

# Connecting to a subject source

## Configuring a subject source

Grouper uses subject sources to provide additional attributes about the entities it uses from sources of authority such as:

- HRS, SIS
- Active Directory
- LDAP

These attributes can include:

- Unique identifiers
- Names (legal, preferred, etc)
- Contact (email, phone, address, etc)
- Affiliations (emeritus, faculty, staff, student, etc)
- Entitlements

Before running Grouper you need to configure a subject source. This is done in Home Miscellaneous Subject sources.

To add a subject source:

1. Go to Actions Add subject source

Home > Miscellaneous > Subject sources

Subject sources

Actions

View subject sources

Add subject source

Subject source id	Name	Type	Enabled	Actions
g:gsa	Grouper: Group Source Adapter	Not editable	Enabled	Actions
g:isa	Grouper: Internal Source Adapter	Not editable	Enabled	Actions
grouperEntities	Grouper: Entity Source Adapter	Not editable	Enabled	Actions
grouperExternal	grouperExternal	Not editable	Enabled	Actions
jdbc	Example JDBC Source Adapter	Not editable	Enabled	Actions
uncg-computer	UNCG Domain-Joined Computer	Not editable	Enabled	Actions
uncg-person	UNCG iSpartan ID	Not editable	Enabled	Actions

2. Add:

Home > Miscellaneous > Subject sources > Add subject source

### Subject sources

Actions ▾

A subject source allows Grouper to pull in entities from an external SQL or LDAP so you can add them to groups and add privileges etc. Pick a high performance highly available service, or ETL the data into the Grouper database.

**Config id**  \*

The configuration ID is the alphanumeric key in the config file that identifies this subject source. This is not necessarily the same as the source ID which is what you use in code or in API's to refer to this subject source.

**Subject source type** ☒ LdapSubjectSourceConfiguration ☐ SqlSubjectSourceConfiguration \*

- Config ID (Required)** - the alphanumeric key in the config file that identifies this subject source. This is not necessarily the same as the source ID which is what you use in code or in API's to refer to this subject source
  - Subject source type (Required)** (LDAPSubjectSourceConfiguration or SqlSubjectSourceConfiguration) - Currently Grouper supports these source types. If there is not a source type that you need you need to ETL the data into a database, or build a subject source, or contact the Grouper dev team
3. Click **Submit**. The page will update with new sections based on your Subject source type.
4. Configure General settings by adding:

### General settings

Initial subject source settings

**Subject source ID** ☐ EL?  \*

The subject source ID is the identifier of this source in code, API, loader, etc. This should be something descriptive, short, and alphanumeric. e.g. pennperson

**Subject source name** ☐ EL?  \*

The subject source name is a friendly identifier for this source which can consist of friendly characters (e.g. spaces). This is used in drop downs in the UI

**Enabled** ☐ EL? ☒ Default value (True) ☐ True ☐ False

Enabled. Default value is 'true'.

**Types** ☐ EL?  \*

Types are not really currently used, just pick 'person' if your source has mostly people or 'application' is mostly service principals

**External system** ☐ EL?  \*

LDAP external system to connect to. Add another connection in the "external systems" config.

**Max results size** ☐ EL?

Max results size. Default value is '100'.

**Extra attributes from source** ☐ EL?

Add more source attributes to retrieve from the source if they are not mapped to a subject attribute. e.g. in SQL this is extra columns. in LDAP this is extra LDAP attributes. These attributes are only used in translation scripts. Generally you will not have many of these.

**Number of subject attributes** ☐ EL?  \*

Your subject will have attributes available to be called, and "internal" attributes which are used by Grouper but not visible otherwise. Select the count of the internal and non-internal subject attributes. You should have an attribute for a subject ID (opaque unchanging identifier), zero or many identifiers (don't have to be opaque, can change, e.g. netid or EPPN), name (first last), description (some descriptive text about a subject so people pick the correct search result), email (optional), etc.

- **Subject source ID (Required)** - The identifier of this source in code, API, loader, etc. This should be something descriptive, short, and alphanumeric. e.g. uncgperson
- **Subject source name (Required)** - Friendly identifier for this source which can consist of friendly characters (e.g. spaces). This is used in drop downs in the UI

- **Enabled** - Enables the subject source
- **Types (Required)** - Pick 'person' if your source has mostly people or 'application' if mostly service principals
- **External system (Required)** - LDAP or SQL external system to connect to. [Add another connection in the "external systems" config.](#)
- **Max results size** - Max results size. Default value is '100'.
- **Extra attributes from source** - more source attributes to retrieve from the source if they are not mapped to a subject attribute. e.g. in SQL this is extra columns. in LDAP this is extra LDAP attributes. These attributes are only used in translation scripts. Generally you will not have many of these.
- **Number of subject attributes (Required)** - Subject will have attributes available to be called, and "internal" attributes which are used by Grouper but not visible otherwise. Select the count of the internal and non-internal subject attributes. There should be an attribute for a subject ID (opaque unchanging identifier), zero or many identifiers (don't have to be opaque, can change, e.g. netId or EPPN), name (first last), description (some descriptive text about a subject so people pick the correct search result), email (optional), etc.

5. For each subject attribute, configure:

Subject attribute cn

Subject attribute

Attribute cn: name

☐ EL?
 
\*

Alphanumeric subject attribute name. This is what people will use e.g. in the web service or exports. e.g. firstName

Attribute cn: format to lower case

☐ EL?
 ☐ True
 ☐ False

If the value of the subject attribute should be converted to lower case in the subject

Attribute cn: translation type

☐ EL?
 
\*

'Subject attribute' is the attribute name on the Grouper side. 'Source attribute' is the attribute in the source, e.g. the ldap attribute, sql column, etc. Three options. The subject attribute (Grouper side) has an attribute name that is the same name as the source side (e.g. SQL column name, LDAP attribute, etc): same. Or you can pick a sourceAttribute to map this subject attribute to (e.g. same value but rename it): rename. Or you can write a scriptlet (translation) to make it more dynamic and adjust the value or use multiple source or subject attributes: translation script.

Attribute cn: subject identifier

☐ EL?
 ☐ Default value (False)
 ☒ True
 ☐ False

If this is a subject identifier. A subject identifier is a value that uniquely identifies a subject, though this identifier might change over time (e.g. a netId might change when a name changes). Default value is 'false'.

Attribute cn: internal

☐ EL?
 ☒ Default value (False)
 ☐ True
 ☐ False

Internal attributes are not available in the UI or WS, they are just used internally for Grouper. e.g. an attribute used for sorting. Default value is 'false'.

Attribute cn: export header

☐ EL?

When exporting a group's memberships, this is the header (e.g. for CSV). Should be alphanumeric and should not be an internal label: subjectid, entityid, sourceid, memberid, name, description, screenlabel

attribute.i.requireGroupNameForView

☐ EL?

When viewing a subject, if there is a group assigned here, then make sure the calling user is a member of this group, or else null out this attribute

- name (required)**
- format to lower case** - If the value of the subject attribute should be converted to lower case in the subject
- translation type (required)** - 'Subject attribute' is the attribute name on the Grouper side. 'Source attribute' is the attribute in the source, e.g. the ldap attribute, sql column, etc. Three options. The subject attribute (Grouper side) has an attribute name that is the same name as the source side (e.g. SQL column name, LDAP attribute, etc): same. Or you can pick a sourceAttribute to map this subject attribute to (e.g. same value but rename it): rename. Or you can write a scriptlet (translation) to make it more dynamic and adjust the value or use multiple source or subject attributes: translation script.
  - For translation scripts, We may need variables from source, and variables for other subject attributes. suggestion is
    - `${source_attribute__first_name}` - gets an attribute from the source query or filter. in this case 'first\_name' column
    - `${subject_attribute__description}` - references a built in subject field, in this case the description field
    - `${subject_attribute__emailaddress}` - references a previously configured subject attribute. in this case "emailAddress". The key is lower case.
    - Description example: `${source_attribute__sn + ', ' + source_attribute__givenname + ' (' + subject_attribute__cn + ')(ADM)'}`
- subject identifier** - If this is a subject identifier. A subject identifier is a value that uniquely identifies a subject, though this identifier might change over time (e.g. a netId might change when a name changes). Default value is 'false'.
- internal** - Internal attributes are not available in the UI or WS, they are just used internally for Grouper. e.g. an attribute used for sorting. Default value is 'false'.
- export header** - When exporting a group's memberships, this is the header (e.g. for CSV). Should be alphanumeric and should not be an internal label: subjectid, entityid, sourceid, memberid, name, description, screenlabel
- attribute.i.requireGroupNameForView** - When viewing a subject, if there is a group assigned here, then make sure the calling user is a member of this group, or else null out this attribute

6. Map subject fields by selecting the desired attributes for:

**Subject field mapping**  
Subject field mapping

☐ EL?

uidNumber

\*

Select the attribute that should be used for subject ID, if you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

☐ EL?

displayName

\*

Select the attribute that should be used for subject name, if you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

☐ EL?

uncgPreferredName

\*

Select the attribute that should be used for subject description, if you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

☐ EL?

uncgEmail

Select the attribute that should be used for email, if you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

☐ EL?

Select the attribute that should be used for net ID, if you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

☐ EL?

cn

Select the attribute that should be used for subjectIdentifier0. This will be stored in the grouper\_members table. If you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

☐ EL?

employeeID

Select the attribute that should be used for subjectIdentifier1. This will be stored in the grouper\_members table. If you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

☐ EL?

userPrincipalName

Select the attribute that should be used for subjectIdentifier2. This will be stored in the grouper\_members table. If you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

- a. Subject ID **(Required)**
- b. Name **(Required)**
- c. Description **(Required)**
- d. Email
- e. Net ID
- f. subjectIdentifier0-2

7. Specify the number of attributes subjects can be searched by [1-5], then select the fields in the resulting drop-downs **(Required)**

**Search attributes**  
Search attributes

☐ EL?

5

\*

Search attribute count

**Search attribute index 0**  
Search attribute

☐ EL?

Surname

\*

Select the attribute that should be used for search, if you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

**Search attribute index 1**  
Search attribute

☐ EL?

givenName

\*

Select the attribute that should be used for search, if you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

**Search attribute index 2**  
Search attribute

☐ EL?

employeeID

\*

Select the attribute that should be used for search, if you don't see the attribute name listed, [click here to refresh](#)

**Search attribute index 3**  
Search attribute

☐ EL?

uidNumber

\*

Select the attribute that should be used for search, if you don't see the attribute

## 8. Configure your LDAP Settings

Ldap settings	
Ldap settings	
Subject ID search filter	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input type="text" value="(&amp; (uidNumber=%TERM%) (objectclass=user))"/></div> <div>Find a subject by ID. ID is generally an opaque and permanent identifier, e.g. 12345678. Each subject has one and only one ID. Returns one result when searching for one ID. sql is the sql to search for the subject by id. %TERM% will be substituted by the id searched for subjectApi.source.example.search.searchSubject.param.filter.value = (&amp; (exampleEduRegId=%TERM%) (objectclass=exampleEduPerson))</div>
Search subject scope	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input type="text" value="SUBTREE_SCOPE"/></div> <div>search subject by id scope. Default value is 'SUBTREE_SCOPE'.</div>
Search subject base	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input type="text" value="ou=Accounts,dc=valcampus,dc=uncg,dc=edu"/></div> <div>search subject by id base dn</div>
Subject identifier search filter	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input type="text" value=""/></div> <div>%TERM% in filter. Note, this can be automatic if blank</div>
Subject free-form search filter	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input type="text" value="(&amp; ((cn=%TERM%)(sn=%TERM%)(givenName=%TERM%)(displayN"/></div> <div>%TERM% in filter.</div>
Fetch multiple results	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input type="radio"/> Default value (False) <input checked="" type="radio"/> True <input type="radio"/> False</div> <div>multiple results (advance setting, generally leave this to false). Default value is 'false'.</div>
Throw error on find all failure	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Default value (True) <input type="radio"/> True <input type="radio"/> False</div> <div>throw error on find all failure (advance setting, generally leave this to true). Default value is 'true'.</div>
Max page size	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input type="text" value=""/></div> <div>max page size</div>
Error on max results	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Default value (True) <input type="radio"/> True <input type="radio"/> False</div> <div>error on max results (advance setting, generally leave this to true). Default value is 'true'.</div>
multivaluedLdapAttributes	<div><input type="checkbox"/> EL? <input type="text" value=""/></div> <div>comma separated list of ldap attributes that are multivalued. if it's not multivalued it's easier to use in translation expression.</div>

- Subject ID search filter
  - Search subject scope
  - Search subject base **(Required)**
  - Subject identifier search filter **(Required)**
  - Subject free-form search filter
  - Fetch multiple results (Default: False)
  - Throw error on find all failure (Default: True)
  - Max page size
  - Error on max results (Default: True)
  - multivaluedLdapAttributes
- Configure the Configuration Check and Subject Source Diagnostics. Optional, but useful in troubleshooting and initial configuration (TODO: Steps and Screenshots)
  - Click Submit to save your configuration.