# The State of OpenAPI Specification: What's New in 3.1

Lorna Mitchell, Vonage/OpenAPI Initiative



# **Quick Summary**

- An OpenAPI minor release: 3.1
- Full JSON Schema compatibility
- Webhooks are supported
- Many quality-of-life improvements





### **Version Numbering**

- From 3.1, OpenAPI does not follow Semantic Versioning
- Enables edge-case breakage for JSON Schema support



### **JSON Schema**

OpenAPI 3.1 will support JSON Schema 2020-12



### JSON Schema Data Types

OpenAPI types are aligned with JSON Schema types

- string
- number
- object
- array
- boolean
- null





### JSON Schema Array of Types

- For fields that can have more than one type
- Arrays of types are supported
- Including **null**
- Breaking change: replaces nullable keyword

```
parameters:
    - name: friendly-label
    in: query
    schema:
        type: string
    nullable: true
```

```
parameters:
    - name: friendly-label
    in: query
    schema:
    type:
        - string
        - null
```



### JSON Schema Examples

- In schemas, recommend **examples** array, rather than **example** with a single element
- Both are valid in 3.1

```
schema: # 3.0 but valid in 3.1
    required:
        - name
    properties:
        name:
        description: "Item name"
        type: "string"
        example: "Item One"
```

```
schema: # Recommended in 3.1
    required:
        - name
    properties:
        name:
        description: "Item name"
        type: "string"
        examples:
        - "Item One"
```



### **Examples and Examples**



- Look out for existing OpenAPI examples
- Used in Media Types section
- A map with named keys, rather than an array of values







### **Examples and Examples**



```
responses:
    "400":
       content:
           application/json:
               examples:
                   throttled:
                       summary: Limit exceeded
                       value:
                           status: "1"
                          error_text: Throttled
                   concurrent:
                       summary: Request in progress
                       value:
                           request_id: abcdef0123456789abcdef0123456789
                           status: "10"
                           error_text: Cannot start request, already in progress
```



### JSON Schema ... Schemas

Arbitrary keywords are supported

```
components:
   schemas:
      style:
          type: object
          properties:
             template_id:
                 type: number
             hue:
                 type: string
          decoration: sparkly
```





### JSON Schema ... Schemas

• Siblings are allowed alongside \$ref

```
content:
    'application/json':
        schema:
        $ref: '#/components/schemas/style'
        required:
        - hue
```



### Webhooks

Built like callbacks



### Callbacks Example

Valid in 3.0 and 3.1

```
parameters:
   - $ref: "#/components/parameters/callback"
responses: ...
callbacks:
   onData:
       "{$request.query.callback}":
          post:
             operationId: asyncCallback
             requestBody:
                 content:
                    application/json: ...
             responses: ...
```



### Webhooks Example

• Newly introduced in 3.1

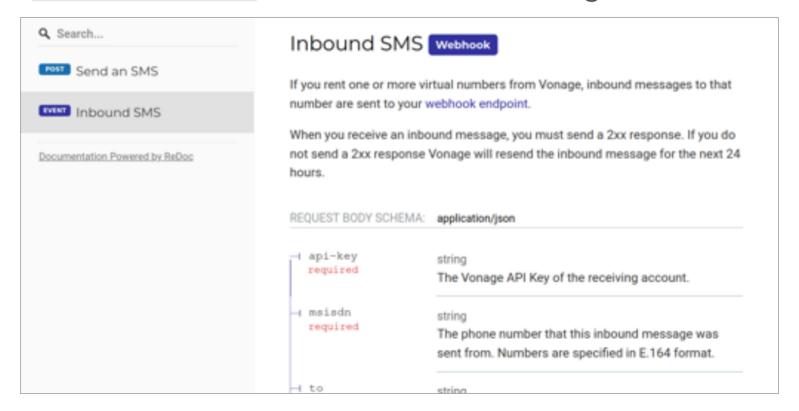
```
webhooks:
    inbound-sms:
        post:
            operationId: inbound-sms
            requestBody:
                 content:
                       application/json: ...
                      responses: ...
```





### Webhooks Preview

• Use x-webhooks in 3.0 to see it working in Redoc





#### Required:

- openapi
- info
- paths



- servers
- tags
- security
- externalDocs
- components





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### Callback or Webhook?

- Overlapping concepts
- Example: subscription API call, later push events
  - a callback described within the subscription/configuration API call
  - a webhook alongside the paths that are functionally similar
  - many incoming HTTP requests could be described either way





### **Components Section**

- 3.1 supports **pathItems** in **components**, to support webhooks and more use of callbacks
- Supported components section keys:
  - schemas
  - responses
  - parameters
  - examples
  - requestBodies

- headers
- securitySchemas
- links
- callbacks
- pathItems



### **OpenAPI Proposal Process**



- Open proposal process
- Submit detailed proposal
- Attend meetings for feedback and champion your idea



# **OpenAPI 3.1: Minor Improvements**



# Better \$ref Benefits

• **\$ref** can now have **summary** and **description** as siblings

```
paths:
    /items:
    post:
        parameters:
        - $ref: '#/components/parameters/item'
        description: The specific item in question
```



### Info Section Upgrade

- Add summary alongside title and description
- Summary is shown in list view, a brief summary
- Description is used in detail view and is more detailed





### License SPDX Identifier

- 3.0: license includes name and optional url
- 3.1: license includes name and optional url or identifier fields
- https://spdx.org/licenses/





### MutualTLS Security Scheme

• 3.1 adds support for **mutualTLS** as a value for the security scheme type field

```
components:
    securitySchemes:
    bearerAuth:
       type: mutualTLS
       scheme: mutual
```





### Request Bodies for any Method

- 3.0 does not allow requestBody with GET or HEAD requests
- 3.1 allows it with any request
- Just because you can, doesn't mean you should





### Responses are Optional

- Your OpenAPI 3.1 descriptions are valid without a responses field for every endpoint
- Useful during development

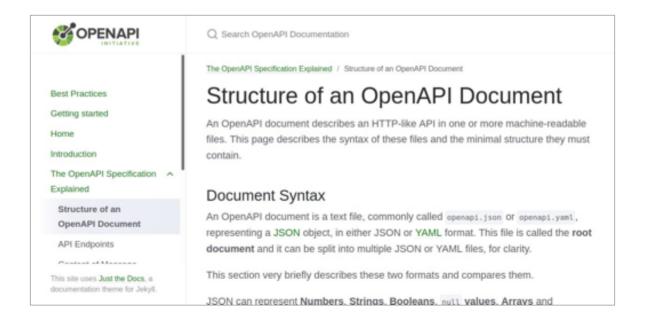


# **OpenAPI: Community Update**



### **OpenAPI Documentation Project**

- Getting started needs more than the spec
- Documentation initiative is well underway
  - https://oai.github.io/Documentation/





### **OpenAPI Involvement**

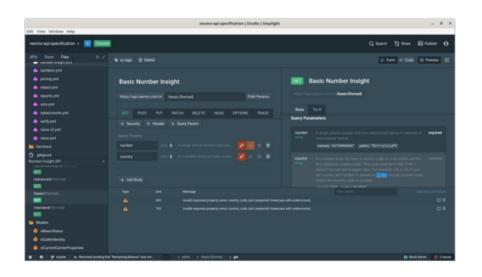
- Everything happens in the open
  - Issues and PRs
- https://github.com/OAI/OpenAPI-Specification
- Regular meetings
  - Meeting agenda is a GitHub issue
- Proposal process

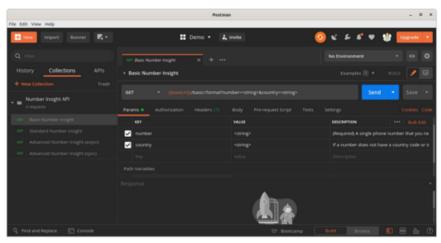


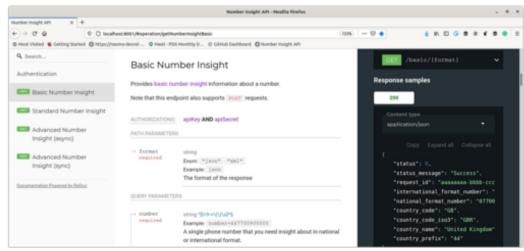


### **OpenAPI Tooling**

- Tools improving all the time
  - https://openapi.tools/









### State of OpenAPI

• Spec: Innovating, new release 3.1



- Docs: Coming along nicely
- Tools: Levelling up, many more integrations
- Events: API Specifications Conference was in September
- Future: More meetings, get involved















- https://github.com/OAI/OpenAPI-Specification/blob/3.1.0-rc1/versions/3.1.0.md
- https://github.com/OAI/OpenAPI-Specification/releases
- http://json-schema.org/
- https://oai.github.io/Documentation/
- https://github.com/OAI/OpenAPI-Specification/
- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcx\_iGeB-Nxil4S7-0Y1Y5r0oLahy3f0Y











































