



**International
Standard**

ISO/IEC 19785-3

**Information technology — Common
Biometric Exchange Formats
Framework —**

**Part 3:
Patron format specifications**

*Technologies de l'information — Cadre de formats d'échange
biométriques communs —*

Partie 3: Spécifications de format d'utilisateur

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Contents

Page

Foreword	viii
Introduction	ix
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Symbols and abbreviated terms	2
5 Conformance	2
6 ASN.1 type definitions for CBEFF data elements and abstract values	3
6.1 General	3
6.2 CBEFF data elements type definitions module	3
7 Patron format specification: Simple bit-oriented patron format (deprecated)	8
7.1 Patron	8
7.2 Patron format owner	8
7.3 Patron format name	8
7.4 Patron format type	8
7.5 ASN.1 OID for this patron format	8
7.6 Domain of use	8
7.7 Version identifier	9
7.8 CBEFF version	9
7.9 General	9
7.10 ASN.1 Specification	9
8 Patron format specification: Simple byte-oriented patron format	10
8.1 Patron	10
8.2 Patron format owner	10
8.3 Patron format name	10
8.4 Patron format type	10
8.5 ASN.1 OID for this patron format	10
8.6 Domain of use	10
8.7 Version identifier	10
8.8 CBEFF version	10
8.9 General	10
8.10 Patron format specification	11
8.11 ASN.1 Specification	11
9 Patron format specification: Presence byte-oriented patron format	11
9.1 Patron	11
9.2 Patron format owner	11
9.3 Patron format name	12
9.4 Patron format type	12
9.5 ASN.1 OID for this patron format	12
9.6 Domain of use	12
9.7 Version identifier	12
9.8 CBEFF version	12
9.9 General	12
9.10 Specification	12
9.11 ASN.1 Specification	14
10 Patron format specification: Presence bit-oriented patron format	15
10.1 Patron	15
10.2 Patron format owner	15
10.3 Patron format name	15
10.4 Patron format type	15
10.5 ASN.1 OID for this patron format	15

10.6	Domain of use	16
10.7	Version identifier	16
10.8	CBEFF version	16
10.9	General	16
10.10	ASN.1 Specification	16
11	Patron format specification: TLV-encoded patron format, for use with smartcards or other tokens (with implicit tag allocation authority) - deprecated	17
11.1	Patron	17
11.2	Patron format owner	18
11.3	Patron format name	18
11.4	Patron format type	18
11.5	ASN.1 OID for this patron format	18
11.6	Domain of Use	18
11.7	Version identifier	18
11.8	CBEFF version	18
11.9	General	18
11.10	ASN.1 specification	21
11.11	Tabular representations	22
	11.11.1 The Biometric Information Template used for on-card biometric comparison	22
	11.11.2 The Biometric Information Template used for off-card biometric comparison	24
11.12	The Biometric Information Template Group Data Object	25
11.13	Abstract values and encodings for biometric type and subtype	25
11.14	Patron format conformance statement	26
	11.14.1 Identifying information	26
	11.14.2 CBEFF-defined data elements and abstract values	26
	11.14.3 Patron-defined data elements and abstract values	27
12	Patron format specification: Complex patron format	27
12.1	Patron	27
12.2	Patron format owner	27
12.3	Patron format name	27
12.4	Patron format type	27
12.5	ASN.1 OID for this patron format	27
12.6	Domain of use	27
12.7	Version identifier	28
12.8	CBEFF version	28
12.9	General	28
12.10	Specification	28
12.11	Illustrative examples	32
12.12	ASN.1 definition (provided for illustrative purposes only)	35
13	Patron format specification: XML-full patron format (with additional data elements)	36
13.1	Patron	36
13.2	Patron format owner	36
13.3	Patron format name	36
13.4	Patron format type	36
13.5	ASN.1 OID for this patron format	36
13.6	Domain of use	37
13.7	Version identifier	37
13.8	CBEFF version	37
13.9	General	37
13.10	Specification	37
13.11	Element <BIR>	38
	13.11.1 Syntax	38
	13.11.2 Semantics	39
13.12	Element <Version>	39
	13.12.1 Syntax	39
	13.12.2 Semantics	40
13.13	Element <CBEFFVersion>	40

13.13.1	Syntax.....	40
13.13.2	Semantics.....	40
13.14	Element <BIRInfo>.....	41
13.14.1	Syntax.....	41
13.14.2	Semantics.....	41
13.15	Element <BDBInfo>.....	42
13.15.1	Syntax.....	42
13.15.2	Semantics.....	43
13.16	Element <Format> of BDBInfoType.....	47
13.16.1	Syntax.....	47
13.16.2	Semantics.....	47
13.17	Element <Product>.....	48
13.17.1	Syntax.....	48
13.17.2	Semantics.....	48
13.18	Element <CaptureDevice>.....	48
13.18.1	Syntax.....	48
13.18.2	Semantics.....	48
13.19	Element <FeatureExtractionAlgorithm>.....	48
13.19.1	Syntax.....	48
13.19.2	Semantics.....	49
13.20	Element <ComparisonAlgorithm>.....	49
13.20.1	Syntax.....	49
13.20.2	Semantics.....	49
13.21	Element <CompressionAlgorithm>.....	49
13.21.1	Syntax.....	49
13.21.2	Semantics.....	49
13.22	Element <Quality>.....	50
13.22.1	Syntax.....	50
13.22.2	Semantics.....	50
13.23	Element <Algorithm>.....	50
13.23.1	Syntax.....	50
13.23.2	Semantics.....	50
13.24	Element <SBInfo>.....	50
13.24.1	Syntax.....	50
13.24.2	Semantics.....	51
13.25	Element <Format> of SBInfoType.....	51
13.25.1	Syntax.....	51
13.25.2	Semantics.....	51
13.26	Representation of Integers.....	51
13.27	Representation of Octet Strings.....	51
13.28	Representation of Date and Time of the Day.....	52
13.29	Representation of Universally Unique Identifiers.....	52
13.30	XML schema of the patron format.....	53
13.31	An example of a simple BIR in XML encoding (conforming with the ASN.1 schema, the XSD schema, and the normative textual description).....	56
13.32	An example of a complex BIR in XML encoding (conforming with the ASN.1 schema, the XSD schema, and the normative textual description).....	57
14	Patron format specification: full-complex patron format.....	60
14.1	Patron.....	60
14.2	Patron format owner.....	60
14.3	Patron format name.....	60
14.4	Patron format type.....	60
14.5	ASN.1 OID for this patron format.....	60
14.6	Domain of use.....	60
14.7	Version identifier.....	60
14.8	CBEFF version.....	61
14.9	General.....	61
14.10	Specification.....	61

14.11	Illustrative examples	67
14.12	ASN.1 definition (provided for illustrative purposes only)	70
15	Patron format specification: Biometric application programming interface (BioAPI 2.0)	71
16	Patron format specification: Self-identifying Tag-oriented Simple BIR	71
16.1	Patron	71
16.2	Patron format owner	71
16.3	Patron format name	71
16.4	Patron format type	71
16.5	ASN.1 OID for this patron format	71
16.6	Domain of use	72
16.7	Version identifier	72
16.8	CBEFF version	72
16.9	General	72
16.10	Specification	73
16.11	Illustrative examples	77
16.12	ASN.1 definition	77
17	Patron format specification: Self-identifying, Tag-oriented Complex BIR	81
17.1	Patron	81
17.2	Patron format owner	81
17.3	Patron format name	81
17.4	Patron format type	81
17.5	ASN.1 OID for this patron format	82
17.6	Domain of use	82
17.7	Version identifier	82
17.8	CBEFF version	82
17.9	General	82
17.10	Specification	83
17.11	Illustrative example	84
17.12	ASN.1 definition	84
18	Patron format specification: PAD patron format (Linking BDB with PAD Sample)	86
18.1	Patron	86
18.2	Patron format owner	87
18.3	Patron format name	87
18.4	Patron format type	87
18.5	ASN.1 OID for this patron format	87
18.6	Domain of use	87
18.7	Version identifier	87
18.8	CBEFF version	87
18.9	General	87
18.10	Specification	88
18.11	Illustrative example	89
18.12	ASN.1 definition	90
19	Patron format specification: TLV-encoded patron format for ICCs and other tokens (with explicit tag allocation authority)	92
19.1	Patron	92
19.2	Patron format owner	93
19.3	Patron format name	93
19.4	Patron format type	93
19.5	ASN.1 OID for this patron format	93
19.6	Domain of Use	93
19.7	Version identifier	93
19.8	CBEFF version	93
19.9	General	93
19.10	Tabular representations for information	95
19.10.1	The Biometric Information Template used for on-card biometric comparison	95
19.10.2	The Biometric Information Template used for off-card biometric comparison	98

ISO/IEC 19785-3:2025(en)

19.11	The Biometric Information Template Group Data Object.....	101
19.12	Abstract values and encodings for biometric type and subtype	101
19.13	Illustrative examples	101
Annex A	(informative) Guidelines on the specification of patron formats	102
Annex B	(informative) Conformance of the defined patron formats	106
Annex C	(informative) Coding specifications for tagged patron formats	116
Annex D	(informative) Information and clarifications to Clause 11	131
Annex E	(informative) Sample ASN.1 Module for TLV-encoded patron formats for ICCs and other tokens (with explicit tag allocation authority)	135
Bibliography	142

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

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This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 37, *Biometrics*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO/IEC 19785-3:2020), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the patron format “TLV-encoded patron format, for use with smartcards or other tokens (with implicit tag allocation authority)” was deprecated for new applications;
- references previously listed as normative were moved to the bibliography, including ISO/IEC 19785-2, ISO/IEC 8825-1 and ISO/IEC 24787;
- element <sbX> is newly added to the XML-full patron format in [Clause 13](#);
- vocabulary was updated and corrected;
- the ASN.1 definition for the patron format “TLV-encoded patron format for ICCs and other tokens (with explicit tag allocation authority)” and related information in [Clause 19](#) was moved to a new informative [Annex E](#).

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 19785 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

Introduction

Biometric-based authentication systems and applications are expected to support multiple biometric devices and multiple biometric data formats. The Common Biometric Exchange Formats Framework (CBEFF) promotes interoperability of biometric-based application programmes and systems developed by different vendors by facilitating biometric data interchange.

ISO/IEC 19785-1 defines the following items that enable standardized biometric data interchange:

- a) a three-part standardized structure for biometric information records (BIRs) consisting of:
 - 1) standardized biometric headers (SBHs);
 - 2) biometric data blocks (BDBs, which can be standardized or proprietary); and
 - 3) optional security blocks (SBs);
- b) variations of the three-part structure to support BIRs containing:
 - 1) only one SBH, at least one or more BDBs and possibly one SB (simple CBEFF BIRs),
 - 2) only one self-identifying SBH, at least one or more BDB and possibly one SB (self-identifying simple CBEFF BIRs), and;
 - 3) more than one BDB along with some number of SBHs necessary to encode the BIR's structure and some number of SBs (complex CBEFF BIRs, multiple CBEFF BIRs);
- c) a self-identifying concept, which can be applied to any variation of the three-part structure for BIRs, using the 'SBIR' field as defined in ISO/IEC 19785-1;
- d) more than 40 data elements and their associated abstract values that can be used in an SBH to describe attributes of a BDB within a BIR, as well as attributes of the BIR itself;
- e) the concept of a CBEFF patron format (but ISO/IEC 19785-1 does not itself define any patron formats), which is a detailed specification of the structure and content of a particular, standardized BIR;
- f) the concept of a CBEFF patron, which is a recognized standards organization that has registered with the Biometric Registration Authority (BRA) and declared its intention to define CBEFF patron format specifications;
- g) the concept of the BRA, which is the mechanism by which unique identifiers are assigned to organizations (standards organizations, vendors and others) that create BDB formats and CBEFF patron formats (ISO/IEC 19785-2 defines the identification scheme for biometric objects and organizations registered by the BRA);
- h) CBEFF data elements [see c) above] that support, within the SBH, the unique identifiers assigned by the BRA for biometric organizations, BDB formats, biometric products, capture devices, feature extraction algorithms, comparison algorithms, quality algorithms, compression algorithms, PAD mechanisms, patron formats (self-identifying or not), and SB formats.

Patron formats can be specified in other standards documents and registered with the BRA (see ISO/IEC 19785-2). For example, there is a registered patron format specified in ISO/IEC 19784-1. For a complete list of registered patron formats, consult the CBEFF Biometric Registration Authority website.

This document specifies a number of CBEFF patron formats that are considered to be of general utility in a variety of domains of use. Additional ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 37 patron format specifications can be published as new clauses in future amendments or editions of this document, or in other ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 37 International Standards.

The CBEFF patron format type unambiguously identifies the CBEFF patron format within the scope of the CBEFF patron format owner. The CBEFF patron format type is unambiguous within the scope of an ASN.1 Object Identifier (see ISO/IEC 9834-1) that identifies the BRA (see ISO/IEC 19785-2). That ASN.1 Object

Identifier (OID) is itself globally unambiguous within the scope of all ASN.1 OIDs, which forms a widely used global namespace.

NOTE ASN.1 OIDs are used by ITU-T, ITU-R, the UPU and many ISO and IEC Standards, to identify some IETF MIME types and for many other purposes. These acronyms have not been spelled out, as the precise identification of these organizations is not relevant to this document.

The combination of the BRA OID, the CBEFF patron format owner, and the CBEFF patron format type forms a larger ASN.1 OID that provides an unambiguous identification of the CBEFF patron format. This document specifies, for each CBEFF patron format that it defines, the ASN.1 OID that unambiguously identifies that CBEFF patron format.

New implementations can make use of the tag-oriented CBEFF version 4.0 patron formats, i.e. [Clauses 16](#) and onwards.

It is also important to note that, for legacy reasons, the technical content of patron format type 5, TLV-encoded patron format for use with smartcards or other tokens (with implicit tag allocation authority) in [Clause 11](#), is presented as it was originally published in ISO/IEC 19785-3:2007 (with minor editorial updates and technical comments introduced in [Annex D](#)). New implementations can use the explicit tag allocation authority alternative provided by the patron format included in [Clause 19](#).

Information technology — Common Biometric Exchange Formats Framework —

Part 3: Patron format specifications

1 Scope

This document specifies and publishes registered Common Biometric Exchange Formats Framework (CBEFF) patron formats defined by the CBEFF patron ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 37, and specifies their registered CBEFF patron format types (see ISO/IEC 19785-1) and resulting full ASN.1 OIDs. See [Annex A](#) for rules on how patron formats are defined using CBEFF data elements.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 2382-37, *Information technology — Vocabulary — Part 37: Biometrics*

ISO/IEC 7816-11, *Identification cards — Integrated circuit cards — Part 11: Personal verification through biometric methods*

ISO 8601-1, *Date and time — Representations for information interchange — Part 1: Basic rules*

ISO/IEC 8825-4, *Information technology — ASN.1 encoding rules — Part 4: XML Encoding Rules (XER)*

ISO/IEC 10646, *Information technology — Universal coded character set (UCS)*

ISO/IEC 19785-1, *Information technology — Common Biometric Exchange Formats Framework — Part 1: Data element specification*

ISO/IEC 30107-2, *Information technology — Biometric presentation attack detection — Part 2: Data formats*