

# Your Identity — a guide for holders

A FreeholdIP identity is **yours**. Think of it like the deed to a house, but for your professional self: you hold the key, you decide what it shows, and no company — not even us — can take it, change it, or shut it down.

## What you're getting

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Your identity is a name and a key that belong only to you. It's the home for the verified credentials you collect — licenses, certifications, diplomas — and you choose which ones to show. Because you own it:

- **You control it.** Your keys live only on your device. We never see them.
- **No one can take it down.** It's recorded on a public ledger, so it's provably yours and can't be quietly deleted or censored.
- **It outlives everyone.** Even if an issuer — or FreeholdIP itself — disappears, your identity and credentials still verify.
- **Everything in one place.** Credentials from different boards and schools live together, and you share them with one link.

## Step 1 — Create your identity

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1. **Pick your name.** This is your identity name — capital letters and numbers, e.g. JANESMITH. It has to be one not already taken.
2. **Save your Recovery Sheet.** You'll get twelve words. **This is the most important step.** Write them down or save the sheet somewhere safe — a drawer, a safe, a thumb drive.
3. **Set a password.** It unlocks your identity on this device. We never receive it.
4. **Pay the one-time fee** (\$5 introductory) by card. That's it — your identity is created.
5. **Save your keystore file** too — it's a handy backup of this device's login.

**Keep your Recovery Sheet safe.** Those twelve words (or your password) are the only way back in. If you lose *both* your password and your Recovery Sheet, no one can restore your identity — not even us. That's the flip side of truly owning it: there is no company holding a master key to your account. Back up the sheet today.

## Step 2 — Set up your profile

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Sign in with your password, then edit what people see — your name, role, a photo, a logo, website, contact details, a short bio. For each credential you hold, you choose to **show or hide** it. You can also add labeled links (for example, a license-lookup page).

When you're happy, click **Sign & publish**. Updates are **free and instant**, and **nothing is public until you publish it** — you're always in control of what's shown.

## Step 3 — Receive your credentials

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When a board, association, or school issues you a credential, they send it *to your identity* — using your address or your identity name. It shows up in your manager, and you decide whether to display it. They never see your key, and the credential is **yours to keep** the moment it's issued. If the issuer later renews or revokes it, that update is reflected automatically — but the record that it was issued stays permanent.

## Step 4 — Share and prove it

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Share your profile **link or QR code** — on a business card, an email signature, a website. Anyone you share it with can verify your credentials **instantly** — **no account, no fee, no phone calls** — and it even works offline. Verification confirms each credential is genuine, current, and really issued by who it says it was.

## If you lose access

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New phone or computer, or forgot your password? Choose **Recover** and enter your twelve recovery words to get back in and set a new password. (This is exactly why Step 1 matters — if you've lost both the words and the password, recovery isn't possible.)

## Quick answers

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### Can FreeholdIP delete or change my identity?

No. We don't hold your key and can't alter or remove your identity. That's the point.

### Can an issuer take it away?

No. An issuer can renew or revoke a credential *they* issued, but they cannot touch your identity or your other credentials.

### Is my information public?

Only what you choose to publish. Hidden entries stay private; nothing appears until you sign and publish it.

**Do updates cost money?**

No. After the one-time creation fee, editing your profile and showing/hiding credentials are free.

**What if FreeholdIP shuts down one day?**

Your identity and credentials keep working. They verify against public, permissionless systems — not against us.

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FreeholdIP — own your identity. Questions? [support@freeholdip.com](mailto:support@freeholdip.com) · [Terms](#) · [Privacy](#)