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# CBUserIdentity Class Reference

[Networking](#) > [Cocoa](#)





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# CBUserIdentity Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	CBIdentity : NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSCoding NSCopying NSCoding (CBIdentity) NSCopying (CBIdentity) NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/Collaboration.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.
<b>Companion guide</b>	Identity Services Programming Guide
<b>Declared in</b>	CBIdentity.h

## Overview

An object of the `CBUserIdentity` class represents a user identity and is used for accessing the attributes of a user identity from an identity authority. The principal attributes of `CBUserIdentity` are a POSIX user identifier (UID), password, and certificate.

## Tasks

### Password Authentication

- [authenticateWithPassword:](#) (page 6)  
Returns a Boolean value indicating whether the given password is correct for the identity.
- [certificate](#) (page 7)  
Returns the public authentication certificate associated with a user identity.
- [isEnabled](#) (page 7)  
Returns a Boolean value indicating whether the identity is allowed to authenticate.

### Using UIDs

- [posixUID](#) (page 7)  
Returns the POSIX UID of the identity.

+ [userIdentityWithPosixUID:authority:](#) (page 6)

Returns the user identity with the given POSIX UID in the specified identity authority.

## Class Methods

### **userIdentityWithPosixUID:authority:**

Returns the user identity with the given POSIX UID in the specified identity authority.

```
+ (CBUserIdentity *)userIdentityWithPosixUID:(uid_t)uid
  authority:(CBIdentityAuthority *)authority
```

#### **Parameters**

*uid*

The UID of the identity you are searching for.

*authority*

The identity authority to search.

#### **Return Value**

The user identity with the given UID in the specified identity authority, or `nil` if no identity exists with the specified UID.

#### **Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

#### **Declared In**

`CBIdentity.h`

## Instance Methods

### **authenticateWithPassword:**

Returns a Boolean value indicating whether the given password is correct for the identity.

```
- (BOOL)authenticateWithPassword:(NSString *)password
```

#### **Parameters**

*password*

The password to test for the identity.

#### **Return Value**

TRUE if the password is correct; otherwise, FALSE.

#### **Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

#### **Declared In**

`CBIdentity.h`

## certificate

Returns the public authentication certificate associated with a user identity.

- (SecCertificateRef)certificate

### Return Value

The public authentication certificate, or `nil` if none exists.

### Discussion

The Collaboration framework supports certificate-based authentication in addition to passwords. If a certificate is stored for a user identity, it will be the default method of authentication.

When a .Mac account is associated with a user identity, the authentication certificate is automatically downloaded from the .Mac servers.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

### Declared In

CBIdentity.h

## isEnabled

Returns a Boolean value indicating whether the identity is allowed to authenticate.

- (BOOL)isEnabled

### Return Value

TRUE if the identity can authenticate; otherwise, FALSE.

### Discussion

If the identity does not have authentication credentials (a password or certificate), it is not able to log in. However, an identity with authentication credentials does not ensure that it is enabled. Any identity can be disabled.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

### Declared In

CBIdentity.h

## posixUID

Returns the POSIX UID of the identity.

- (uid\_t)posixUID

### Return Value

The POSIX UID of the identity.

### Discussion

The POSIX UID is a integer that can identify a user within an identity authority. UIDs are not guaranteed to be unique within an identity authority.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

CBIdentity.h



# Document Revision History

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This table describes the changes to *CBUserIdentity Class Reference*.

Date	Notes
2007-05-14	New document that describes the class for operating on user identities.

## REVISION HISTORY

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