Legal Entities

Onboarding a merchant requires the creation of a legal entity. A legal entity may be a business, individual, nonprofit, etc., and is completely owned by a single partner application. WePay collects information about the legal entity so we can properly underwrite them when provisioning a merchant account.

Note: All legal entity calls use [the default headers](#).

Create a legal entity

The `POST /legal_entities` call allows your platform to create a new legal entity.

Argument

Parameter	Required?	Type	Description
`country`	Yes	Enum	The country where the legal entity is based. Any valid [ISO 3166-1 alpha-2](#) country code is acceptable. **Note:** Currently, your platform can create accounts for legal entities residing in the United States or Canada.
`additional_beneficial_owners`	No	[Object](#) ▼	Personal information for additional beneficial owners of the legal entity. WePay collects additional beneficial owner information for businesses. Beneficial owners own 25% or more of the equity of the business.

			Note: You can pass {} to signify that this legal entity does not have any additional beneficial owners.
address	No	Object ▼	The address of the legal entity.
controller	No	Object ▼	Personal details of the controller. **Note:** A controller is an individual with significant responsibility to control or manage a legal entity. Examples of controllers include, but are not limited to, a Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Managing Member, General Partner, President, Vice President, or Treasurer, or any other individual who regularly performs similar functions as part of a control prong.
controller_is_beneficial_owner	No	Boolean	Indicates if the controller is also a beneficial owner.
custom_data	No	Object ▼	Any custom data your platform chooses to attach to this resource. Must not contain any personally identifiable information (PII) or payment card (PCI) data.
description *Max is 255 characters*	No	Object ▼	The description of the legal entity. WePay uses this information for underwriting purposes. If the legal entity is a business or nonprofit, describe what the business or nonprofit does.
entity_country_info	No	Object ▼	Country-specific legal entity information.
entity_name *Max is 255 characters*	No	String	The name of the legal entity.
phone	No	Object ▼	Phone number of the legal entity.

primary_url *Max is 255 characters*	No	String	Primary URL of the legal entity.
rbits	No	Array ▼	Any rbit data your platform chooses to attach to this resource. The rbit data must be key-value pairs and can be an array of rbit objects.
terms_of_service	No	Object ▼	Data regarding the legal entity's acceptance of the WePay terms of service.
token	No	Object ▼	A previously created token. Learn more about tokens. **Note:** Avoid compliance and regulatory requirements by using tokens to pass highly-sensitive data directly to WePay.

Example

```
curl -X POST \
 /legal_entities \
- H "App-Id: 121212" \
- H "App-Token: prod_MTAwXzk5OWIwZT666LWYwNWItNDU4MS1iZjBiL" \
- H "Api-Version: 3.0" \
- H "Content-Type: application/json" \
- d '{
  "country": "US"
}
```

Response

Response	Type	Description
additional_beneficial_owners	Object ▼	Personal information for additional beneficial owners of the legal entity. WePay collects additional beneficial owner information for businesses. Beneficial owners own 25% or more of the equity of the business.
address	Object ▼	Address of the legal entity.
controller	Object ▼	Personal details of the controller.

		Note: A controller is an individual with significant responsibility to control or manage a legal entity. Examples of controllers include, but are not limited to, a Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Managing Member, General Partner, President, Vice President, or Treasurer, or any other individual who regularly performs similar functions as part of a control prong.
controller_is_beneficial_owner	Boolean	Indicates if the controller is also a beneficial owner.
country	Enum	The country where the legal entity is based. Any valid [ISO 3166-1 alpha-2](#) country code is acceptable. **Note:** Currently, your platform can create accounts for legal entities residing in the United States or Canada.
create_time	Integer	When the legal entity was created in Unix time (in seconds).
custom_data	Object ▽	Any custom data your platform chooses to attach to this resource. Must not contain any personally identifiable information (PII) or payment card (PCI) data.
description	String	Description of the legal entity.
entity_country_info	Object ▽	Country-specific legal entity information.
entity_name	String	The name of the legal entity.
id	String	ID of the legal entity.
owner	Object ▽	Details the owner resource, owner ID, and owner path.
path	String	Path of resource and resource ID.
phone	Object ▽	Phone number of the legal entity.
primary_url	String	Primary URL of the legal entity.
resource	Constant	Helps organize information by identifying the resource type of the object data.

`terms_of_service`	Object ▼	Data regarding the legal entity's acceptance of the WePay terms of service.

Example

```json
{
    "country": "US",
    "create_time": 1525208689,
    "id": "f831964e-0850-4caa-967d-6d0040f82f4e",
    "path": "/legal_entities/f831964e-0850-4caa-967d-6d0040f82f4e",
    "owner": {
        "id": "33e7673b-cd08-4579-bf8a-11af545d6e77",
        "resource": "applications",
        "path": null
    },
    "resource": "legal_entities",
    "additional_beneficial_owners": null,
    "address": null,
    "controller": {
        "address": null,
        "email": null,
        "email_is_verified": false,
        "name": null,
        "phone": null,
        "personal_country_info": {
            "date_of_birth_is_present": false,
            "US": {
                "social_security_number_is_present": false,
                "social_security_number_last_four_is_present": false
            }
        }
    },
    "controller_is_beneficial_owner": null,
    "custom_data": null,
    "description": null,
    "entity_country_info": {
        "US": {
            "employer_identification_number": null,
            "legal_form": null
        }
    },
    "entity_name": null,
    "phone": null,
    "primary_url": null,
    "terms_of_service": {
        "acceptance_time": null,
        "original_ip": null
```

```
    }
}
```

Next Steps

To keep moving forward in your integration, check out this tutorial: [Set up a payment method for merchants](#).

Need Help?

We're here for you. Please reach out to abc@email.com if you have any questions or concerns.