

Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) Library

How do I set up an API to export data to SAS?

This SAS paper “SAS® and REDCap API: Efficient and Reproducible Data Import and Export” by Sarah Worley and Dongsheng Yang from Cleveland Clinic explains how to set up REDCap API to export data to SAS: <https://www.mwsug.org/proceedings/2013/RX/MWSUG-2013-RX02.pdf>

Before setting up your API program, review these FAQ documents:

1. [FAQ: What is REDCap API?](#)
2. [FAQ: How do I request an API token?](#)

Sample code for REDCap SAS API using SAS 9.4:

```

/*****
Step 1. Define file names and macro variable for the project-specific token.
*****/
*** Text file for API parameters that define the request sent to REDCap API will be
created in a DATA step ***;

filename my_in "C:\.....\api_parameter.txt";
*** .CSV output file for the exported data***;
filename my_out "C:\.....\redcap_data.csv";
*** Output file of PROC HTTP status information returned from REDCap API (this is
optional) ***;
filename status " C:\.....\redcap_status.txt";
*** Project- and user-specific token obtained from REDCap ***;
%let mytoken = XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX;

/*****
Step 2. Request all observations (CONTENT=RECORDS) with one row per record
(TYPE=FLAT).
*****/
*** Create the text file to hold the API parameters. ***;

data _null_ ;
file my_in ;
put "%NRStr(token=) &mytoken%NRStr (&content=record&type=flat&format=csv) &";
run;

*** PROC HTTP call. Everything except HEADEROUT= is required. ***;

proc http
  in= my_in
  out= my_out
  headerout = status
  url ="https://poa-redcap.med.yale.edu/api/"
  method="post";
run;

```

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```

/*****
Step 3. Read .CSV data file into SAS and save it.
Uses project-specific SAS code generated through the REDCap Data Export Tool
with a modification (shown below) to the first DATA step in the program to work
with the REDCap API data.
*****/
*** Code copied from the REDCap-generated SAS program (this is optional, may use
PROC IMPORT or a DATA step) ***;
*** Change INFILE name to data named in PROC HTTP OUT = ***;
*** Change FIRSTOBS=1 to FIRSTOBS=2 to indicate that a header row exists ***;

<lines omitted>
data REDCAP; %let _EFIERR_ = 0;
infile my_out
delimiter = ',' MISSOVER DSD lrecl=32767 firstobs=2
;
<lines omitted>
run;
quit;

```