the Bedrock Business Utility.

The purpose of the Bedrock Consortium is to administer decentralized governance for Bedrock Business Utility.

## Core Principles

Unless otherwise noted, the Bedrock Governance Framework (BGF) is aligned with the principles outlined in the [STM-GF Master Document](#).

## Core Policies

In keeping with all Core Principles and especially the Decentralization by Design and Security by Design principles:

1. Policies, practices, procedures, and algorithms governing participation of Stewards and operation of Nodes MUST follow all Core Principles.
2. The Consortium MUST publish the following Controlled Documents managed as specified by Bedrock Governing Bodies: a. Member Business Policies b. Member Technical Policies c. Ledger Access Policies

## Guardianship

In keeping with the Guardianship principle, a Guardian SHOULD:

1. Act in the Dependent person's best interest.
2. Exercise good judgment and carefully manage responsibilities.

3. Avoid commingling—keep Dependent's property separate (e.g., separate DIDs, Public Keys, Wallets, Vaults, etc.).
4. Keep detailed records of all actions taken on behalf of the Dependent.
5. Not violate the Anti-Impersonation principle (section 2.11.5).
6. Be subject to applicable legal structures regarding the granting and revocation of Guardianships.

## Inclusion

In keeping with the Inclusive by Design principles but in recognition of the permissioned write structure of the Bedrock Business Utility:

1. Read access to the Bedrock Business Utility MUST be open to all types of entities.
2. Write access will be limited to members in good standing within the consortium.

## Trust Assurance

In keeping with all Core Principles and especially the Decentralization by Design principles:

1. The Consortium MUST specify policies, practices, and procedures for assessing conformance to the Bedrock Governance Framework by publishing and maintaining the Bedrock Trust Assurance Framework as a Controlled Document managed as specified by Sovrin Governing Bodies. The Controlled Documents may leverage the services and guidance of the Sovrin Trust Assurance Framework.
2. The Bedrock Consortium MUST publish the Bedrock Trust Mark Policies as a Controlled Document managed as specified by Bedrock Governing Bodies. The Consortium may decide to leverage instead the Trust Mark Policies but a Bedrock Controlled Document must specify such a decision/policy.
3. An Entity serving in one of the Sovrin Network who meets the requirements in the Bedrock Trust Assurance Framework MAY use the appropriate Bedrock Trust Mark as specified in Bedrock Trust Mark Policies.

## Economics

In keeping with the Sustainability principle:

1. The Consortium MUST publish the Bedrock Economic Policies as a Controlled Document managed as specified by Bedrock Governing Bodies in conjunction with Consortium legal counsel.
2. The Consortium MUST manage Ledger Fees and any mechanism used for paying them to ensure economic viability and sustainability for the Consortium to keep with its charter as a non-profit public trust organization.
3. The Consortium MUST retain a qualified Auditor to publish an annual public audit of Consortium finances.

## Governance

The Bedrock Governance Framework Master Document and the Controlled Documents listed in Appendix A shall be revised from time to time. The policies in this section govern this process.

Unless otherwise noted, the Bedrock Governance Framework (BGF) will adhere to the same procedures for managing document lifecycles as outlined in Section 4 of the [STM-GF Master Document](#).

All Bedrock Governance Framework documents will reside in a Github source control repository and will use the associated Issue Tracker for change management.

## Appendix A: Controlled Documents

The following Controlled Documents are normative components of the Bedrock Governance Framework V1. All framework documents are published by the Consortium in two forms:

1. A static PDF document representing the current approved version. A link is always available via the Github repo and the table below.

2. A sub-section of the [Sovrin](#) website so that all documentation is easily navigated.

## Issues / Comments

A Github source control repository and will use the repo's Issue Tracker for change management.

## Definitions

Document Name	Description	Governed By	Normative Location
BBU Glossary	Definitions of all terms used in the BGF	Governance Framework Working Group	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>
Governing Bodies	Definitions of governing bodies within the Consortium	Bedrock Board of Directors	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>
Ledger Transaction Data	Defines the data and metadata process by a Steward Node	Technical Governance Board	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>

## Specifications

Document Name	Description	Governed By	Normative Location
Decentralized Identifiers 0.11	Specification for DIDs and DID documents	W3C Credentials Community Group	<a href="https://w3c-ccg.github.io/did-spec/">https://w3c-ccg.github.io/did-spec/</a>
Sovrin DID Method 1.0 Specification	Specification for DIDs on the Sovrin Ledger or Sovrin Microledgers	Sovrin Technical Governance Board	<a href="https://github.com/sovrin-foundation/sovrin/blob/master/spec/did-method-spec-template.html">https://github.com/sovrin-foundation/sovrin/blob/master/spec/did-method-spec-template.html</a>
Verifiable Credentials Data Model 1.0	Specification for verifiable credentials	W3C Verifiable Claims Working Group	<a href="https://w3c.github.io/vc-data-model/">https://w3c.github.io/vc-data-model/</a>

## Policies

Document Name	Description	Governed By	Normative Location
Governing Body Policies	Chartering and functioning of Bedrock Governing Bodies	Board of Directors	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>
Ledger Access Policies	Read and write access to the Bedrock Business Utility	Governance Framework Working Group	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>
Member Business Policies	Member qualification, enrollment, and operational status	Membership Committee	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>
Membership Technical Policies	Technical requirements for operating and protecting a components of the BBU infrastructure.	Technical Governance Board	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>
Economic Policies	Budgetary policies for the BBU.	Finance Committee	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>
Trust Mark Policies	Acceptable uses of the Bedrock Trust Mark	Governance Framework Working Group	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>

## Frameworks

Document Name	Description	Governed By	Normative Location
Trust Assurance Framework	Trust assurance for BGF actors	Governance Framework Working Group	<a href="#">Approved PDF Version</a>

# Glossary

The Sovrin Foundation published in the Sovrin Governance Framework V2 a [glossary of industry terms](#). The contents herein are considered additional terms specific to the **Bedrock Business Utility**.

## Node

A computer network server running an instance of the code necessary to operate a distributed ledger or blockchain. In the Bedrock Consortium, a Node is operated by a Steward running an instance of the Bedrock Open Source Code to maintain the Bedrock Business Utility (or DID Ledger). A Node must be either a Validator Node or an Observer Node.

## Bedrock Open Source Code

The computer software that is installed on all Nodes associated with the Bedrock Business Utility (BBU). This code determined by the Bedrock Board of Directors who may leverage the services of the Sovrin Technical Governance Board (TGB). The BBU adheres code selection and version guidance provided by the TGB, who collaborates within the Hyperledger Indy Project of the Linux Foundation to establish a TGB approved version of Hyperledger Indy within the the Sovrin Code Repository managed by the Sovrin Foundation.

## Bedrock Ledger Environments

The corpus of DID Ledgers used by the Bedrock Consortium to operate the Bedrock Business Utility. For example: `prod`, `test`, and `dev`.

## DID Namespace

Building on URI Standards, the DID Specification allows for both root namespace (`did:xxx`) and sub-namespace (`did:xxx:yyy`) conventions.

## Governing Body

An organization or consortium that is responsible for the management of an Identity Utility Network.

## Backbone Network

A distinct system of domain specific ledgers operated by decentralized peer nodes and associated with a DID Namespace. Governed by its own governance framework. See also *Identity Utility Network*.

## Peer-Net (*Deprecated*)

A distinct system of domain specific ledgers operated by decentralized peer nodes and associated with a DID Namespace. Governed by its own governance framework. See also *Backbone Network*.

## Network of Networks

A decentralized collection of discoverable and interoperable Identity Utility Networks. The internet is an exemplar of a network of networks structure based on DNS and URI standards.

## Identity Utility Network (IUN)

A distinct system of domain specific ledgers operated by decentralized peer nodes and associated with a DID Namespace. Preferably built on Hyperledger Indy, this [DID Ledger](#), is governed by an independent governing body and its own governance framework. Due to the overuse of terms such as "Network" and "Ledger", the term "Utility" has been accepted by the Bedrock Consortium to allow for additional clarity. See also *Backbone Network*.

## Sovrin Identity Utility

An Identity Utility Network that is register under the `did:sov` Root Namespace.

## Sovrin Network

One or more Identity Utility Networks that are register under the Sovrin DID Root Namespace (`did:sov`).

## Remote Identity Utility (Remote IUN)

An Identity Utility Network associated with a DID Root Namespace that operates under its own Governance Framework.

## Sovrin ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework

A set of business, legal and technical governance documents that describe how members of the Sovrin Ecosystem will operate.

## Trusted Remote Network

A Remote Identity Utility that is recognized by the Sovrin ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework as a trusted IUN.

## Sovrin Ecosystem of Trust

A white-list of Identity Utility Networks as defined by the Sovrin ToIP Metasystem (STM). This includes both IUNs within the Sovrin Network as well as any Trusted Remote Networks.

## Remote Metasystem Network

A system of ledgers under a disparate Root Namespace that may or may not exist under a foreign ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework.

## Decentralized DID Namespace Registry (DDNR)

Provides registration, discovery, and access for an Identity Utility Network.

## **Metasystem**

An *Ecosystem* that is comprised of one or more Identity Utility Networks.

## **Sovrin Foundation Services**

Provider of services to the Governing Body of an Identity Utility Network.

## **Identity Utility Administrator**

The provider of operational and maintenance services for an Identity Utility Network. See *Sovrin Foundation Services*.

## **Trustee**

An Identity Owner entrusted with specific identity control responsibilities by another Identity Owner or with specific governance responsibilities by a Governance Framework. See *Recovery Key Trustee*

## **Consortium Trustee**

A Trustee who is a member of the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors. The trust in Consortium Trustees is bestowed collectively on behalf of all Identity Owners.

## **Key Recovery**

The process of recovering access to and control of a set of Private Keys—or an entire Wallet—after loss or compromise. Key Recovery is a major focus of the emerging DKMS standard for cryptographic key management. See also *Recovery Key*.

## **Recovery Key**

A special Private Key used for purposes of recovering a Wallet after loss or compromise. In the DKMS key management protocol, a Recovery Key may be cryptographically sharded for secret sharing among multiple Trustees.

## **Recovery Key Trustee**

A Trustee trusted by another Identity Owner to authorize sharing back a Recovery Key for purposes of restoring a Wallet after loss or compromise.

## **Membership Management System**

The means by which the Board of Directors tracks membership entitlements and status.

# Governing Bodies

## Governing Bodies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Bedrock Governing Bodies
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	Governance bodies within the Bedrock Consortium
Governed By	Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors

This document lists all official governing bodies of the Bedrock Consortium Foundation as determined by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

## Preface

1. All Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies operate under the Bedrock Consortium Governing Body Policies.
2. The formal name of each Bedrock Consortium Governing Body begins with the word “Sovrin”. For simplicity, that prefix is not included in the names in this document.
3. For access to the current membership roster, meeting information, agenda, and the minutes of any Bedrock Consortium Governing Body, follow the link to its meeting page.

## Board of Directors

The Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors (BoD) is the overall governing body of the Bedrock Consortium Foundation. It is chartered directly by the Charter and Bylaws of the Bedrock Consortium Foundation as a non-profit public trust organization. The BoD is composed of individuals from around the world who have the obligation to represent the interests of the Identity Owners of the Bedrock Consortium Community. It has sole authority for :

1. Approving the charters of all Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies.
2. Approving at least one chairperson of each Bedrock Consortium Governing Body.
3. Approving new versions of the Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework.
4. Approving new versions of each Controlled Document.

The BoD also maintains an Executive Committee consisting of the Chairperson and at least four other members of the BoD.

- Charter Version N/A
- Charter Approval Date Jan 31, 2018
- Charter Location Bedrock Consortium Foundation Bylaws

## Technical Governance Board (TGB)

The Technical Governance Board is responsible for the technical design, architecture, and policies governing Bedrock Consortium Infrastructure. All members of this council are technical experts appointed by the BoD, and one of its chairpersons, if not already a Trustee, serves as an ex-officio member of the BoD unless the BoD makes an exception.

- Charter Version V4
- Charter Approval Date 2019-03-27
- Charter Location Technical Governance Board Charter
- Meeting Page Location Technical Governance Board Meeting Page

## Steward Council

The Steward Council is responsible for representing the expertise, interests, and concerns of Bedrock Consortium Stewards in the Bedrock Consortium Foundation governance process. All members of this council are representatives of Stewards, and one of its chairpersons, if not already a Trustee, serves as an ex-officio member of the BoD.

- Charter Version V1
- Charter Approval Date 2019-03-27
- Charter Location [Steward Council Charter](#)
- Meeting Page Location [Steward Council Meeting Page](#)

## Committees

### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is responsible for assisting the BoD in fulfilling its governance responsibilities by providing oversight of the Bedrock Consortium Foundation's financial reporting, internal control systems, risk management systems, and internal and external audit functions. Members of this committee are appointed by the BoD.

- Charter Version V1
- Charter Approval Date 2019-03-27
- Charter Location [Audit Committee Charter](#)
- Meeting Page Location [Audit Committee Meeting Page](#)

## Working Groups

### Governance Framework Working Group

The Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework Working Group (BGFWG) is responsible for development and revision of the Bedrock Consortium Governance

Framework. One of the chairpersons of this Working Group is appointed by the BoD. This Working Group is open to participation by anyone; All members are volunteers.

- Charter Version V2
- Charter Approval Date 2019-03-27
- Charter Location Governance Framework Working Group Charter
- Meeting Page Location Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework Working Group Meeting Page

# Bedrock Consortium Bylaws

Bedrock CONSORTIUM AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS – NEED LEGAL  
INSIGHT

## ARTICLE I. NAME OF CORPORATION

The name of the corporation is Bedrock Consortium (“Corporation”).

## ARTICLE II. CORPORATE PURPOSE

The general and specific purposes of the Corporation are set forth in the Articles of Incorporation.

## ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

The Corporation shall have no members for purposes of the Utah Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act. The term “members” may be used in these Bylaws and in other corporate documents to refer to donors, technology contributors, ledger stewards, members of Corporation committees or work groups, and other participants in the Sovrin community whose roles may be further defined in the Bylaws, agreements, or other governing documents.

## ARTICLE IV. Board of Directors

### Section 1. General Powers

For purposes of the Utah Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act, the use of the term “Trustee” is intended to include all the powers and responsibilities of a director under the statute. The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have control of and be responsible for the management of the affairs and property of the Corporation.

## Section 2. Number, Election, Tenure and Nominations

1. Number. The number of Trustees shall be fixed from time to time by the Trustees but shall consist of no less than three (3) nor more than twenty-one (21) persons. The Chairs of TGB Council and I4A Council shall be ex-officio members with all the rights of other board members.
2. Election. The initial Board of Directors is established by the Articles of Incorporation (the "Initial Trustees"). Trustees up for election shall be elected at the annual meeting upon the affirmative vote of a majority of Trustees present, provided that a quorum exists as provided in Section 7 of this Article IV. The members of the Board of Directors shall, upon election, immediately commence to perform their duties and shall continue in office until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified.
3. Tenure. The Initial Trustees shall serve for a term of 18 months. Thereafter, newly elected members of the Board of Directors who have not served before shall serve initial one-year terms. At the conclusion of a Trustee's initial term, the Trustee is eligible to be considered for re-election to a term of one to three years, staggered in order to ensure future orderly transition on the Board. Nominees recommended by the nominating committee may volunteer for the newly staggered terms for the first election. If the staggered terms are not evenly distributed, then the Executive Committee will assign Trustees to terms to make them evenly staggered. Newly added members of the Board of Directors shall serve until the next regularly scheduled election unless the resulting term would be less than six months in which case they would serve until the second regularly scheduled election and then if eligible for an additional term, that term will be set by the Executive Committee to correspond to the already staggered terms of the Board of Directors as to ensure an even amount of staggered terms going forward.
4. Nominations. Prior to the completion of the initial Trustees term and annually thereafter, the Board shall select a nominations committee to present a list to the Board of Trustees containing names of eligible nominees as Trustees for the ensuing year. Said list shall contain the names of at least one eligible nominee to each vacancy. In case the Board of Trustees fails, for any reason, to elect such a committee within the time specified, then it shall be the duty of the Chair to appoint such a committee. Nominations made by

the committee for the Trustees must be delivered to the Secretary at least thirty (30) days before the completion of the initial Trustees term and annually thereafter. The Secretary shall attach a list of nominees to the notification of the March meeting of the Board of Directors annually.

### Section 3. Regular and Annual Meetings

An annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at a time and day in the month of March of each calendar year and at a location designated by the Board. The Board of Directors may provide by resolution the time and place, for the holding of regular meetings of the Board. Notice of the annual meeting, and notice of the first regular meeting under a Board resolution, shall be sent in writing or electronically to all members of the Board of Directors no fewer than ten (10) days prior to the meeting date, subject to waiver of notice as provided in the Utah Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act.

### Section 4. Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the Chairperson or any two members of the Board of Directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix any location as the place for holding any special meeting of the Board called by them but must give the other Trustees notice at least two (2) days in advance of the meeting by telephone, electronically, or in writing, subject to waiver of notice as provided in the Utah Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act. The meeting notice need not specify the purpose of the meeting.

### Section 5. Participation in Meetings

Any Trustee may participate in an annual, regular, or special meeting of the Board of Directors, or conduct such a meeting, through the use of any means of communication by which all participating Trustees may hear each other during the meeting or, in the case of hearing impaired persons, read the other Trustees' remarks during the meeting. Trustees participating by such means shall be counted as "present" for quorum purposes and may participate in discussion and voting.

## **Section 6. Action without Meeting**

Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting, provided there is written notice (which may be electronic) to all Trustees at least two (2) days in advance and no Trustee objects within the notice period to the action being taken without a meeting. The proposed action is approved only if it receives the requisite number of affirmative votes in writing (which may be electronic) under the applicable quorum and voting requirements herein.

## **Section 7. Quorum**

The presence of a simple majority of current members of the Board of Directors shall be necessary at any meeting to constitute a quorum to transact business, but a lesser number shall have power to adjourn to a specified later date without notice. The act of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these Bylaws.

## **Section 8. Forfeiture**

Any member of the Board of Directors who fails to attend three Board meetings in three consecutive calendar months shall automatically forfeit his or her seat on the Board, unless a majority of the other Trustees vote to retain the Trustee in question. The Secretary shall notify the Trustee in writing that his or her seat has been declared vacant, and the Board of Directors may immediately proceed to fill the vacancy.

## **Section 9. Vacancies**

Whenever any vacancy occurs in the Board of Directors it shall be filled without undue delay by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Vacancies may be created and filled according to specific methods approved by the Board of Directors.

## Section 10. Compensation

Members of the Board of Directors shall not receive any compensation for their services as Trustees, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of the Corporation, subject to approval by the Board.

## Section 11. Confidentiality

Trustees shall use discretion and good judgment in discussing the affairs of the Corporation with third parties. Trustees shall not disclose to third parties any trade secrets, confidential commercial information, personally identifiable information, or other nonpublic information that has been acquired by the Corporation or shared with the Corporation under conditions of confidentiality, except as required by law. Trustees may be required to execute a confidentiality agreement as a condition of appointment to the Board of Directors.

## Section 12. Advisory Councils

The Board of Directors may create Advisory Councils (such as a Trust Framework Committee and a Technical Governance Committee) whose members shall be elected by the Board of Directors annually but who shall have no duties, voting privileges, nor obligations for attendance at regular meetings of the Board.

Advisory Council members may attend Board meetings at the invitation of a Trustee. Otherwise, members of Advisory Councils shall function according to a charter approved by the Trustees, with the purpose of supporting the Sovrin community and the work of the Corporation. Members of Advisory Councils may be required to sign confidentiality and intellectual property agreements and to comply with committee procedures approved by the Board.

## Section 13. Parliamentary Procedure

Any question concerning parliamentary procedure at meetings shall be determined by the Chairperson by reference to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

## **Section 14. Removal.**

Any member of the Board of Directors or members of the Advisory Council may be removed with or without cause, at any time, by the vote of three-quarters (3/4) of the members of the Board of Directors if in their judgment the best interest of the Corporation would be served thereby. Each member of the Board of Directors must receive written (including electronic) notice of the proposed removal at least ten (10) days in advance of the proposed action. An officer who has been removed as a member of the Board of Directors shall automatically be removed from office.

# **ARTICLE V. OFFICERS**

The officers of this corporation shall be the Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. A single Trustee may serve as both Secretary and Treasurer. All officers must be current Trustees.

## **Section 1. Chairperson**

The Chairperson shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. The Chairperson shall have general oversight of all Corporation planning, activities, finances, staff, contractors, and records. The Chairperson shall have the authority to execute agreements on behalf of the Corporation. The Chairperson shall be ultimately responsible for relations between the Corporation, stewards, technology developers, users, donors, and other members of the Sovrin community.

## **Section 2. Vice-Chair**

The Vice-Chair shall be vested with all the powers and shall perform all the duties of the Chairperson during the absence of the latter. The Vice-Chair shall discharge such other tasks as may be delegated to him or her by the Board of Directors.

## **Section 3. Secretary**

The Secretary shall provide notices and make records of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee and ensure that Corporation documents are made available to Trustees and other relevant persons. The Secretary shall advise the Chairperson on parliamentary rules of procedure as required. The Secretary shall record attendance and voting at meetings and in Board actions without meeting. The Secretary shall assist the Chairperson and supervise Corporation staff in communicating with the Sovrin community and third parties. The Secretary shall ensure that required federal and state reports are submitted in a timely manner to maintain the Corporation's tax-exempt status.

## **Section 4. Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall maintain books of account and bank records for the Corporation and oversee the Corporation's fundraising activities. The Treasurer shall retain and supervise an independent accountant and ensure that required financial and tax reports are prepared and submitted.

## **Section 5. Election of Officers**

The Board of Directors shall elect officers at its annual meeting or at a regular or special meeting of the Board. Officers shall serve for a term of one (1) year, although the Board may extend the term to end at the next annual meeting. An individual may be reelected for no more than three successive terms.

## **Section 6. Removal of Officer**

An officer may be removed from office, while continuing to serve on the Board of Directors, if at least two thirds (2/3) of the other Trustees vote to remove the Trustee from office. The Board may then elect a successor for the remainder of the officer's term. A vote to remove an officer may only be taken after giving the officer an opportunity to be heard following at least ten (10) days' written (including electronic) notice of intent to move for the officer's removal at a

regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, with a summary of the reasons for such a motion.

## Section 7. Vacancies

The Board of Directors may also appoint successors to fill vacancies that otherwise occur in offices, such persons serving for the unexpired term of the office.

# ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES

## Section 1. Committee Formation

The Board of Directors may create Advisory Councils and other committees as needed. The Board approves committee charters and appoints all committee chairs and budgets.

## Section 2. Executive Committee

The Officers automatically constitute the Executive Committee of the Board. The Board of Trustees may elect additional Trustees to serve on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Corporation within the policy guidelines established by the Board of Directors, which may also assign specific tasks to the Executive Committee by Board resolution. Except for the power to amend the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Executive Committee shall have all the powers and authority of the Board of Directors in the intervals between meetings of the Board of Directors, and is subject to the direction and control of the full Board.

## Section 3. Finance Committee

The treasurer is the chair of the Finance Committee, which shall include two other Trustees appointed by the Board. The Finance Committee is responsible for developing and reviewing fiscal procedures, fundraising plans, and the annual budget with staff and other Trustees. The budget must be approved by the Board,

and all expenditures must be within budget. Any material change in the budget must be approved by the Executive Committee or the full Board. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year. Annual reports are required to be submitted to the Board showing income, expenditures, and pending income. The financial records of the Corporation, as a tax-exempt nonprofit, are expected to be made available to the Sovrin community and to the public.

## ARTICLE VII. CORPORATE STAFF

It is anticipated that the Corporation will have professional staff, either as direct employees or through a management firm.

### Section 1. Executive Director

The Board of Directors may hire or contract for an Executive Director who shall serve at the will of the Board. The Executive Director shall have immediate and overall supervision of the operations of the Corporation, and shall direct the day-to-day business of the Corporation, maintain the properties of the Corporation, hire, discharge, and determine the salaries and other compensation of all staff members under the Executive Director's supervision, and perform such additional duties as may be directed by the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors.

No officer, Executive Committee member or member of the Board of Directors may individually instruct the Executive Director or any other employee without the consent of the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall make such reports at the Board and Executive Committee meetings as shall be required by the Chairperson or the Board. The Executive Director shall be an ad-hoc member of all committees. The Executive Director may not be related by blood or marriage/domestic partnership within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity to any member of the Board of Directors or Advisory Council. The Executive Director may be hired at any meeting of the Board of Directors by a majority vote and shall serve until removed by the Board of Directors by majority vote of a quorum present at any meeting of the Board Trustees. Such removal may be with or without cause. Nothing herein shall confer any compensation or other rights on any Executive Director, who shall remain an employee terminable at will, as provided in this Section.

## Section 2. Other Staff

The Executive Director may make recommendations to the Board for the hiring or contracting of other staff members. ARTICLE VIII. CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND COMPENSATION The Trustees shall be subject to a Conflict of Interest Policy adopted by the Board of Directors and which shall be attested to annually by each Trustee. ARTICLE IX. LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION Section 1.

Nonliability of Trustees and Officers To the extent permissible under Utah and federal law, trustees and officers shall not be held personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the Corporation. Section 2. Indemnification To the full extent permitted under the laws of the State of Utah, the Corporation shall indemnify any current or former trustee, officer, employee, or agent of the Corporation (each referred to in this Article as an "indemnitee") against expenses actually and necessarily incurred by such indemnitee in defending against any action, suit, or proceeding in which that indemnitee is made a party by reason of being or having been a trustee, officer, employee, or agent of the Corporation, except to the extent that the indemnitee is adjudged liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of a duty for the Corporation. The foregoing indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which an indemnitee may be entitled under any By-Law, agreement, resolution of the Board of Directors, or otherwise.

## Section 3. Expenses

Expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit, or proceeding may be paid by the Corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit, or proceeding, if authorized by the Board of Directors, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the indemnitee to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such indemnitee is not entitled to be indemnified hereunder.

## Section 4. Insurance

The Corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a trustee, officer, employee, or agent against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising

out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power or obligation to indemnify such person against such liability under this Article.

## ARTICLE X. BOOKS AND RECORDS

The Corporation shall keep complete books and records of account and minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors. These may be kept in electronic form.

## ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

### Section 1. Articles of Incorporation

The Articles of Incorporation may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Trustees, or by action of the Board of Directors without meeting, by the affirmative vote of a majority of all Trustees, provided that the text of the proposed amendment is furnished to each Trustee at least five (5) days in advance of such a meeting.

### Section 2. Bylaws

The Board of Directors may amend these Bylaws by majority vote of a quorum present at any regular or special meeting of the Board, or by action of the Board of Directors without meeting, provided that the text of the proposed amendment or a summary of the proposed changes is furnished at least five (5) days in advance. The text may be modified in the course of the debate at the meeting and adopted by a majority vote without requiring notice of a further meeting.

## ADOPTION OF AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS

These Amended and Restated Bylaws were ADOPTED AND APPROVED unanimously by the Board of Directors on this XXst day of January, 2020.

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xxxxxxxxxxxxxx, Chairperson

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xxxxxxxxxxxxxx, Secretary

# Governing Body Policies

## Governing Body Policies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Bedrock Consortium Governing Body Policies
Version	
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	Chartering, Types and Membership, Chairpersons, Facilitators, Voting, Self-Organization, Meetings, and Meeting Pages
Governed By	Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors

### 1. Chartering

1. The organizers of a new Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MUST submit a charter to the Bedrock Consortium of Directors (BoD).
2. The charter MUST be based on the Bedrock Consortium Governing Body Charter Template maintained by the Secretary of the Bedrock Consortium BoD.
3. This template MUST include:
  - a. Version number and date of approval.
  - b. General Policies.
  - c. Status (see Types and Membership, below).

- d. Purpose.
  - e. Principles (if any beyond the Core Principles).
  - f. Activities and Duties.
  - g. Membership.
  - h. Chairperson(s).
  - i. Facilitator(s).
  - j. Voting.
  - k. Funding.
  - l. Meeting Schedule.
  - m. Meeting Page.
  - n. Version History.
4. The version history MUST include the version numbers, dates, and links to all previous versions of the charter.
  5. After the required public review period (see Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework V2 Master Document section 4.3), a new or revised charter MUST be approved by the Bedrock Consortium BoD before it becomes active.
  6. Once approved, information about the new or revised Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MUST be added to:
    - a. The Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies Controlled Document, including all the information required therein.
    - b. The Bedrock Consortium Foundation website.

## 2. Types and Membership

1. A Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MUST be one of the following types:
  - a. Council.
  - b. Committee.
  - c. Working Group.
2. All Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies MUST:
  - a. Have at least one and MAY have up to three chairpersons, either appointed by the Bedrock Consortium BoD or elected by their members.

- b. Have at least five members, including the chairperson(s).
  - c. State any other specific membership requirements in its charter.
- 3. A council: a. MUST have at least one chairperson appointed by the Bedrock Consortium BoD who, if not already a Trustee, shall serve as an ex-officio Trustee unless an exception is made by the BoD. b. MAY limit the total number of voting members. c. MAY establish membership term limits.
- 4. A committee:
  - a. SHOULD have a Trustee serving as at least one of its chairperson(s).
  - b. MAY limit the total number of voting members. c. MAY establish membership term limits.
- 5. A working group:
  - a. MUST be open to participation by any member of the Bedrock Consortium Community. b. MUST NOT establish membership term limits.

### 3. Chairpersons

- 1. A chairperson of a Bedrock Consortium Governing Body: a. MUST be a member of that Bedrock Consortium Governing Body.  
b. MUST NOT be an employee of the Bedrock Consortium Foundation unless an exception is made by the BoD. c. SHOULD NOT be a chairperson of another Bedrock Consortium Governing Body.
- 2. If a Bedrock Consortium Governing Body has more than one chairperson, they MUST NOT be affiliated with the same organization.

### 4. Facilitators

- 1. A Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MAY have one or more facilitators.
- 2. It is NOT REQUIRED for a facilitator to be a member of that governing body.
- 3. An employee of the Bedrock Consortium Foundation MAY serve as a facilitator.

## 5. Subgroups

1. In keeping with the Decentralization by Design Principles (section 2.8 of the Bedrock Consortium V2 Master Document), and in particular the Distributive principle (section 2.8.7), all Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies SHOULD self-organize and delegate work to subgroups as much as possible.
2. A Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MAY appoint the following types of subgroups as needed to accomplish its mission: a. Team – an ongoing subgroup organized around a focus area. b. Task Force – a short-term subgroup organized to accomplish a specified task within a specified time period.
3. An organized subgroup of a Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MUST be listed on its meeting page together with information about how to participate in that subgroup.
4. An organized subgroup SHOULD maintain its own meeting page separate from but linked from the governing body's main meeting page.

## 6. Funding

1. A Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MAY request a specified level or type of funding in its charter.
2. A Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MAY make a special request for funding to engage outside professionals or other external resources to assist in their work provided any financial compensation is approved by the Bedrock Consortium Foundation Executive Director.

## 7. Voting

1. All Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies SHOULD strive to reach decisions by consensus.
2. Consensus MAY be achieved via discussion at a web-meeting or face-to-face meeting or via any online mechanism, such as a mailing list, that provides

adequate notice to all members and enables any member to lodge an objection and request a formal vote.

3. When a formal vote is required, it MUST be conducted using a voting process agreeable to the majority of the group, or if such an agreement cannot be reached, then under Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised , 11th Edition, ISBN 978-0-306-82021-2.
4. If members feel that a decision has been reached improperly, they may appeal the decision to the Bedrock Consortium BoD who MUST serve as the final authority in all disagreements.

## 8. Intellectual Property Rights

1. In keeping with the mission of the Bedrock Consortium Foundation as an open public trust organization, all contributions by participants in a Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MUST be free of intellectual property rights or other usage restrictions.
2. Excluding explicit contributions as defined in 8.1, participants in a Bedrock Consortium Governing Body retain all rights to their existing intellectual property and participation in a Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MUST NOT be construed as a license to any existing intellectual property rights.

## 9. Meetings

1. In keeping with the Transparency Principle ( Bedrock Consortium V2 Master Document section 2.6), Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies:
  - a. MUST conduct open, transparent meetings with the exception of special closed sessions.
  - b. MUST only conduct special closed sessions (not open to the public) when the group needs to deal with matters where confidentiality is required due to:
    - a. Legal regulations.
    - b. Security concerns (breach responses, confidential procedures, etc.).
    - c. Steward concerns (policy violations, business transitions, etc.)
    - d. Discrimination, harassment, or other human resource matters.

- e. Other matters where confidentiality is advised by Bedrock Consortium Foundation legal counsel.
- c. SHOULD conduct meetings that allow virtual participation whenever possible.

## 10. Meeting Pages

- 1. All Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies MUST maintain a meeting page based on the Bedrock Consortium Governing Body Meeting Page Template .
- 2. A link to the meeting page for a Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MUST be included in the listing in the Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies Controlled Document and on the Bedrock Consortium Foundation website.
- 3. The meeting page MUST include:
  - a. All information about the group listed in Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies , including a link to the current charter.
  - b. A list of the current chairperson(s).
  - c. A list of the current facilitator(s).
  - d. A list of current active members.
  - e. Information about how to join the group.
  - f. Information about any organized subgroups, including:
    - a. The name and purpose of the subgroup.
    - b. Membership requirements.
    - c. Instructions on how to participate.
    - d. A link to the subgroup's meeting page, if applicable.
  - g. A schedule of open public meetings.
  - h. Information about how to participate in open public meetings (physical or virtual).
  - i. Information about how to participate in open public chat channels (e.g., Rocketchat).
  - j. Agendas and meeting minutes/notes listed in reverse chronological order.
  - k. Links to any archived versions of the meeting page.
- 4. The minutes or notes of each meeting MUST be recorded on or linked to the meeting page.
- 5. The meeting page SHOULD be periodically archived to prevent it from growing too large.

## 11. Reporting

1. All Bedrock Consortium Governing Bodies:
  - a. SHOULD designate a member to attend and give a monthly report to the Bedrock Consortium BoD.
  - b. MUST submit a monthly summary report of activity to the Bedrock Consortium BoD via either:
    - a. An oral report given during the monthly BoD meeting with a written summary added to the BoD Meeting Page.
    - b. A written report added to or linked to the BoD Meeting Page
    - c. SHOULD send the same monthly report to the Steward mailing list.
2. The Secretary of the Bedrock Consortium BoD MAY request oral or written reports as needed.

# Ledger Access Policies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Bedrock Consortium Ledger Access Policies
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	Policies for reading and writing to the Bedrock Business Utility
Governed By	Bedrock Governance Framework Workgroup

## 1. DECLARATION OF INTENT

The Bedrock Business Utility ( "Bedrock Ledger" ) will operate with limited write access as specified by the Permissioned Write Access processing section declared herein.

The scope of these policies pertains to the full corpus of **Bedrock Ledger Environments**, namely all the ledgers associated with the Bedrock Ledger (i.e.: prod, test, dev).

## 2. RECOMMENDED READING

The terms used in this Controlled Document are more fully explained in the [Glossary](#), as well as in the [Legal Architecture Overview](#) which includes a visual diagram.

One topic pertinent to ledger access is the concept of a [Tombstone](#). A Steward MAY, for regulatory or individual business requirements, determine that it needs to forbid access to a ledger entry and therefore require the ability to mark the subject entry as "deleted". While the Bedrock Consortium has taken action to minimize such risk by prohibiting public write access, a *Tombstone* provides an added protection mechanism that will help mitigate risk for Stewards who are contractually obligated to carry out read and write transactions.

As a trusted utility within the Sovrin Network, **the Bedrock Ledger will allow for Tombstones once this feature is implemented in Hyperledger Indy**. The Bedrock Consortium will collaborate with the [Sovrin Technical Governance Board](#) to allow a Steward to:

1. Mark a Transaction as "deleted" thereby suggesting it should no longer be returned in response to requests for read access.
2. Declare a Transaction as "deleted" under one of two categories: *Node-Specific Tombstone* or a *Ledger-Wide Tombstone*.

Tombstones do not modify data on the ledger. Instead they impact the behavior of a Steward Node that serves data from the ledger. In the general, a Tombstone MAY be used by a Steward that is forced to comply with a legal demand to stop returning a specific Transaction, such as a Transaction containing data that is locally considered Personal Data or that is illegal or violates the Transaction Author Agreement in some other way. In such a case, other Stewards may not face the same legal demands and may take different action.

## 1. Transaction Author Agreement

1. The Bedrock Consortium MUST:
  - a. Publish a Transaction Author Agreement between a Transaction Author and the Bedrock Consortium (representing the Bedrock Business Utility as a whole) specifying the terms and conditions under which Transaction Authors agree to submit write Transactions to the Bedrock Ledger, including the policies defined in this Controlled Document.
  - b. Publish a Steward Data Processing Agreement (DPA) specifying the requirements for a Steward to serve as a Data Processor on behalf of

Transaction Authors as Data Controllers and the Bedrock Consortium as a Designated Data Controller.

- c. When necessary, revise the Transaction Author Agreement and the Steward DPA under the same policies as a Controlled Document as specified in the [Governance](#) section of the Bedrock Governance Framework Master Document.
  - d. Maintain a published version of the Transaction Author Agreement and the Steward DPA in the [Bedrock Consortium Code Repository](#).
2. A Transaction Author MUST agree not to submit Transactions that contain:
- a. Data that would violate the intellectual property rights of others.
  - b. Data that may not lawfully be written to the Bedrock Ledger, where the definition of applicable law in this context is provided in the Transaction Author Agreement.
3. A Transaction Author MUST agree not to submit a Transaction that contains Personal Data.
4. A Transaction Author MUST agree that if it is determined in a court of law that one or more Transactions made by the Transaction Author violated the terms and conditions of the Transaction Author Agreement, the Transaction Author consents to the marking of those Transactions with a Tombstone and, if possible, the revocation of the State Proof(s) pertaining to the Bedrock Ledger data for those Transactions.

## 2. Transaction Endorser Agreement

1. The Bedrock Consortium MUST:
- a. Publish a Transaction Endorser Agreement between the Transaction Endorser and the Bedrock Consortium specifying the terms and conditions under which Transaction Endorsers agree to write Transactions to the Bedrock Ledger, including the policies defined in this Controlled Document.
  - b. Publish a Transaction Endorser Data Processing Agreement (DPA) specifying the requirements for a Transaction Endorser to serve as a

Data Processor on behalf of Transaction Authors as Data Controllers and the Bedrock Consortium as a Designated Data Controller.

- c. When necessary, revise the Transaction Endorser Agreement and the Transaction Endorser DPA under the same policies as a Controlled Document as specified in the [Governance](#) section of the Bedrock Governance Framework Master Document.
  - d. Publish the current version of the Transaction Endorser Agreement and the Transaction Endorser DPA in the [Bedrock Consortium Code Repository](#).
2. A Transaction Endorser MUST adhere to membership entitlements that constrain the number of transactions that may be submitted as specified in the Transaction Endorser Agreement.
  3. A Transaction Endorser MUST:
    - a. Only submit Transactions from Transaction Authors who have explicitly agreed to the Transaction Author Agreement by physically signing a copy.
    - b. Maintain physical or digital evidence of conformance to this policy.

### 3. Permissioned Write Access

1. The scope of the policies defined in this section is defined as follows:
  - a. The policies in this section MUST apply to all Bedrock Ledger Environments.
  - b. The policies governing write access to non-production Bedrock Ledger Environments (i.e.: Dev, Test) MAY be defined separately by other Controlled Documents.
2. Bedrock Consortium Trustees are permitted to write Transactions to the Bedrock Ledger under the following rules:
  - a. This policy MUST apply only to Trustees acting in their role as Trustees of the Bedrock Consortium.

- b. A Trustee MUST only make the following Transactions if the Transaction has been approved by a motion of the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.
    - i. Add or remove a Trustee.
    - ii. Add or remove a Steward.
    - iii. Add or remove a Transaction Endorser.
    - iv. Update the Membership Management System.
  - c. A Trustee MAY make Bedrock Ledger maintenance Transactions if the Transaction is approved by either the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.
3. Bedrock Consortium members who are permitted to serve in the role of Transaction Endorsers MUST agree to the Transaction Endorser Agreement by submitting a physically or digitally signed copy to the Bedrock Consortium.
4. Transaction Authors are permitted to write Transactions to the Bedrock Ledger provided::
- a. Each Transaction includes a valid digital signature from the Transaction Author.
  - b. The Transaction is endorsed by an approved Transaction Endorser.
  - c. If the Transaction updates the state of a ledger-persisted data structure, it MUST be digitally signed by the same Transaction Author that recorded the previous state.

## 4. Public Write Access

- 1. Public Write Access is PROHIBITED.
- 2. All Bedrock Ledger Environments MUST adhere to Permissioned Write Access processing.

## 5. Public Read Access

1. The Bedrock Ledger MUST be publicly available for anyone to submit read transactions.
2. Stewards MUST provide public read access without cost for all Transactions on the Bedrock Ledger unless marked by a Tombstone.
3. Once Tombstone functionality has been:
  - a. implemented by the underlying ledger technology,
  - b. approved by the Sovrin Technical Governance Board, and
  - c. approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors, a Steward MAY mark a Transaction as a Node-Specific Tombstone if:
    - i. Requested by the Transaction Author of a Transaction for a valid reason as specified by the Transaction Author Agreement.
    - ii. Required of the Steward by a court order.
    - iii. The Steward has evidence that the Transaction violates the terms and conditions of the Transaction Author Agreement.
4. A Steward MUST NOT use a Node-Specific Tombstone for any other reason.
5. Ledger-Wide Tombstones MUST NOT be implemented until policies governing their usage are published in a future version of this Controlled Document. NOTE: Ledger-Wide Tombstones are not planned in the near future.

# Ledger Data Policies

## Ledger Data Policies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Bedrock Ledger Transaction Data
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	Data and metadata processed by Nodes operated by Stewards in the course of completing a Transaction with the Bedrock Business Utility.
Governed By	Sovrin Technical Governance Board

## Ledger

This document assumes that Member Validator Nodes ("Nodes") are all running instances of [Hyperledger Indy](#) as the distributed ledger technology (DLT) that provides the underlying infrastructure for the Bedrock Business Utility ("the Ledger").

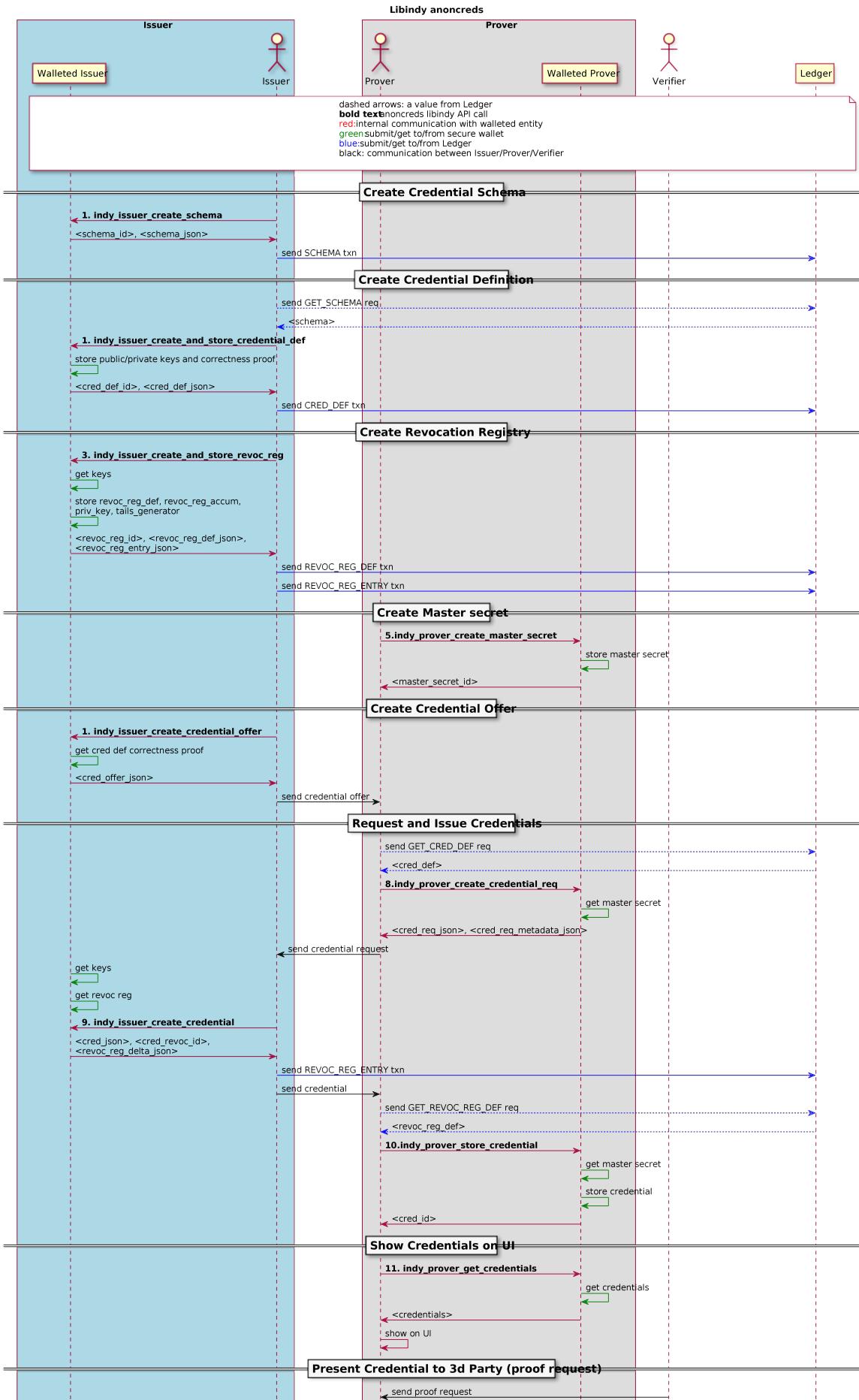
## Transaction Data

Data and metadata processed by Nodes operated by Members in the course of completing a transaction with the Ledger governed By Bedrock Consortium will conform to the following requirements:

1. **Ledger Transaction Data Definitions:** Comply with the authoritative definitions for transaction data stored on the Ledger as outlined in Hyperledger Indy GitHub repository documents at the following locations:
  - a. General Transaction Information
  - b. Domain Ledger Transactions
    - i. NYM
    - ii. ATTRIB
    - iii. SCHEMA
    - iv. CLAIM\_DEF
  - c. Pool Ledger Transactions
    - i. NODE
    - ii. Config Ledger Transactions
    - iii. POOL\_UPGRADE
    - iv. NODE\_UPGRADE
    - v. POOL\_CONFIG
2. **Ledger Transaction Requests:** The authoritative definition of requests for Transactions with the Ledger are maintained in the following Hyperledger Indy GitHub repository document:
  - a. Ledger Node Requests

## Anoncreds Workflow

The diagram below describes how and when data is written to the Ledger. For a detailed discussion pertaining to the processing of read and write transactions against the Ledger please refer to the [Anoncreds Workflow Process](#).



# Member Business Policies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Member Business Policies
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	Steward Qualification, Application, Activation, Operation, Notification, Suspension, Termination, and Transition
Governed By	Bedrock Governance Framework Work Group

## 1. Member Qualification

1. A Member MUST be a business organization registered to conduct business in at least one recognized Jurisdiction.
2. A Member MUST comply with the laws and regulations of the Jurisdiction(s) of which the Member is part or in which the Member is legally licensed to operate or registered to conduct business.
3. A Member MUST attest and provide supporting evidence to the Bedrock Consortium in the application or requalification process that the Member is:
  - a. Financially solvent.
  - b. Not undergoing any criminal proceedings.

4. A Member MUST belong to one of the following categories:

  - a. A governmental body or agency, or an entity predominantly owned and controlled by the state, in a Jurisdiction as defined in the Sovrin Glossary.
  - b. One of the following types of governmentally regulated institutions with at least five (5) years operating history:

    - i. Financial institution
    - ii. Healthcare provider
    - iii. Insurance company
  - c. A law firm, accounting firm, or other legally-regulated institution with at least five (5) years operating history.
  - d. A non-governmental organization (NGO) or Social Purpose Organization with at least five (5) years operating history.
  - e. An accredited university or other institution of higher education with at least five (5) years operating history.
  - f. A certificate authority (CA) with at least five (5) years operating history.
  - g. An Organization that does not qualify under one of the above categories but meets all of the following conditions:

    - i. Submits an application with written evidence satisfactory to the Bedrock Consortium that it meets all the other requirements in this section and is fully capable of complying with all the requirements of Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework.
    - ii. Includes in its application a written statement explaining why it supports the mission of the Bedrock Consortium and why it should be selected by the Consortium Board of Trustees as a Member.
    - iii. Agrees, contingent on its approval as a Member, to publish and maintain that written statement as a public document linkable on the Web.
    - iv. Receives approval to be a Member from the Bedrock Consortium Board of Trustees.

## 2. Application

1. The Bedrock Consortium Member application and selection process MUST:
  - a. Use the Core Principles of the Governance Framework as a guide, with special attention to the Decentralization by Design principles.
  - b. Be publicly documented on the Bedrock Consortium website.
2. To apply, an Organization MUST submit a written application to the Bedrock Consortium Governing Body responsible for Member applications as directed on the Bedrock Consortium website.
3. The Member application process MUST follow the guidelines for Self-Certification, Certification, or Accreditation as specified by the Bedrock Consortium Trust Assurance Framework.
4. In evaluating and prioritizing Member applications, the Bedrock Consortium MUST take into account:
  - a. Public contributions of any kind, including but not limited to open source engineering resources, efforts to drive Bedrock Consortium adoption, participation in Bedrock Consortium governance, marketing efforts, and direct financial contributions, that the prospective Member has made in the past to the Bedrock Consortium or the Sovrin Community.
  - b. Public contributions of any kind the prospective Member commits (in writing in its Member application) to making to the Bedrock Consortium or the Sovrin Community.
5. Any other specific Practices and Procedures involved in the Member application process MUST be publicly documented on the Bedrock Consortium website.

## 3. Activation

1. Before a Member may qualify to have an active Validator Node on the Bedrock Consortium Ledger, the Member MUST:
  - a. Have their application approved by the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body.

- b. Submit an executed copy of the Bedrock Consortium Member Agreement and receive a countersigned copy from the Bedrock Consortium.
  - c. Pass any required tests on the Bedrock Consortium Test Network as specified by the Technical Governance Board and documented in the Bedrock Consortium Code Repository.
- 2. After a Member has qualified to have an active Validator Node, the Member MUST designate the Bedrock Consortium Ledger network(s) (e.g., Bedrock Consortium Main Network, Bedrock Consortium Staging Network, Bedrock Consortium Builder Network, Bedrock Consortium Permissioned Test Network, etc.) in which their Node may be activated.
  - a. The Member MUST make this designation following the procedures specified by the Technical Governance Board.
  - b. The Member MUST designate activation in at least one Bedrock Consortium Ledger network.
  - c. The Member MAY designate activation in more than one Bedrock Consortium Ledger network.
  - d. If the Member designates its Node to be activated ONLY on the Permissioned Test Network, the Member MUST receive approval from the Bedrock Consortium Board of Trustees. Such approval MAY have a time limit or other requirements as determined by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Trustees.
  - e. The Member MAY change their designation but not more often than once every 90 days.
  - f. After a Member has made the designation in 3.2, but on or before the day on which the Validator Node is activated on any Bedrock Consortium Ledger network:
  - g. The Bedrock Consortium MUST list the Member's Public Profile information on the Bedrock Consortium website.
  - h. The Member MUST make a public announcement approved by the Bedrock Consortium that their Organization has been approved as a Bedrock Consortium Steward.
  - i. Although a Member may make an announcement about being approved as a Bedrock Consortium Member anytime after completing step 3.1.2, a

Member MUST NOT make any public announcement of their Node being live on the Bedrock Consortium Network prior to the day their Node is activated on at least one Bedrock Consortium Ledger network.

- j. A Member whose application has been approved by the Bedrock Consortium but whose Node does not qualify to be an active Validator Node within six months of the date of approval MUST requalify and be reapproved by the Bedrock Consortium prior to activation.

## 4. Operation

1. A Member MUST operate its Node in compliance with the Member Technical and Organizational Policies.
2. A Member MUST requalify at least annually via the requalification process in effect at that point in time as specified by the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body and documented on the Bedrock Consortium website.

## 5. Notification

1. A Member MUST maintain current contact information for its business and technical points of contacts sufficient to ensure its staff are reachable in a timely manner.
2. A Member MUST notify the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body if:
  - a. There is a change to the beneficial ownership of its Organization.
  - b. There is a change to the Member's legal name, trademark, or logo.
  - c. The Member changes the values of any of the Member's attributes submitted in the Member's original application, including legal jurisdiction, legal status, Node location, Node hosting type, or Node technical specifications, that are material to the Node Selection Algorithm.
  - d. There is any other substantial change to its Organization that impacts the qualification criteria in the Member Qualification section.

- e. It suffers a data breach or other public event which may reasonably call into question its ability to comply with the Governance Framework.
3. In the case of any of the changes listed in #2 above, the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MAY require the Member to requalify.
4. The Bedrock Consortium MUST provide Members with at least 30 days notification of any material changes to the business policies implemented in Bedrock Consortium Network environments. Notification about technical changes is covered under Bedrock Consortium Member Technical and Organizational Policies .

## 6. Suspension

1. A Member MUST be suspended by the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body under any of the following conditions:
  - a. The Member no longer complies with the Member Business Policies, Member Technical and Organizational Policies, or any other requirements of the Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework.
  - b. The Member's Node has failed to achieve 98% availability over a period of 30 days.
  - c. A security intrusion or violation has been reported and the Technical Governance Board is not satisfied that the Member has performed adequate remediation.
  - d. The Member fails to requalify under its annual requalification process specified in section 4.
  - e. The Member has, in the sole judgment of the Bedrock Consortium Board of Trustees, violated some or all of the Governance Framework principles, taken action against the purpose of the Bedrock Consortium, or has shown behaviour contrary to the collective interest of the Bedrock Consortium or performed action that brought the Bedrock Consortium or the Consortium Network into disrepute.
2. A Member who is suspended MUST not have an active Node on any Bedrock Consortium Ledger network until such time as Member is able to provide

reasonable assurance to the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body that:

- a. The Member is back in compliance with all requirements of the Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework, and
  - b. The Member has the ability to maintain compliance for the foreseeable future.
3. At the request of a suspended Member, the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body MUST examine the Member's remediation efforts and make one of the following decisions:
    - a. Reactivate the Member.
    - b. Request further remediation by the Member.
    - c. Terminate the Member.

## 7. Termination

1. A Member who has breached the terms of the Bedrock Consortium Member Agreement MAY be terminated by a majority vote of the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body with ratification by the Board of Trustees.
2. A Member who has been suspended and not been reactivated within 180 days following suspension MUST be notified of automatic termination.
3. An Organization who has been previously terminated as a Member and who applies to be reinstated MUST disclose the previous termination in their application and explain the remediation steps that the Member has taken to requalify.

## 8. Transition

1. Founding Members (Members who were approved under the Bedrock Consortium Provisional Trust Framework and executed the Consortium's Founding Member Agreement) MUST execute the new Bedrock Consortium Member Agreement and Member Data Processing Agreement after it is approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Trustees and before midnight

UTC on 31 January 2021 (the “Founding Member Deadline”) in order to continue as an approved Founding Member.

2. A Founding Member who does not execute the new Bedrock Consortium Member Agreement by the Founding Member Deadline shall no longer be a Founding Member but MAY reapply to become a standard Member as specified in the Application section.
3. During the transition period between approval of the Governance Framework and the Founding Member Deadline, any Founding Member who has not executed the new Bedrock Consortium Member Agreement and Member Data Processing Agreement SHOULD disconnect their Node from the Bedrock Consortium Main Network until such time as the Member has executed the new Bedrock Consortium Member Agreement and Member Data Processing Agreement and received the countersigned copy back from the Bedrock Consortium.

# Member Technical and Organizational Policies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Member Technical and Organizational Policies
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	General Security Policies, Node Technical Policies, General Security Policies, Node Security Policies, Operating Policies, Node Selection Algorithm, Permissioned Test Network Policies, Reporting Policies
Governed By	Bedrock Governance Framework Work Group, <a href="#">Sovrin Technical Governance Board</a>

## 1. Ledger Software Policies

1. The Bedrock Board of Directors MUST decide the software technology and version used by all Nodes (Validator, Observer). This software is referred to as the Bedrock Open Source Code.
2. The Bedrock Board of Directors MAY leverage the Sovrin Technical Governance Board (TGB) or another 3rd party service to maintain a version of the Bedrock Open Source Code.

## 2. General Security Policies

1. A Member (Founding Steward/Steward/Subscriber) MUST maintain and follow IT security policies and practices that are integral to maintaining protection of all services provided in association with the Bedrock Consortium Member Agreement (“Member Services”). These policies MUST be mandatory for all employees of the Member involved with providing the Member Services. The Member shall designate its CIO or another officer to provide executive oversight for such policies, including formal governance and revision management, employee education, and compliance enforcement.
2. A Member MUST review its IT security policies at least annually and amend such policies as the Member deems reasonable to maintain protection of its Member Services.
3. Because Node administrators are a potential threat vector, a Member MUST maintain and follow its standard mandatory employment verification requirements for all new hires involved with providing its Member Services and will extend such requirements to wholly-owned subsidiaries involved with providing its Member Services. In accordance with the Member's internal process and procedures, these requirements MUST be periodically reviewed and include, but may not be limited to, criminal background checks, proof of identity validation, and additional checks as deemed necessary by the Member. Each Member company is responsible for implementing these requirements in its hiring process as applicable and permitted under local law.
4. Employees of a Member involved with providing its Member Services MUST complete security and privacy education annually and certify each year that they will comply with the Member's ethical business conduct, confidentiality, security, privacy, and data protection policies. Additional policy and process training MUST be provided to persons granted administrative access to components that are specific to their role within the Member's operation and support of its Member Services.

5. If a Member hosts its Node in its own data center, the Member's security policies MUST also adequately address physical security and entry control according to industry best practices.
6. If the Member hosts its Node using a third-party Hosting Provider, the Member MUST ensure that the security, privacy, and data protection policies of the Hosting Provider meet the requirements in this document.
7. A Member MUST make available to the Bedrock Consortium upon request evidence of stated compliance with these policies and any relevant accreditations held by the Member, including certificates, attestations, or reports resulting from accredited third-party audits, such as ISO 27001, SSAE SOC 2, or other industry standards.

### 3. General Node Policies

A Member Node:

1. MUST be available to run as a Validator Node or Observer Node on any of the formal ledgers associated with the Bedrock Ledger Environments.
2. MUST run a release of the Bedrock Open Source Code that has been approved and designated by the Bedrock Board of Directors and Sovrin Technical Governance Board (TGB).
3. MUST facilitate an upgrade to a new version of the Bedrock Open Source Code within three (3) business days of a new release that has been:
  - a. recommended by the TGB, and
  - b. accepted by the Bedrock Consortium.
4. MUST register all Node configuration data required by the Pool Ledger in a timely manner, keeping information up to date within three (3) business days of changes.
5. MUST have at least two (2) IT-qualified persons assigned to administer the node, and at least one other person that has adequate access and training to administer the Node in an emergency, such as the network being unable to reach consensus or being under attack. See the TGB regarding specific Crisis Management Plan details.

6. MUST supply contact info for all administrators to the Bedrock Consortium, whose accuracy is tested at least quarterly (e.g., by sending an email and/or text that doesn't bounce).
7. MUST maintain a system backup or snapshot or image such that recovering the system from failure could be expected to take one hour or less.

## 4. Node Technical Policies

For all ledgers within the Bedrock Ledger Environments list, the following requirements apply to Nodes on the `prod` instance of the BBU. These requirements may be downgraded from MUST to SHOULD for any Nodes on ledgers that are for non-production purposes.

1. MUST run on robust server-class hardware.
2. If a Node is run on a VM, the Member:
  - a. MUST run on a mainstream hypervisor that receives timely patches from its vendor or community.
  - b. SHOULD apply hypervisor patches on a regular basis.
3. The Node MUST run in an OS that is dedicated to the validator, i.e., a single-purpose (physical or virtual) machine that MUST run Bedrock Open Source Code, MAY run other software approved by the TGB, and MUST NOT run any other software. Software required to support the node, such as monitoring, backup, and configuration management software, are approved as a general category. However, Members should discuss with the TGB any software packages that transmit between the Member Node and the outside.
4. MUST run a server with compatible versions of the operating systems supported by the Hyperledger Indy Node requirements as documented in the release notes.
5. MUST have adequate compute power (in late 2019, 8 or more cores is considered adequate).
6. MUST have adequate RAM (in late 2019, 32 GB of RAM is considered adequate).

7. MUST have at least 1 TB, with the ability to grow to 2 TB, of reliable (e.g., RAIDed) disk space, with an adequately sized boot partition.
8. MUST have a high-speed connection to the internet with highly available, redundant pipes (as of late 2019, 100 Mbps was considered adequate).
9. MUST have at least one dedicated NIC for BBU Validator Node consensus traffic, and a different NIC to process external requests. Each NIC must have a stable, static, world-routable IP address.
10. MUST be implemented in a way that does not endanger Bedrock's high availability architecture, which is pool-based rather than node-based. Nodes should not take more responsibility for high availability than what is contemplated by the Node Selection Algorithm. For example, they should listen at exactly one pair of network addresses (see 3.9 above), using exactly one set of keys to respond to BBU/Indy protocol traffic at any one time, and adhere to a minimal failover recovery delay period specified by the Bedrock Consortium (or 30 seconds if not specified).
11. MUST have a system clock that is demonstrably in sync with well-known NTP servers.
12. SHOULD have a power supply consistent with high availability systems.

## 5. Node Security Policies

A Member:

1. MUST maintain Member keys on a separate machine from the machine that runs their node. This machine, called the “CLI (Command Line Interface) system”, uses Member keys to authorize the Node to participate in the pool, and is thus the basis for trust for the node and the Member's identity on the network. The CLI system is not required to have high-end hardware, but in terms of IT best practices for security , it must meet or exceed the standards for the Node (see following items).
2. MUST provide certification that their Node runs in a locked datacenter with appropriate levels of security, including the specifications that they target (e.g., SSAE 16 type II compliance; other standards may also be acceptable).

3. MUST assert that their Node is isolated from internal systems of a Member (because the Validator Node is publicly visible and thus an inappropriate candidate for access to privileged internal networks).
4. MUST assert that their Node, and its underlying systems, uses state-of-the-art authentication for remote access (at least SSH with key plus password plus source IP firewall rule, and two-factor authentication wherever possible).
5. MUST NOT allow access (remote or local) to the Node or CLI systems by anyone other than assigned admins.
6. MUST apply the latest security patches within one (1) week or less (24 hours or less is recommended).
7. MUST attest that the Node runs on a server protected by a firewall that, at minimum:
  - a. Disallows public ingress except on ports used by the Node software (different machines may choose to expose ledger features on different ports, so no standard port setup is required).
  - b. Optionally enables SSH, Remote Desktop, and similar remote access tools but constrains ingress for these tools in some way that excludes the public but allows access for admins.
  - c. Locks down egress ports to limit the ability to jump from Node to some other location.
8. MUST run the Member security check tool as requested, and MUST receive TGB approval of the results before the Node is authorized to participate in consensus.
9. MUST run the Member security check tool from time to time as requested by the TGB and provide the test results report to the TGB within three (3) business days.

## 6. Node Operating Policies

A Member:

1. MUST equip at least two (2) technical points of contact responsible for administering the Member Node with an SMS-capable device for alerting.

2. SHOULD aim to achieve at least 99.9% (three nines) uptime for their Node (this amounts to about 1.4 minutes of downtime per day or 9 hours per year).
3. SHOULD coordinate downtime with other Members in advance via a mechanism as determined from time to time by agreement between the TGB and any other relevant Bedrock Consortium Governing Body.

## 7. Node Selection Algorithm

1. The TGB will take direction from the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors, or a designated Bedrock Workgroup, regarding the configuration parameters associated with the deployment of the Node Selection Algorithm.
2. The selection of active Validator Nodes at any point in time, at least on the BBU, MUST be governed by the Node Selection Algorithm.
3. Non-technical inputs or policy decisions implemented by the Node Selection Algorithm MUST be approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.
4. At any point in time, the Node Selection Algorithm MUST represent the TGB's best efforts at designing an algorithm that applies the Core Principles of the Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework. Recognizing the inherent tension and tradeoffs between some of the Core Principles, the design of this algorithm should give priority to balancing:
  - a. The Decentralization by Design principles, in particular the principles of Diffuse Trust and High Availability.
  - b. The Security by Design principles, in particular the principles of System Diversity and Secure Failure.
5. A human-readable, understandable, and explainable description of the current design of the algorithm as approved by the TGB MUST be published by the TGB in the official Sovrin Foundation Code Repository and made visible to all Members via a web page on the Bedrock Consortium website.

## 8. Reporting Policies

1. A Member MUST report to the responsible Bedrock Consortium Governing Body any substantive change to the configuration or location of a Node within five (5) business days of the change.

# Endorser Business Policies

## Transaction Endorser Business Policies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Transaction Endorser Business Policies
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	Operational Requirements, Contractual Obligations, Author Vetting
Governed By	Bedrock Governance Framework Work Group, <a href="#">Sovrin Technical Governance Board</a>

## General

All members that are approved to be *Transaction Endorsers* must adhere to the procedures and policies outlined herein.

## Operational Requirements

1. They are **obligated to use Network approved endorser software and accountable for vetting the entities**, and *Transaction Authors*, that submit write requests.

# Contractual Obligations

## 1. Founding Stewards

- Sign Transaction Endorser Agreement
- Sign Transaction Endorser DPA Agreement

## 2. Stewards

- Sign Transaction Endorser Agreement
- Sign Transaction Endorser DPA Agreement

## 3. Subscribers

- Sign Transaction Endorser Agreement
- Sign Transaction Endorser DPA Agreement

# Transaction Author Vetting

## 1. Ensure the Transaction Author has signed the Bedrock Consortium Transaction Author Agreement

# Endorser Technical and Organizational Policies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Endorser Technical and Organizational Policies
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	General Security Policies, Node Technical Policies, General Security Policies, Node Security Policies, Operating Policies, Node Selection Algorithm, Permissioned Test Network Policies, Reporting Policies
Governed By	Bedrock Governance Framework Work Group, <a href="#">Sovrin Technical Governance Board</a>

## 1. General Security Policies

1. Transaction Endorser MUST maintain and follow IT security policies and practices that are integral to maintain protection of all services provided in association with the Transaction Endorser Agreement (“Endorser Services”). These policies MUST be mandatory for all employees of the Endorser involved with providing the Endorser Services. The Transaction Endorser shall designate its CIO or another officer to provide executive oversight for such policies, including formal governance and revision management, employee education, and compliance enforcement.

2. Transaction Endorser MUST review its IT security policies at least annually and amend such policies as the Endorser deems reasonable to maintain protection of its Endorser Services.
3. Transaction Endorser MUST maintain and follow its standard mandatory employment verification requirements for all new hires involved with providing its Endorser Services and will extend such requirements to wholly-owned subsidiaries involved with providing its Endorser Services. In accordance with the Transaction Endorser's internal process and procedures, these requirements MUST be periodically reviewed and MUST include, but may not be limited to, criminal background checks, proof of identity validation, and additional checks as deemed necessary by the Transaction Endorser. Each Transaction Endorser company is responsible for implementing these requirements in its hiring process as applicable and permitted under local law.
4. Employees of a Transaction Endorser involved with its Endorser Services MUST complete security and privacy education annually and certify each year that they will comply with the Transaction Endorser's ethical business conduct, confidentiality, security, privacy, and data protection policies. Additional policy and process training MUST be provided to persons granted administrative access to components that are specific to their role within the Transaction Endorser's operation and support of its Endorser Services.
5. If a Transaction Endorser performs its Endorser Services in its own data center, the Transaction Endorser's security policies MUST also adequately address physical security and entry control according to industry best practices.
6. If a Transaction Endorser performs its Endorser Services using a third-party Hosting Provider, the Transaction Endorser MUST ensure that the security, privacy, and data protection policies of the Hosting Provider meet the requirements in this document.
7. Transaction Endorser MUST make available to the Bedrock Consortium upon request evidence of stated compliance with these policies and any relevant accreditations held by the Transaction Endorser, including certificates, attestations, or reports resulting from accredited third-party audits, such as ISO 27001, SSAE SOC 2, or other industry standards.

## 2. Security Incident Policies

1. Transaction Endorser MUST maintain and follow documented incident response policies consistent with NIST guidelines for computer security incident handling and will comply with data breach notification terms of the Transaction Endorser Agreement.
2. Transaction Endorser MUST investigate unauthorized access of which the Transaction Endorser becomes aware (security incident), and the Transaction Endorser will define and execute an appropriate response plan. The Bedrock Consortium may notify the Transaction Endorser of a suspected vulnerability or incident by submitting a technical support request.
3. Transaction Endorser MUST notify the Bedrock Consortium without undue delay upon confirmation of a security incident that is known or reasonably suspected by the Transaction Endorser to affect the Consortium. The Transaction Endorser will provide the Bedrock Consortium with the reasonably requested information about such security incident and the status of any of the Transaction Endorser remediation and restoration activities.

## 3. General Technical Policies

In performing its Endorser Services, Transaction Endorser MUST:

1. Comply with all relevant Bedrock Consortium Ledger Access Policies.
2. Follow any additional guidelines published by the Technical Governance Board on the Bedrock Consortium website or github site.

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# Economic Policies

## Economic Policies

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Economic Policies
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	Membership, Incentives, Regulatory Compliance
Governed By	Bedrock Governance Framework Work Group

## Membership

The Bedrock Consortium MUST establish economic procedures that will achieve the following:

### 1. Procurement

- a. Collection of membership dues.
- b. Sale and renewal of Subscription plans.
- c. Membership management and ledger transaction usage that track membership entitlements and status. See [Membership Management System](#).

### 2. Currency

- a. All income MUST be denominated in U.S. Dollars (USD).

### 3. Publication

- a. All Bedrock Consortium subscription plan offerings SHOULD be publicly disclosed on the Bedrock Consortium website.
- b. The Bedrock Consortium SHOULD publish the current schedule of Membership Fees on the Bedrock Consortium website.

## Incentives

The Bedrock Consortium MAY provision economic incentives designed to for the following purposes:

1. To reward Developers, Agencies, or other Sovrin Community members to contribute to the Sovrin Open Source Code or to any other community asset of benefit to the Sovrin Foundation, the Sovrin Network, the Bedrock Business Utility or organizations such as the ToIP Foundation.

## Regulatory Compliance

The Bedrock Consortium MUST provide auditable information (IFRS, International Financial Reporting Standards) about all monetary collections and disbursements. **NEED TO VALIDATE**

# Certification Mark Policies

## Sovrin Trust Marks

1. The Sovrin Foundation MUST publish the set of Sovrin Trust Marks designated in this document on the Sovrin Foundation website together with:
  - a. A link to these policies governing their usage.
  - b. The Sovrin Trust Mark License.
  - c. Instructions for publishing a Self-Certification Page.

## Stewards

1. Stewards who are active as defined in Sovrin Steward Business Policies and whose application was approved:
  - a. Prior to approval of the Sovrin Governance Framework V2 by the Sovrin Board of Trustees MAY use the Sovrin Trust Mark designated for Founding Stewards under the terms of the Sovrin Steward Agreement.
  - b. After approval of the Sovrin Governance Framework V2 by the Sovrin Board of Trustees MAY use the Sovrin Trust Mark designated for Stewards under the terms of the Sovrin Steward Agreement.
2. Stewards who have been approved but are not yet active, or who are suspended or terminated as defined in Sovrin Steward Technical Policies , MUST NOT use the Sovrin Trust Mark.

## Agencies

1. Agencies who meet the requirements of Self-Certification according as defined in the Sovrin Trust Assurance Framework and who wish to signal that conformance publicly MUST do so by:
  - a. Using the Sovrin Trust Mark designated for Self-Certified Agencies under the terms of the Sovrin Trust Mark License.

- b. Publishing a Self-Certification Page.

## Developers

1. Developers who meet the requirements of Self-Certification as defined in the Sovrin Trust Assurance Framework and who wish to signal that conformance publicly MUST do so by:
  - a. Using the Sovrin Trust Mark designated for Self-Certified Developers under the terms of the Sovrin Trust Mark License.
  - b. Publishing a Self-Certification Page.

## Directory

1. The Sovrin Foundation MAY offer a public directory of Agencies, Developers, or other Sovrin Infrastructure Roles who meet the requirements of this Controlled Document.
2. Participation in such a public directory MUST be opt-in.
3. All listings in such a public directory that are based on Self-Certification MUST include a link to the Self-Certification Page.

# Trusted Network Policies

## Ecosystem of Trust

This is a Controlled Document of the Bedrock Governance Framework was approved by the Bedrock Consortium Board of Directors.

Document Name	Trusted Network Policies
Version	v0.9
Approval Date	
Status	Pre-Launch Phase: Governance Framework Development
Governs	General Trust Policies
Governed By	Bedrock Governance Framework Work Group

## Network Trust Perspective

The Bedrock Consortium strives to establish and position ledgers, such as the Bedrock Business Utility, to be reliable and trusted ledgers for businesses seeking to perform decentralized identifier verification tasks. However, each entity operating in the roles of issuer or verifier MUST arrive at their own independent determination of a trusted identity network.

## General Trust Policies

The Board of Directors for the Bedrock Consortium WILL work with the Sovrin Foundation to ensure that the Bedrock Business Utility is recognized as an approved ledger within the **Sovrin Ecosystem of Trust** (white-list).

# Architecture

## Introduction

The Bedrock Business Utility ("Ledger") is governed by the Bedrock Consortium as a dedicated public-permissioned blockchain. The nodes of this immutable ledger are hosted by a variety of businesses around the world, called Stewards. The Ledger is intended to enable Transaction Authors (see below) to publish decentralized identifiers (DIDs) and other cryptographic data structures required for the issuance and verification of digital credentials.

It is expected that the Ledger will be used primarily by businesses who have a need to issue these credentials. The credentials themselves are never written to the Ledger, so these issuers generally have no need to write data to the Ledger. This approach avoids issuers increasing risks associated with personal data under data protection regulations such as the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Canadian Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA), or the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA).

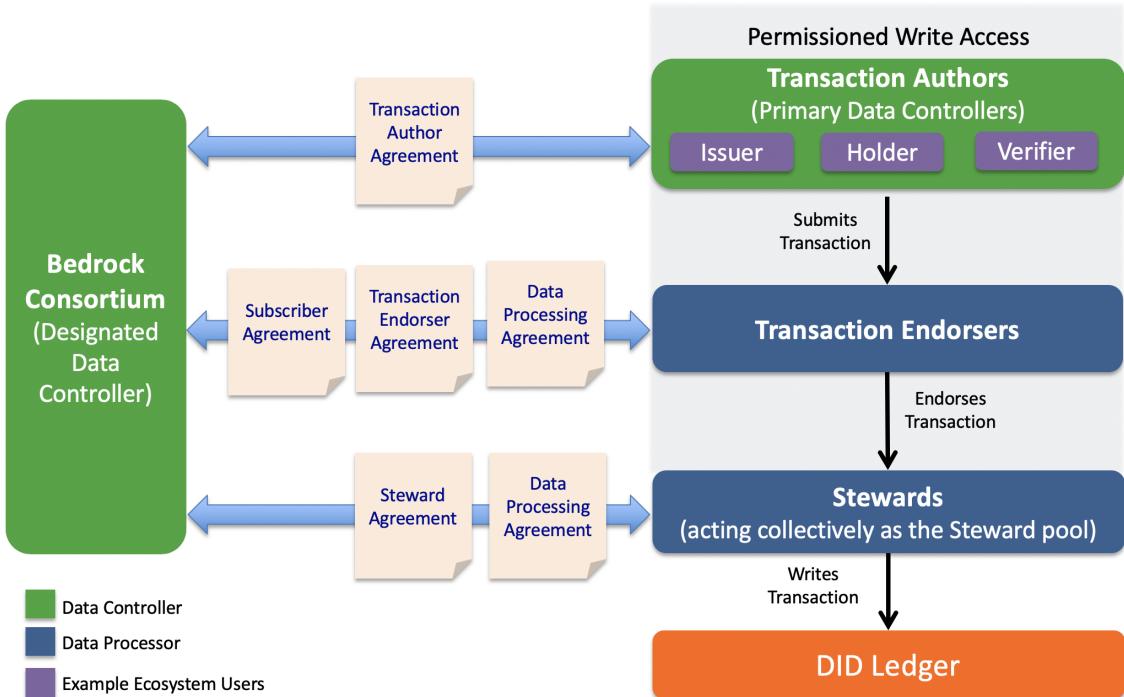
## GDPR Position Paper

The Sovrin Foundation in conjunction with its legal counsel [Perkins Coie](#) has published a white paper providing a detailed legal analysis of the applicability of the GDPR to the Sovrin Ledger and Sovrin Network. The Bedrock Consortium recognizes this work-product as prior art with applicability to any DID Ledger, especially those that are trusted within the [Sovrin Ecosystem of Trust](#). The [GDPR Position Paper](#) also assesses the data protection requirements of the higher layers (the Agent-to-Agent Protocol Layer and the Credential Exchange Layer).

## Legal Architecture

The following figure is a visual illustration of the key roles and agreements in the Bedrock Consortium's legal framework for regulatory compliance with data

protection laws. Although it uses terms from the GDPR, it is intended for compliance with data protection regulations generally.



The following sections explain the actors, roles, policies, and legal agreements depicted in this diagram. Note that formal definitions for all terms that appear in First Letter Capitals are provided in the [Glossary](#).

## Actors & Roles

### Bedrock Consortium

The Bedrock Consortium is an international subsidiary non-profit public trust organization chartered to provide governance for the Bedrock Business Utility. The Bedrock Consortium is responsible for development and maintenance of the Bedrock Governance Framework (BGF) that establishes the purpose, principles, and policies for operation of Bedrock Business Utility.

### Transaction Authors

A Transaction Author is any Organization who submits a Transaction to be written to the Ledger. As explained below, under the Permissioned Write Access

policies of the BGF currently in effect, only Organizations may write Transactions. Transaction Authors may write any data type supported by the Ledger – see [What Goes On The Ledger?](#)

## Transaction Endorsers

A Transaction Endorser is an Organization that has been approved by the Bedrock Consortium to endorse Transactions on behalf of Transaction Authors. The role of Transaction Endorser is specified by the Permissioned Write Access policies of the BGF. Transaction Endorsers add their digital signature to a Transaction so it will be accepted and written by the Stewards. Under the BGF, Transaction Endorsers must acquire unlimited or limited write access to the Ledger. Transaction Endorsers must enter into both the Transaction Endorser Agreement and the Transaction Endorser Data Processing Agreement with the Bedrock Consortium.

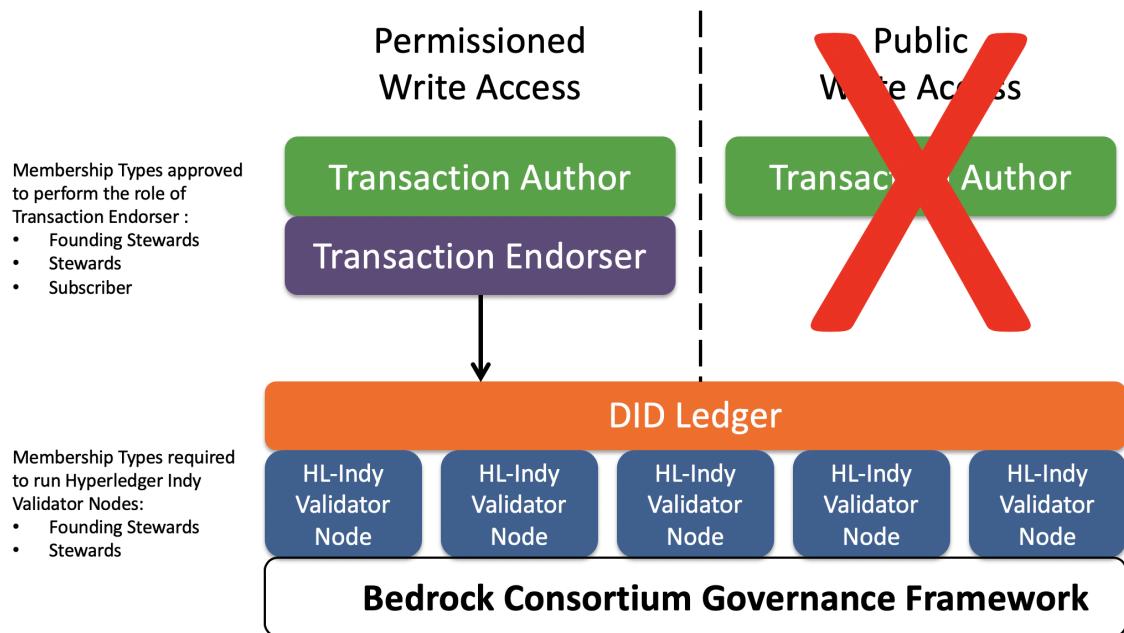
## Subscribers

Subscribers are trusted institutions who desire to participate in the Consortium as Transaction Endorsers who procure a limited number of write transaction units on an annual basis. Subscribers must enter into the Subscribers Agreement with the Bedrock Consortium. Subscribers must enter into the Transaction Endorser Agreement and the Transaction Endorser Data Processing Agreement with the Bedrock Consortium.

## Stewards

Stewards are trusted institutions who operate a Node of the Ledger. Stewards must meet the qualifications specified in Member Business Policies. Stewards must enter into both the Steward Agreement and the Steward Data Processing Agreement with the Bedrock Consortium. Stewards are automatically qualified to be Transaction Endorsers, however if they wish to assume that role they must separately enter into the Transaction Endorser Agreement and the Transaction Endorser Data Processing Agreement with the Bedrock Consortium.

# Sovrin Ledger Access Policies



## Permissioned Write Access

This is the set of policies that require Transaction Authors to obtain the endorsement of a Transaction Endorser in order to write a Transaction to the Ledger. There are two primary reasons for the Permissioned Write Access policy:

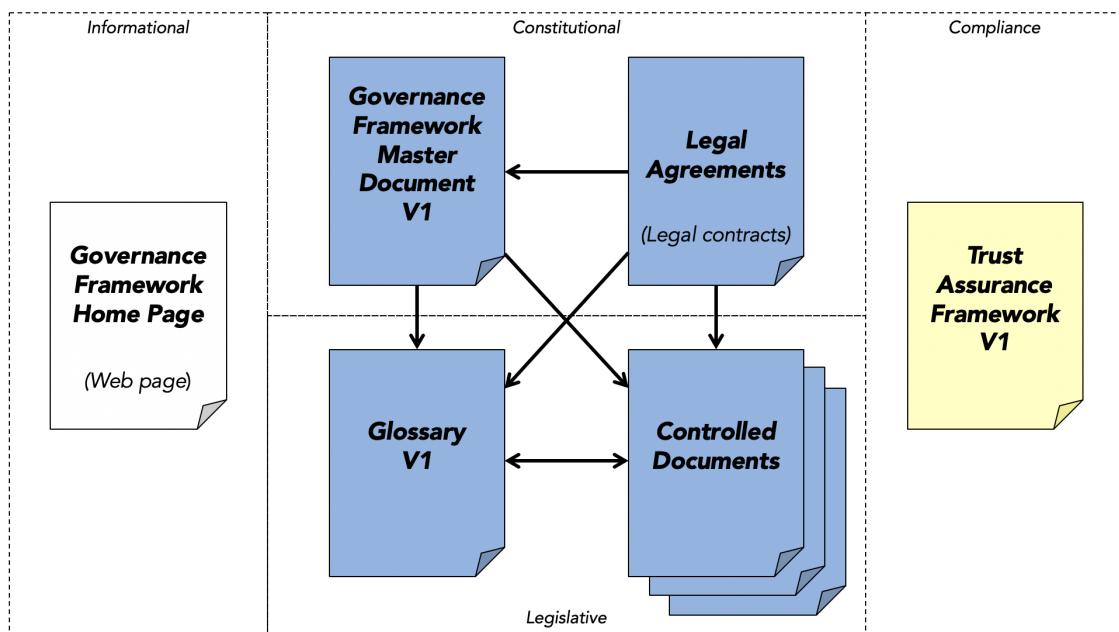
1. It protects the Ledger by requiring Transaction Endorsers, who have a direct contractual relationship with the Bedrock Consortium to enforce the Permissioned Write Access policies, to ensure that a Transaction Author Agreement is in effect and to leverage an allocated write unit as a form of payment for a Transaction. Write Units are acquired based on Membership Type.
2. It reduces the risk of Personal Data being written to the Ledger as that is currently prohibited under the Permissioned Write Access policies. The Bedrock Consortium feels this protection is necessary under the current regulatory uncertainty regarding Personal Data on an immutable public ledger. See the [GDPR Position Paper](#) for more details.

## Public Write Access

Under Public Write Access policies, the requirement of a Transaction Endorser signing a Transaction Authors request is eliminated; anyone would be able to write to the Ledger by following a programmatic process that aims to provide the necessary assurances against privacy compliance risks. **This form of access to the Ledger is prohibited under the BGF.**

## Legal Document Architecture

### Primary Legal Agreements



### Transaction Author Agreement

This is the contractual agreement between the Bedrock Consortium and all Transaction Authors. It has been developed specifically to protect the right of every Transaction Author to have and hold self-sovereign identity credentials while also protecting the Ledger and the infrastructure provided by the Bedrock Consortium as a global public utility. It is intended to give effect to the data protection rights of all Transaction Authors while recognizing the technical and security requirements of a public-permissioned immutable ledger. As part of the Transaction Author Agreement, every Transaction Author also agrees to be bound

by the terms and conditions applicable to the Transaction Author as a controller under the Steward Data Processing Agreement and the Transaction and the Transaction Endorser Agreement to include a Data Processing Agreement. The Ledger itself is the authoritative record of all Transaction Author Agreement signatures.

### **Transaction Endorser Agreement**

This is the contractual agreement between the Bedrock Consortium and all Transaction Endorsers. It is simpler than the Transaction Author Agreement because the scope is limited to enforcing the Permissioned Write Access policies, including verifying that Transaction Authors have executed the Transaction Author Agreement and paying the Ledger Fee for all endorsed Transactions. The Transaction Endorser Agreement requires that the Transaction Endorser separately execute the Transaction Endorser Data Processing Agreement and includes a current version of the Transaction Author Agreement as an Appendix.

### **Sovrin Steward Agreement**

This is the contractual agreement between the Bedrock Consortium and all Stewards. It covers all the rights and obligations of the Bedrock Consortium and Stewards under the Bedrock Governance Framework. The Steward Agreement requires that the Steward separately execute the Steward Data Processing Agreement.

## **Data Processing Agreements (DPAs)**

### **Transaction Endorser DPA**

This is the DPA required of all Transaction Endorsers acting as Data Processors for the Transaction Author as primary Data Controller and the Bedrock Consortium acting as the Designated Data Controller. It requires that the Transaction Endorser implement its own set of Technical and Organizational Measures (TOMs) that must meet or exceed the Transaction Endorser Technical and Operational Policies (TOPs) specified in the Bedrock Governance Framework.

## **Steward DPA**

This is the DPA required of Sovrin Stewards. It requires that the Steward implement its own TOMs that meets or exceeds the Steward TOPs.

## **Technical and Operational Policies (TOPs)**

### **Transaction Endorser TOPs**

This is the set of policies in the Bedrock Governance Framework that establish the minimum technical and organization policies and procedures that a Transaction Endorser must implement in its own Technical and Organizational Measures (TOMs) to provide adequate security, privacy, and data protection for Transaction Authors and the Bedrock Consortium.

### **Steward TOPs**

Similar to the Transaction Endorser TOPs, this is the set of policies in the Bedrock Governance Framework that establish the minimum technical and organization policies and procedures that a Steward must implement in its own Technical and OrganizationalMeasures (TOMs) to provide adequate security, privacy, and data protection for Transaction Authors and the Bedrock Consortium.

# Member Agreements

## Membership Agreements

Members are required to enter into contractual agreements with the Bedrock Consortium.

### Stewards

- [Steward Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)
- [Steward Data Processing Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)
- [Transaction Endorser Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)
- [Transaction Endorser Data Processing Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)
- [\*Optional\* Transaction Author Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)

### Subscribers

- [Transaction Endorser Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)
- [Transaction Endorser Data Processing Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)
- [\*Optional\* Transaction Author Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)

# Non-Member Agreements

## Non-Membership Agreements

Members are required to enter into contractual agreements between the Bedrock Consortium.

### Transaction Authors

- [Transaction Author Agreement \(MS-WORD\)](#)

# Trust Assurance

## Bedrock Trust Assurance Framework

### Introduction

The Bedrock Business Utility ("BBU") is intended to provide supporting infrastructure to maintain a sustainable permissioned identity utility that is structured as an enterprise safe-space and purpose built for trusted commerce.

Users of the BBU, namely Issuers and Verifiers of digital credentials, expect a level of assurance pertaining to the reliability and integrity of the ledger. Those users who are members of the Bedrock Consortium have a vested interest understanding the level of assurance that can be assigned to the BBU. Those users who seek public read-only access for verification purposes also desire an understanding the level of assurance to help set business verification policies but they do not have a stake in the n

### Assurance Requirements

The BBU aspires to ensure reliability, low processing latency, and a maximum uptime of the service. The Level of Assurance that can be asserted by the BBU Governance Framework will evolve over time depending on a number of factors including:

- Member Compliance
  - Adherence to technical and operating policies operating policies
  - Contract status
- Ledger Reliability
  - Probability that verification requests (ledger reads) will operate without failure for a specified number of transactions or for a specified period of time and within an acceptable response-time.

- Probability that transaction author requests (ledger writes) will operate without failure for a specified number of transactions or for a specified period of time and within an acceptable response-time.
- Ecosystem Trust Factor

As the BBU matures towards a production ready and actively used ledger, the degree of assurance measures that will be in place will vary.

### **Pre-Production Phase**

1. No assurances for public use (read transactions).
2. Membership status will be public through Bedrock Consortium website.

### **Early Production Phase**

1. No assurances for public use (read transactions).
2. Membership status will be public through Bedrock Consortium website.
3. Ledger Reliability expectations will be set and audit procedures will be established.
4. Proclamation of affiliation with the Sovrin Ecosystem will be public through the Sovrin Foundation and Bedrock Consortium websites.

### **General Production**

1. No assurances for public use (read transactions).
2. Membership status will be public through Bedrock Consortium website.
3. Ledger Reliability expectations will be set and audit procedures will be established.
4. Proclamation of affiliation with the Sovrin Ecosystem will be public through the Sovrin Foundation and Bedrock Consortium websites.

### **Versioning**

Each version of this document is tied to the BBU Governance Framework at a specific point of time.

## Terminology

All terms in First Letter Capitals that are not defined in this document (as called out in a specific section) are defined in the [Glossary](#).

## Purpose

The purpose of the BBU Trust AssuranceFramework is to identify:

1. The Trust Elements that Trust Actors assert in relationship to the BBU.
2. The The BBU Roles that assert and rely upon trust.
3. Generally-Accepted, Bedrock-Specific, or Domain-Specific Trust Criteria used in the evaluation of trust associated with the BBU.
4. The Trust Assertions that BBU Roles make against Trust Criteria.
5. The Trust Evidence that Trust Actors produce to create assurance regarding their trust assertions.
6. The Trust Mechanisms in place to assert and evaluate trust.
7. The process of Trust Governance whereby trust assertions are evaluated and deemed trustworthy, so they can be relied upon by Relying Parties (BBU Consumers).

## Level of Assurance

This document describes the Level of Assurance a Relying Party can derive from the BBU Governance Framework. This section defines the maximum level.

The BBU Governance Framework claims a **maximum** level of a **reasonable** Level of Assurance.

In May 2013, the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO)updated its [Internal Control—Integrated Framework](#) (the original framework). The original framework has gained broad acceptance and is widely used around the world. It is recognized as a leading framework for designing, implementing, and conducting internal control and assessing the effectiveness of internal control. Internal control is defined as follows:

Internal control is a process, effected by an entity's board of directors, management, and other personnel, designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of objectives relating to operations, reporting, and compliance.

This definition reflects certain fundamental concepts. Internal control is:

- Geared to the achievement of objectives in one or more categories—operations, reporting, and compliance
- A process consisting of ongoing tasks and activities—a means to an end, not an end in itself
- Effected by people—not merely about policy and procedure manuals, systems, and forms, but about people and the actions they take at every level of an organization to affect internal control
- Able to provide reasonable assurance—but not absolute assurance, to an entity's senior management and board of directors
- Adaptable to the entity structure—flexible in application for the entire entity or for a particular subsidiary, division, operating unit, or business process This definition is intentionally broad. It captures important concepts fundamental to how organizations design, implement, and conduct internal control, providing a basis for application across organizations that operate in different entity structures, industries, and geographic regions.

The [ICAEW definition of a reasonable assurance audit engagement](#) is: Where the practitioner needs to reduce the assurance engagement risk (the risk that an inappropriate conclusion is expressed when the information on the subject matter is materially misstated) to an acceptably low level as the basis for a positive form of expression of the practitioner's conclusion. Such risk is never reduced to nil and therefore, there can never be absolute assurance. Per the ICAEW guidance on management of risk and liability , relying parties may perceive less than reasonable assurance based on their evaluation of the BBU Governance Framework and the BBU Trust AssuranceFramework but not more.

## Trust Elements

The following Trust Elements guide the development of specific Trust Criteria asserted by Trust Actors in the BBU. These are based on the AICPA Trust Services Criteria based on COSO Internal Control - Integrated Framework, for use in attestation or consulting engagements to evaluate and report on controls over information and systems (a) across an entire entity; (b) at a subsidiary, division, or operating unit level; (c) within a function relevant to the entity's operational, reporting, or compliance objectives; or (d) for a particular type of information used by the entity.

- Security. Information and systems are protected against unauthorized access, unauthorized disclosure of information, and damage to systems that could compromise the availability, integrity, confidentiality, and privacy of information or systems and affect the entity's ability to meet its objectives.
- Availability. Information and systems are available for operation and used to meet the entity's objectives.
- Processing integrity . System processing is complete, valid, accurate, timely, and authorized to meet the entity's objectives.
- Confidentiality. Information designated as confidential is protected to meet the entity's objectives.
- Privacy. Personal information is collected, used, retained, disclosed, and disposed to meet the entity's objectives.

## BBU Roles Making Trust Assertions

The following BBU Roles make Trust Assertions with regard to the Trust Elements to Relying Parties within the Bedrock Community:

1. Bedrock Consortium (including the Board of Directors).
2. Steward.

## Trust Criteria

### **Bedrock-Specific Trust Criteria**

For the BBU Governance Framework, the only Trust Criteria in operation are self-developed by the Bedrock Consortium and appear in section 10 and in an Addendum to that document. It comprises governance Policies the Bedrock Consortium has set for itself and the [Bedrock Member Business Policies](#) and [Bedrock Member Technical Policies](#) it mandates for Stewards.

## Trust Evidence

Trust assertions are empty without evidence to support it. The following are examples of Trust Evidence that are used to support Trust Assertions for the BBU Governance Framework.

1. Signed Contracts.
2. Signed Agreements.
3. Configurations.
4. Signed Approvals.
5. Policies.
6. Procedures.
7. Logs. a. Security. b. Application. c. System. d. Database.

## Incident Records

For the BBU Governance Framework, see the Trust Assurance Matrix (Addendum) for the specific Trust Evidence used in this version of the BBU Trust AssuranceFramework.

## Trust Actors

The following is the set of Sovrin Entities who play a role in the Sovrin Governance Framework in assessing and opining on Trust Assertions in the Sovrin Network.

1. Bedrock Board of Directors. Issues the Policies within the Sovrin Governance Framework and has the right to approve and suspend Stewards from the Sovrin Network. It has the right to perform Self-Certification to evoke assurance from Relying Parties.
2. Stewards. Agree to the Sovrin Steward Agreement and perform Self-Certification of compliance with the Steward Business Policies and Steward Technical Policies.
3. Legal Authorities. Enforce laws in the Jurisdictions of the Sovrin Foundation and Stewards and mediates the Sovrin Steward Agreement if challenged.

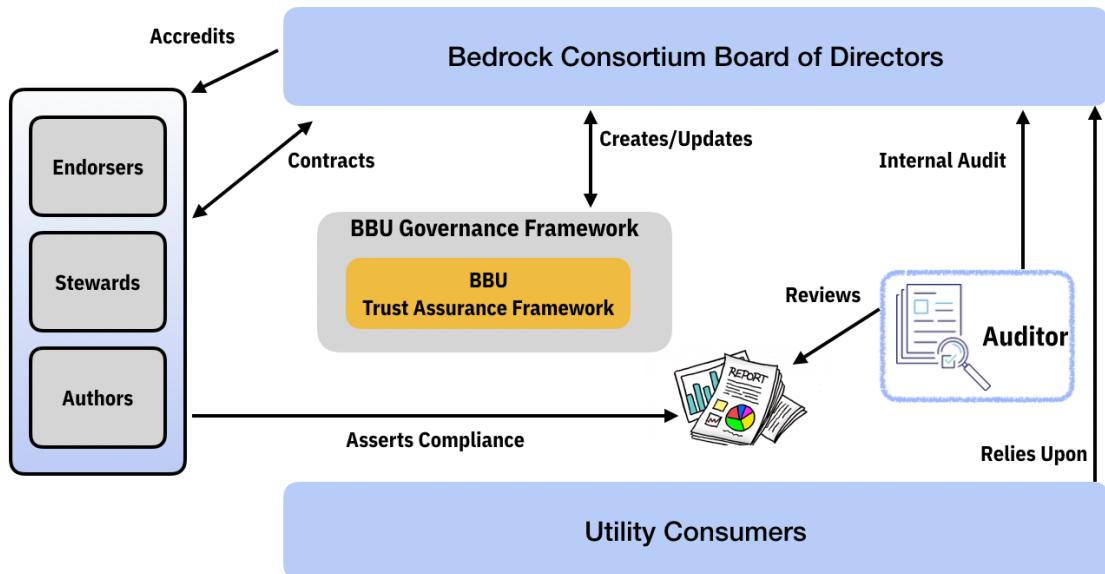
## Trust Mechanisms

The following are actions that the Sovrin Foundation takes to assert and assure trust:

1. Contracts and Agreements
2. Self-Assertion a. Sovrin Trust Criteria Compliance b. Legal Compliance

## Trust Governance

The following is a graphical and procedural depiction on how trust asserted from BBU Roles are currently received, assessed, and relied upon in the BBU.



For the BBU Governance Framework:

1. The Bedrock Board of Directors has established the BBU Governance Framework and this BBU Trust Assurance Framework. It has created its own Policies and those it requires of Stewards in their Role within the BBU.
2. The Bedrock Board of Directors requires members to sign the contractual instruments and perform Self-Certification that the member is compliant with the [Bedrock Member Business Policies](#) and [Bedrock Member Technical Policies](#). This Self-Certification is reviewed by the responsible Bedrock Governing Body and reported to the Bedrock Board of Directors prior to approval of the Steward.

## Trust Assurance Matrix

The BBU Trust AssuranceMatrix is a tabbed spreadsheet which correlates existing Bedrock Governance Framework Policy statements across BBU Governance Framework documents and relevant stakeholders. This matrix is the foundation of self and third-party audits needed to verify compliance to the Sovrin Governance Framework.

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# FAQ

**What is a financially incentive for a Steward to continue long-term participation?**

Each participating member will need to make an annual decision on the ROI of their investment.

It is assumed that some members will charge their clients for access to their entitlement transactions while others may not charge and include such access as a perk/benefit.

**Frequently asked question?**

Answer

**Frequently asked question?**

Answer

# Contact us

## Bedrock Business Consortium

### **Contact Board of Directors**

Email [bod@bbu.sovrin.org](mailto:bod@bbu.sovrin.org)

NOTE: Need to setup emails and or Google Groups/Forums

### **Contact Governance Framework Working Group**

Email [bbugf-wg@bbu.sovrin.org](mailto:bbugf-wg@bbu.sovrin.org)

### **Contact Identity Utility Administrator**

The Sovrin Foundation is the provider of administrative services to the Bedrock Business Consortium. Our Network Administrator is:

Name	Email	Phone
xxxxx	<a href="mailto:sovadmin@bbu.sovrin.org">sovadmin@bbu.sovrin.org</a>	999-999-9999