



ESCO - Local Application Programming Interface

Introduction

The Commission is providing access to the [ESCO classification](#) through an Application Programming Interface (API). An API is a software component for developers to access data and services in order to build all sorts of applications in a fast and robust way.

The ESCO API is a set of services and functionalities that allows other applications to access the ESCO classification. This allows organisations who are building applications for the labour market or for education/training to use the multilingual ESCO classification in these applications. The content of the messages exchanged via the APIs is based on the ESCO data model specified in Ontology Web Language (OWL).

This document explains the ESCO local API. This API is the downloadable version of the ESCO API, which can be installed locally on a computer or server and thus provides local access to the ESCO API. Compared with the use of the ESCO API hosted by the Commission, the advantage of installing the ESCO API locally is an increased performance and the independence from the availability of the service provided by the Commission (e.g. in case of server downtime).

In the development of the ESCO APIs, the Commission has followed modern development guidelines:

- Pragmatic REST structure: this structure makes an API easier to learn, consume and expand;
- JSON file formats: this is the format of the data that the API consumes and returns as an output;

The first versions of the ESCO APIs are providing the most frequently needed functionality. More functions will be added over time, as feedback is collected from the API users.

Quick Start Guide

Prerequisite

Java 8 needs to be installed on your computer/machine. You can download Java 8 here: <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/jdk8-downloads-2133151.html>

Start the API in Windows

Go to the folder **tomcat-esp-api-v03.84/bin**
Double-click on **startup.bat**

Start the API in Linux

Run the following **commands** in a terminal:
cd tomcat-esp-api-v03.84/bin
chmod 755 *.sh
./startup.sh

Additional information

The application takes around **30seconds** to start (depending on the machine). Once started you will see **this line** in the output of the application:

```
"INFO [main] org.apache.catalina.startup.Catalina.start Server startup in  
24316 ms"
```

The **logs** of the application are written into the file **tomcat-esp-api-v03.84/logs/catalina.out**

You can access the application from here: <http://localhost:8080>

To view the documentation, open the following URL in a browser:
http://localhost:8080/doc/esco_api_doc.html

In case of further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the ESCO team at EMPL-ESCO-Secretariat@ec.europa.eu. Stay connected!