

Kantara Identity Assurance Framework: KIAF-1050  
 Glossary and Overview

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**Abstract**:

Kantara Initiative’s Identity Assurance Framework (KIAF) consists of policies, processes, reference materials and criteria which together define an Approval scheme for organizations operating services which provide Identity and Credential Management functions. Approval is based on independent third-party assessments, performed by Kantara-Accredited Assessors, of the subject services, to determine those services’ conformity to the applicable criteria.

This document provides a Glossary of terms used within the KIAF for the purposes of conveying specific meanings and an Overview of the KIAF and its constituent parts, both organizationally and in terms of the available reference documents.

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# SCOPE

This document addresses Kantara Initiative’s **Identity Assurance Framework** (**KIAF**) [3.8] and its principal components (glossary, roles, processes, and publications).

# INTRODUCTION

This document provides an overview of Kantara Initiative’s **KIAF** along with guidance as to where to gain further insight and understanding of the **KIAF**’s operations and the benefits accruing from participation within it. It also defines the terms in use within the **KIAF** and provides references and links to governing documents.

Terms in bold are defined in the [Glossary](#_GLOSSARY). Numbers shown in the main text after the first use of a defined term relate to its index number within the Glossary and provide a hyper-link to the definition.

# CHANGES IN THIS REVISION

V2.0 – This revision incorporates these material changes:

1. Updated definitions of full and component services
2. Added component service consumer
3. Updated approval flow from KIBoD to KI Executive Director
4. Updated Appeals Process

This revision incorporates non-material changes, including:

1. Updated formatting and links for accuracy

# GLOSSARY

The following definitions are for use across Kantara Initiative’s **KIAF**. They align to generally-accepted usage in the identity and credential management community and are used within the **KIAF** with their given specific meanings. Though there may be commonly-defined and named terms, or similar terms and/or definitions in this Glossary, Kantara Initiative makes no claim as to the value or legitimacy of these definitions in any other situation or context.

Simple principles have been employed in creating the definitions.

Firstly, a definition should be able to be expressed in a single sentence.

Secondly, although notes have been provided in some cases, the definition must not rely on the note to be understood (otherwise the first rule is broken).

**Thirdly, this is a Relational-order Glossary, in which definitions are presented in a relational (or dependency) order, respecting the rule wherein no definition may use another defined term unless that term has been previously defined. This serves to provide a ‘developing comprehension’ as definitions are read-through in a developing ‘story-line’. This also serves to ensure that, importantly, there are no circularities within the definitions.**

The definitions are:

## Identity Proofing

the function of collecting evidence [identity attributes] which supports a claim of identity [for a specific entity] and the validation and verification of that evidence so as to determine the veracity (or otherwise) of the claim.

## Proven Identity

an identity which has successfully passed the checks made during **Identity Proofing**.

## Credential Management

the functions of binding a **Proven Identity** to a credential, of confirming the legitimacy of a credential when it is put to use, and of managing the credential across its life-span.  
  
*Note -* **Credential Management** *can also be used in a broader, all embracing, sense, as a convenient term when the distinction is not relevant, to include the* **Identity Proofing** *function.*

## Component Service

a service providing a sub-set of **Identity Proofing** and/or **Credential Management** functions.

## Full Service

a service providing all **Identity Proofing** and/or all **Credential Management** functions.

## Credential Service

either a **Full Service** or a **Component Service**.

## Credential Service Provider

an organization which provides the functions of at least one **Credential Service**.   
Abbreviation: **CSP**.

## Component Service Consumer

an organization which may use the service functions provided by the **Component Service**   
which is the subject of an assessment.

*Note – the* **Component Service Consumer** *need not be a Kantara approved CSP nor have any relationship with Kantara. The purpose of this definition is to focus on how the* **Component Service** *being assessed deals with its consumer within the context of its assessment/approval.*

## Kantara Identity Assurance Framework

Kantara Initiative’s framework established for the purposes of assessing **Credential Services** so as to determine their conformity against a defined set of assessment criteria.  
Abbreviation: **KIAF**.

## Approval

recognition that a **Credential Service** has been subjected to a specific process and has been found to meet the **Kantara Identity Assurance Framework’s** applicable requirements concerning its operation and provision.

## Service Assessment Criteria

a formal set of requirements established as the basis on which **Approval** may be granted.  
Abbreviation: **SAC**.

## Statement of Criteria Applicability

a record of how individual criteria within selected **Service Assessment Criteria** sets specifically apply to a **Credential Service**.  
Abbreviation: **SoCA**.

## Pre-Approved Service

a **Component Service** which has been granted **Approval** and is being used to provide, for another **Credential Service,** fulfilment for those criteria defined in its own **SoCA (19)**.

## Approved Service

a **Credential Service** which has been granted **Approval**.

## Approved Service Provider

an organization which provides an **Approved Service**.  
Abbreviation: **ASP**  
  
*Note – this term may seem redundant, given the definition of an* ***Approved Service*** *and the implied relationship to credentials, but the term* ***Approved*** ***Service Provider*** *is used in some high-level* ***Kantara Identity Assurance Framework*** *specifications with the intention that they be applicable to a broader set of services which are approved under the* ***Kantara Identity Assurance Framework***.

## Assessment

a process of reviewing a **Credential Service** for conformity against **Service Assessment Criteria**.

## Assessor

an organization (or a representative thereof) which performs **Assessments**.

## Accreditation

recognition that an **Assessor** has been subjected to a specific process and has been found to meet the **Kantara Identity Assurance Framework**’s applicable requirements concerning its operation.

## Accredited Assessor

an **Assessor** which has been granted **Accreditation**.  
  
*Note – some of the* ***Kantara Identity Assurance Framework****’s documents will use ‘***Assessor***’ instead of ‘****Accredited Assessor****’ where it is contextually evident that the* ***Assessor*** *in question must be an* ***Accredited Assessor*** *in order to fill the described role. e.g., the ‘****Kantara Assessor’s Report****’ explicitly omits ‘****Accredited****’.*

## Class of Approval

**Approval** that can be granted on the basis of an **Assessment** against a defined set of **Service Assessment Criteria**.  
Abbreviation: **CoA**.

## Statement of Criteria Applicability

a record of how individual criteria within selected **Service Assessment Criteria** sets specifically apply to a **Credential Service**.  
Abbreviation: **SoCA**.

## Statement of Conformity

a record of an **Accredited Assessor**’s findings, after review of the **Credential Service Provider**’s evidence, as to the **Credential Service**’s conformity to those criteria which are designated as being in scope in the applicable **Statement of Criteria Applicability**.  
Abbreviation: **SoC**.   
  
*Note – The SoC may also act as a convenient repository for additional information such as the* ***Credential Service Provider****’s evidence of conformity to each criterion in scope, Assessor’s notes and other information pertinent to the current and possibly future assessments, but the definition addresses its essential purpose.*

## Kantara Assessor’s Report

a record prepared by an **Accredited Assessor**, for a **Credential Service Provider**, documenting their process and findings following the conclusion of an **Assessment**.  
Abbreviation: **KAR**.  
  
*Note – ‘conclusion’ is used in preference to ‘performance’, since the* ***Assessment*** *may not be fully performed, yet a report should be produced on the conclusion of an* ***Assessment*** *howsoever it ends.*

## Assurance

a declaration which gives confidence that specified processes have been assessed against defined criteria and, with all reasonable confidence, have been found conformant to those criteria.  
  
*Note – assurance as derived through the* ***KIAF*** *is that due processes were correctly and competently applied in the case of an* ***Approved Service*** *or an* ***Accredited Assessor****.*

## Assurance Review Board

the Kantara Initiative body charged by the Kantara Initiative Executive Director with responsibility for reviewing all submissions for **Approval** and for **Accreditation**, and for related activities and works.  
Abbreviation: **ARB**

## Identity Assurance Work Group

the Kantara Initiative body charged with responsibility for maintaining (i.e., drafting, reviewing and approving) the **Kantara Identity Assurance Framework**’s **Service Assessment Criteria**, and for related activities and works.  
Abbreviation: **IAWG**

## Level of Assurance

**Assurance** that the entity claiming a particular identity, is the entity to which that identity was assigned[[1]](#footnote-2) , based on the application of a defined minimum level of rigor expended in making that determination.  
Abbreviation: **LoA**

*Notes –*

1. *As an example, see* [*NIST SP 800-63 rev.*](https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-63/3/final)*2, although application of this term is not intended to be anchored to or limited by that referenced publication.*
2. *This term is used by multiple jurisdictions World-wide which may define alternative level specifications.*
3. *The term may also be used in a general context as a synonym for Assurance Level (AL).*

## Assurance Level

**Assurance** that the entity claiming a particular identity at a particular phase of a life-cycle, is deemed to be the entity to which that identity was assigned1, based on the application of a defined level of rigor expended in making that determination.   
Abbreviation: **AL**

*Notes: –*

1. *This definition is specific to* [*NIST SP 800-63 rev.3*](https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-63/3/final)*, which refers to Identity, Authentication and Federation* ***Assurance Levels****, abbreviated to IAL, AAL and FAL respectively, to identify the degree of confidence that the applicant’s claimed identity is their real identity (IAL), the degree of confidence in the authentication process (AAL), and the degree of confidence in the assertion protocol used by a federation to communicate authentication and attribute information (FAL).*
2. *The term may also be used in a general context as a synonym for Level of Assurance (LoA).*

## Applicant

an entity which presents, or is presented, for **Identity Proofing**.

## Subject

an **Applicant** which has had its **Proven Identity** bound to a credential.  
  
*Note – astute readers may observe that an* **Applicant** *is not considered to have undergone the state-change to* **Subject** *until binding has occurred. One could consider that an* **Applicant** *which exists in this ill-defined status between Applicant and Subject is a ‘***Proven Applicant**’*, since they have a* **Proven Identity** *which has yet to be made into a useful ‘thing’. Such a formal definition could easily be added if it is felt useful to do so. Conceptually, a ‘***Proven Applicant**’ *could be a logical parcel to share around until some other entity chooses to bind it to a ‘something’, so long as the proofing* **Credential Service** *can be authenticated as to establish the veracity of any such parcel.*

## Subscriber

a party that has entered into an agreement to use a **Credential Service**.  
  
*Note – a Subscriber might be an entity which seeks to have credentials issued for its members/employees, hence would relate to many Subjects, but as a sole individual applying for a service the concepts of Subscriber and Subject could refer to the same entity.*

## Claimant

an entity presenting a credential as the basis for proving itself to be the **Subject**.

## Authentication

the function of confirming the legitimacy of a **Claimant** [i.e., that the **Claimant** is indeed the **Subject** which it claims to be].

## Relying Party

an entity which determines its actions based upon an **Authentication** [regarding the **Subject** party or that party’s actions].  
Abbreviation: **RP**  
  
*Note – this is deliberately a very broad definition under which a* ***Relying Party*** *could be considered to be, e.g.:  
i) a regulatory body which sees no need to exercise its regulatory powers so long as the assurances are provided;  
ii) a* ***Credential* *Service Provider*** *wishing to secure the services of an* ***Accredited Assessor****;  
iii) a consumer of* an ***Approved Service*** *(which could be another* ***Credential Service Provider*** *if a component service is under consideration) which wishes to be confident that the provider of the service has been subjected to an independent assessment process against defined criteria.  
  
Other forms of* ***Relying Parties*** *can probably be described but hopefully the point is made.  
An alternative, narrower, definition would address only the third exemplar, and could be:  
“*an entity which chooses to determine its own actions based upon **Assurance** regarding an **Approved Service***”.*

## End User

a general purpose term for an entity which may require a credential to be bound to it or which may already have a credential bound to it and which is expected to participate in some form of transaction with a **Relying Party** or with a **Credential Service Provider**, without defining any particular status to the entity.

## Privacy Risk Assessment

an assessment of the current and projected risks to an individual’s privacy associated with the collecting, storing, processing and disclosing of information related to the individual.

## Proxy

a service which is established to receive authentication requests and transfer them to the destination authentication service (which may be represented by another **Proxy**) and to receive assertions for transference to the intended recipient RP (which may be represented by another **Proxy**).  
Syn. **Broker**.

## Broker

Syn. **Proxy**.

## Federation

at least one CSP whose service includes at least the provision of authentication functions and at least one RP plus any number of additional CSPs, RPs and Proxies that wish to exchange authentication and attribute information.

## Federation Agreement

documented provisions against which participants within a **Federation** have agreed to operate.

## Federation Authority

an entity responsible for establishing, maintaining and administering (including maintaining administrative records) the provisions of a **Federation Agreement**.  
  
*Note – this definition does not imply that a* ***Federation Agreement*** *must be under the governance of a* ***Federation Authority****, only that it could be. Such an agreement may be collectively prepared and implemented by a number of parties without a* ***Federation Authority***per se *being established.*

## Trust Status List

a published listing of all services **Approved** and all assessors **Accredited** under the auspices of the **Kantara Identity Assurance Framework**, and their respective statuses and validity.

# OVERVIEW OF THE KIAF

The primary objective of the **KIAF** is to provide **Assurance** [3.24] to a range of parties who have an interest in, and reliance upon, the degree of rigor applied to the management, operation and provisioning of electronic **Credential Services** [3.6]. Such services can be generally grouped into being either **Identity Proofing** [3.1] or **Credential Management** [3.3] services, operated as either in-house or out-sourced capabilities. **Identity Proofing** covers the functions necessary to establish the veracity of the claims of an **Applicant** [3.29] and **Credential Management** addresses the creation and binding of a credential to the proofed **Applicant**, the authentication of claims of being the **Subject** [3.30] identified by the credential, the storage and protection of the credential, the required publication of information concerning the credential, and the termination or destruction of the credential’s validity at the end of its defined life or earlier according to circumstances. The scope of the **KIAF** is bounded by these functions and the **KIAF** does not address events which take place once an authentication assertion has been provided to and accepted by a **Relying Party** [3.34]. In addition, the **SACs** supported at the time of this document’s release address only humans as **Subjects**.

Through its **KIAF,** Kantara Initiative grants **Approval** [3.8] for **Credential Services** and **Accreditation** [3.18] to **Assessors** [3.17], which meet the **KIAF**’s requirements.

The principal interested parties are organizations which need to have confidence in the asserted identity of persons and other entities with which they interact in their day-to-day operations. These interested parties are generally known as **Relying Parties (RPs)**. By accepting credentials and **Authentication**s [3.33] from **Identity Proofing** and **Credential Management** services which have been **Approved** [3.8] under the **KIAF**, those **RPs** will gain **Assurance** that the entities are using credentials which are issued and managed by **Identity Proofing** and **Credential Management** services that have been subjected to rigorous **Assessment** [3.16] by independent third parties, Kantara’s **Accredited Assessors** [3.19], following the **KIAF**’s defined processes and using published and peer-reviewed **Service Assessment Criteria (SAC)** [3.11].

Additional parties which stand to gain **Assurance** from the **KIAF** are:

1. Other providers of **Credential Services**;
2. Identity and Credential Federations, seeking to establish common levels and standards of inter-working and cooperation;
3. Regulatory and other oversight bodies; and
4. Standards Development Organizations.

Kantara Initiative and its **KIAF** are recognized by various bodies around the world, which include:

1. US Federal Identity, Credentialing and Access Management Architecture;
2. Government of Canada (Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat);
3. Government of New Zealand (Department of Internal Affairs);
4. ISO JTC 1 / SC 27 / WG5 (Identity management and privacy technologies);
5. Australian Government Digital Transformation Agency; and
6. ITU-T SG17 – Security.

The principles of operation of the **KIAF** are modeled on those described in ISO/IEC 17065 “Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying … services” (IS17065), at its latest published edition.

# BENEFICIARIES

The following stand to benefit by being part of the **KIAF**:

1. **Identity Proofing** and **Credential Management** Service Providers who have an established baseline of criteria which, if met, will demonstrate that they are operating and delivering their services in accordance with best practices which are defined by standards, **RPs** and other **Credential Service Providers (CSPs) [**3.4];
2. **RPs** who know what potential **Identity Proofing** and **Credential Management** services are claiming with regard to their Kantara and other standards conformity;
3. **Applicant**s for credentials, who recognize the formal **Approval** and the value it denotes, plus a guarantee that they know what they must do to be issued with a credential, prior to committing any of their personal informationto an **Identity Proofing** or **Credential Management** service;
4. Regulators, who find support from an industry body (such as Kantara Initiative) which is driven by multiple stakeholders in the Identity Proofing domain; and
5. All participants in the Kantara Identity Assurance Working Group can benefit by having their say in development of the Kantara **SAC** and procedures.

# KEY ROLES AND RELATIONSHIPS

## General

The figures in this section show the principal roles within the KIAF and the relationships between the entities in those roles. The following symbology is used:



Each of the entities and roles within these figures is explained below.

## Kantara Initiative Executive Director

## The ED

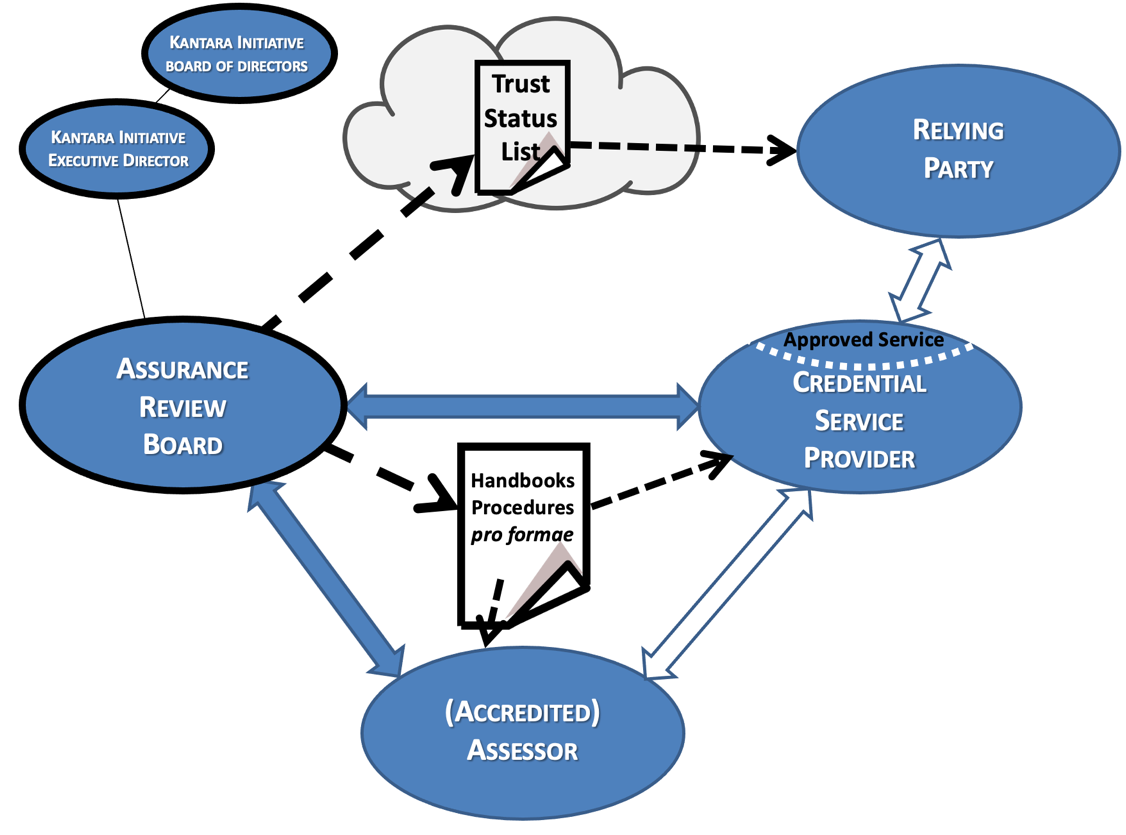
## Kantara Initiative Board of Directors

The Board of Directors (KIBoD) is Kantara Initiative’s executive body. It has authority over the appeals process within the context of the KIAF.

The constitution and mandate of the KIBoD is beyond the scope of this document[[2]](#endnote-2). Refer to Kantara Initiative’s website (<https://kantarainitiative.org/trustees/>) for further information about the KIBoD and its membership.

## Assurance Review Board

Figure 1 focuses on the roles around the **KIAF**’s **Assurance Review Board** (**ARB**) [3.25].

*  
Figure 1: ARB and related roles*

The **ARB** receives its operational mandate[[3]](#endnote-3) from the KI Executive Director. The **ARB** is responsible for the day-to-day management and operation of the **KIAF**. Its principal functions are the accepting and reviewing of applications for **Approval** and for **Accreditation**, and in making recommendations to the KI Executive Director for the granting of these qualifications. The **ARB** is also empowered to reject or request additional supporting information from **Applicant**s wherever it feels it has insufficient information on which to base any recommendation to the KI Executive Director.

The **ARB** also ensures that contractual arrangements are put in place with **Accredited Assessors** and **CSPs** to protect Kantara Initiative’s marks, logos, and terms of use.

Additionally, the **ARB** is responsible for the following:

1. documenting and publishing its **Accreditation** and **Approval** procedures and other supporting documents and *pro formae*,
2. handling inquiries from any parties concerning the **ARB**’s functions, and
3. publishing details of those entities which have been granted **Accreditation** or **Approval** in its [**Trust Status List**](https://kantarainitiative.org/trust-registry/trust-status-list/) [3.42].

The **ARB** is composed of subject matter experts from a range of fields applicable to the **Assurance** of identity proofing, credential management and **Authentication** services, in accordance with its Charter.

## Relying Party

A **Relying Party** is an entity which places reliance in the fact that the appearance of a **CSP**’s or an **Assessor**’s service in Kantara’s **Trust Status List** is an indication that the service has been subjected to rigorous and objective review and evaluation as to its ability to meet defined requirements and its continued conformity to them, and hence that the service offered can be relied upon to the stated **Level of Assurance (LoA)** [3.27] / **Assurance Level** [3.28].

In the most common usage a **RP** is considered to be an organizational entity which wants to have a reliable basis for knowing the identity of the **End Users** [3.35] with which it enters into some form of transaction. The legal/contractual basis on which such transactions are entered into is outside the scope of the **KIAF**.

In other potential usages a **RP** could be one of the following:

1. an **End User** requiring to be issued with an identity credential which might allow it to be a participant in such transactions,
2. a **CSP** wishing to find an **Accredited Assessor**, or
3. any other interested party which wishes to derive confidence from the fact that Kantara Initiative has published an entity’s details in its **Trust Status List**.

## Accredited Assessor

This is an entity which, organizationally and in terms of the competence of named personnel, has demonstrated to the **ARB** that it meets the required knowledge and skill qualifications set by the **KIAF** (as described in the **KIAF**’s applicable documented procedures etc.). Upon such demonstration it is granted **Accreditation** by the KI Executive Director. **Accredited Assessors** must establish a formal contractual arrangement with Kantara Initiative [through the Trademark License Agreement (TMLA)]but the legal/contractual basis on which they contract with the **CSP** they assess is outside the scope of the **KIAF**.

A grant of **Accreditation** is valid for three years, with annual reviews taking place in the two intervening years.

## Credential Service Provider

This is an entity which, organizationally and in terms of service operation and provision, has demonstrated to the **ARB** that its service meets the applicable criteria set by the **KIAF** (as described in the **KIAF**’s applicable documented procedures, **SAC**, etc.). Upon such demonstration it is granted **Approval** by the KI Executive Director for the given service. **CSP**s must establish a formal contractual arrangement with Kantara Initiative [through the TMLA] but the legal/contractual basis on which they contract with their **Accredited Assessors** and with **RPs** is outside the scope of the **KIAF**. The **ARB** will not accept applications from **CSP**s unless their service has been **Assessed** by an **Accredited Assessor**.

A grant of **Approval** is valid for three years, with annual conformity reviews taking place in the two intervening years.

## Identity Assurance Work Group

Figure 2 focuses on the roles around the KIAF’s **Identity Assurance Work Group** (**IAWG**) [3.26].

*![](data:None;base64,)  
Figure 2:* ***IAWG*** *and related roles*

The **IAWG** receives its operational mandate[[4]](#endnote-4) from the Kantara Initiative Leadership Council[[5]](#endnote-5). The **IAWG** is Kantara Initiative’s steward of the **KIAF**’s **Service Assessment Criteria**. Its principal functions are the drafting, review and approval of the **SAC** and of any relating documented processes. The **IAWG** has established processes which ensure that, before being approved for use, all **SAC** and other relevant publications are subject to internal **IAWG** review and, where the subject of review is new or has undergone material change, for public review. Following these reviews, the **IAWG** is empowered to approve its own outputs without further reference to the KIBoD.

The **IAWG** is composed of subject matter experts from all perspectives of Kantara Initiative’s interested parties: **CSPs**, **Accredited Assessors** and, importantly, **RPs**.

# SERVICE APPROVALS

## Introduction

Granting to **CSPs** **Approval** for their **Credential Services** is the *raison d’être* of Kantara Initiative’s **KIAF**. Even though **Accreditation** is an equally formally-administered process, it is but a means to an end, that being to ensure that **Assessments** on which **Approvals** are based have been conducted by suitably qualified and competent organizations and persons, thus underpinning the **Assurance** given by the **KIAF**.

There are a number of varying perspectives on Approvals which are brought out in the following sections.

## Classes of Approval

The KIAF supports multiple **Classes of Approval [**3.20**]**. Each **Class of Approval** is distinguished by a principal reference document, such as a specific piece of legislation or standard (e.g., NIST 800-63 Rev3). These may be generally-applicable or could respond to the needs of a specific sector or domain. Each **Class of Approval** is separately recognized in the **KIAF**’s [**Trust Status List**](https://kantarainitiative.org/trust-registry/trust-status-list/), and is described [here](https://kantarainitiative.org/trustoperations/classes-of-approval/).

## Full Service versus Component Service Approval

A **CSP** is not obliged to provide a service which covers the entire life-cycle of credential management functions (which would be a Full Service). A **CSP** may elect to offer just a subset of functionality, which will be referred to as a Component Service.

## Service Approval Cycle

Service Approvals operate on a triennial (three year) cycle. At the start of each cycle a full **Assessment** is required. The scope of this **Assessment** will be all of the functionality described for the service, be it a Full Service or a Component Service. In each of the following two years a lesser scope of surveillance assessment is required. In these **Assessments**, known as an Annual Conformity Review, a subset of the applicable criteria are **Assessed**.

As an option, the very initial **Assessment** may only assess the service in a ‘static’ sense, (i.e., it has yet to commence operations). This is known as a ‘Ready To Operate’ **Assessment**. This **Assessment** is intended to permit the **CSP** to show that their service meets the applicable criteria in a conformant manner, but for the fact that it cannot yet be shown to be operating in a conformant manner. After a specified minimum period of time of operations, the service offered by the **CSP** can then be subjected to a ‘Fully Operational Service’ **Assessment**, which will address those criteria which now have operational records available for the demonstration of conformity. Until the ‘Fully Operational Service’ **Assessment** has been successfully concluded, the initial Triennial **Assessment** is not considered concluded nor the three-year cycle started.

# PRIMARY DOCUMENTS

The **KIAF** has a number of primary documents, authority for which falls under either the **ARB** or the **IAWG**. These documents are available either in the public domain or by request. These documents are:

Document reference: [KIAF-1050](https://kantarainitiative.org/download/iaf-1050-glossary-and-overview/)

Document title: Overview and Glossary

Approved by: **IAWG**

Scope: This present document.

Document reference: [KIAF-1340](https://kantarainitiative.org/download/7590/)

Document title: Service Approval Handbook

Approved by: **ARB**

Scope: Processes and procedures for how the ARB, CSPs and Assessors are required to operate in the performance and review of a service assessment.

Document reference: [KIAF-1350](https://kantarainitiative.org/download/9180)

Document title: Assessor Accreditation Handbook

Approved by: **ARB**

Scope: Processes and procedures for how the **ARB**, and **Assessors** are required to operate in the performance and review of an assessor **Accreditation**.

Document reference: [KIAF-1410](https://kantarainitiative.org/identity-assurance-framework/service-provider-approval/#Service_Assessment_Criteria)

Document title: Commonly-Applicable Service Assessment Criteria

Approved by: **IAWG**

Scope: Assessment criteria which apply to any service assessment, for any assurance level.

Document reference: [KIAF-1420](https://kantarainitiative.org/identity-assurance-framework/service-provider-approval/#Service_Assessment_Criteria)

Document title: Operational 63-2 Service Assessment Criteria

Approved by: **IAWG**

Scope: Assessment criteria which apply to an assessment of a service against NIST SP 800-63 rev.2, for any level of assurance.

Document reference: [KIAF-1430](https://kantarainitiative.org/identity-assurance-framework/service-provider-approval/#Service_Assessment_Criteria) - This document is available by request only.

Document title: SP 800-63A Service Assessment Criteria

Approved by: **IAWG**

Scope: Assessment criteria which apply to an Assessment of a service against NIST SP 800-63A (rev.3), for IAL2 and IAL3.

Document reference: [KIAF-1440](https://kantarainitiative.org/identity-assurance-framework/service-provider-approval/#Service_Assessment_Criteria) – This document is available by request only.

Document title: SP 800-63B Service Assessment Criteria

Approved by: **IAWG**

Scope: Assessment criteria which apply to an Assessment of a service against NIST SP 800-63B (rev.3), for AAL2 and AAL3.

Document reference: [KIAF-1450](https://kantarainitiative.org/identity-assurance-framework/service-provider-approval/#Service_Assessment_Criteria) – This document is available by request only.

Document title: SP 800-63C Service Assessment Criteria

Approved by: **IAWG**

Scope: Assessment criteria which apply to an Assessment of a service against NIST SP 800-63C (rev.3), for FAL2 and FAL3.

Document reference: [KIAF-1610](https://kantarainitiative.org/download/8628/)

Document title: Required Assessor Knowledge and Skills

Approved by: **ARB**

Scope: Requirements to be met by **Assessors** wishing to be **Accredited** in accordance with KIAF-1350.

Other documents exist but are more focused and specific to particular aspects of the **KIAF**, and hence are not considered to be deserving of mention in this overview. Such documents will be referenced as appropriate in the documents identified above.

# CONTACTS & FURTHER INFORMATION

If you need further information about Kantara’s **KIAF** or have specific questions please submit them to Kantara Initiative’s Secretariat at [secretariat@kantarainitiative.org](mailto:secretariat@kantarainitiative.org).

Additional information about the **KIAF**, and links to the above and other pertinent documents (e.g., various *pro formae*, etc.) can be found at the following web pages:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Link** | **Purpose** |
| <https://kantarainitiative.org/trustoperations/service-provider-approval/> | High Level View of the Kantara Service Provider Approval Process, with application package and *pro formae.* |
| <https://kantarainitiative.org/trustoperations/assessor-accreditation/> | Assessor Accreditation web page, with application package and *pro formae.* |
| <https://kantarainitiative.org/trust-registry/trust-status-list/> | Up-to-date listing of all Kantara-**Approved Services** and all Kantara-**Accredited Assessors**, with full details relating to their **Approval** or **Accreditation**, as applicable. |
| <https://kantarainitiative.org/identity-assurance-framework/> | KIAF Controlling Documents |

# Alphabetical List of Glossarial Terms

The following provides an alphabetically-ordered list of glossarial terms, and their associated (and hyper-linked) index number.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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1. ISO/IEC 29115 Standard (Information Technology -- Security Techniques -- Entity Authentication Assurance Framework) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Kantara Initiative ByLaws <https://kantarainitiative.org/resources/bylaws/> [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. Kantara Initiative ByLaws <https://kantarainitiative.org/resources/bylaws/> [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. Kantara Initiative Identity Assurance Work Group (IAWG) Charter https://kantara.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/IAWG/pages/1278189/IAWG+Charter [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. Kantara Initiative Operating Procedures https://kantara.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/GI/pages/1081775/All+Policies

   \*add a revision log if we have historical information. [↑](#endnote-ref-5)