



IdenTrust® GSA ACES Certificates



- **Secure Access** - To online government information systems and services
- **Non-Repudiation** - Digital certificates are bound to a trusted identity used to digitally sign electronic documents and email communications
- **Digital Seals** - Can be incorporated into the digital signature created using ACES certificates, enabling professionals and agency employees to represent their official affiliation
- **Compliance** - With standards including NIST SP 800-63 multi-factor authentication requirements, the ESIGN Act of 2000 and cross-certification with the U.S. Federal Bridge Certification Authority (FBCA)

ACES certificates can be issued to:

- Persons who will use a certificate to transact business on his or her own behalf and should choose an ACES Individual Unaffiliated certificate¹
- Persons who will transact business as an authorized representative of the business with which he or she is affiliated and should choose an ACES Business Representative certificate²
- Secure web server communications and data in the form of an ACES TLS/SSL certificate

ACES certificates are stored in the certificate store of the user's browser or optionally can be stored on a hardware device (i.e., smart card or USB token) for portability (for use on multiple computers) and added security.

¹ Identity is verified electronically
² Identity is verified by a notary

ACES Certificates

Access Certificates for Electronic Services (ACES) is a program created and sponsored by the General Services Administration (GSA) to facilitate digital signature technology and secure online access to government information and services through the use of Public Key Infrastructure (PKI). ACES digital certificates secure electronic transactions between Business to Government and Consumer to Government.

As the first GSA-certified ACES certificate issuer, IdenTrust began issuing ACES certificates in 1999. Today, as one of a limited number of GSA-approved vendors authorized to issue ACES certificates, IdenTrust continues to demonstrate compliance with the GSA ACES Certificate Policy by successfully completing multiple annual audits conducted by third-party audit authorities.

Primary Uses for Individual ACES Certificates

In addition to using ACES certificates for secure online access to federal government information and services, ACES certificates are also used by various state and local government agencies to:

- Facilitate non-repudiable digital document signing;
- Implement digital signing in combination with the use of professional and agency seals;

- Support signed email communications; and
- Enable remote, electronic notarization of documents.

ACES TLS/SSL Certificates

IdenTrust also offers ACES-compliant, single domain, TLS/SSL certificates that establish a secure connection between a browser and a server. An ACES-compliant TLS/SSL certificate confirms that the domain name is valid and registered. With TLS/SSL certificates, the communication is encrypted, assuring visitors that their information is secure and private.

Please be aware that the ACES Certificate Policy requires that the human sponsor who applies for an ACES TLS/SSL certificate also be the holder of an ACES Business Representative certificate. This certificate is used to confirm back to IdenTrust, via a signed message, that the request was indeed submitted by the human sponsor.

Purchasing an ACES Certificate is Easy

Through our self-service model, IdenTrust enables individuals to order the appropriate ACES certificate, including optional hardware (i.e., smart card or USB token) and applicable middleware in a single process. Simply apply online and follow the easy 4-step process. Payment can be made with either a credit card or a voucher that has been pre-purchased by your organization.

A few important things to know when purchasing an ACES digital certificate:

- ACES policy requires that you retrieve your certificate within 30 days from the date your forms are signed. If you are not able to complete this process and retrieve your certificate before that time elapses, your application will be cancelled and you will need to start the process again from the beginning. Before starting your application, please ensure that you will be able to complete all steps within 30 days.
- When applying for an ACES certificate, the applicant may choose the federal, state or local agency with which he or she will be working. This will help you to determine the certificate type that is most suitable for your needs. If you require assistance, please contact ACESsales@identrust.com.
- Use our self-service model to quickly and easily apply for your ACES digital certificate at www.identrust.com.

SPECIFICATIONS

ACES digital certificates:

- Comply with NIST SP 800-63 multi-factor authentication requirements;
- Are cross-certified with the U.S. Federal Bridge Certification Authority;
- Meet the requirements of the ESIGN Act of 2000; and
- Provide non-repudiation when used to digitally sign documents.

	ACES Individual Unaffiliated	ACES Business Representative	ACES TLS/SSL ¹
Used to sign email	✓	✓	
Used to digitally sign documents	✓	✓	
Used to enable digital signing in combination with digital professional and agency seals	✓	✓	
Used to access secure websites that accept or require ACES credentials	✓	✓	
Used by notaries for remote eNotary services	✓	✓	
Identity vetted electronically	✓		
Identity vetted by a notary		✓	
Software-based digital certificate that installs easily in the certificate store of your browser, requires no additional hardware and is used only on a single computer	✓	✓	
Optional hardware available (smart card or USB token) that allows the certificate to be portable and used on multiple computers	✓	✓	
Server-based digital certificate used for website validation, data security and is a single domain certificate			✓
Available to U.S. citizens or legal U.S. residents residing in the U.S.	✓	✓	✓
Two (2) year validity ²	\$79	\$119	\$275

¹ Please note: The ACES Certificate Policy requires that in order to obtain an ACES TLS/SSL certificate, the application must be submitted by a human subscriber who has been issued an ACES Business Representative certificate.

² Indicative pricing excludes optional hardware.



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