



How to use eSign apiV2 to launch a signature process

Sept. 2023



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The customer's use case



"After an event on our Core HR we want to send a new contract for signature to the employee Muriel ATTEO and her manager John DOE on HRSD. The sender must be the HRBP Jake PERALTA who will be able to monitor the process from the platform if needed"

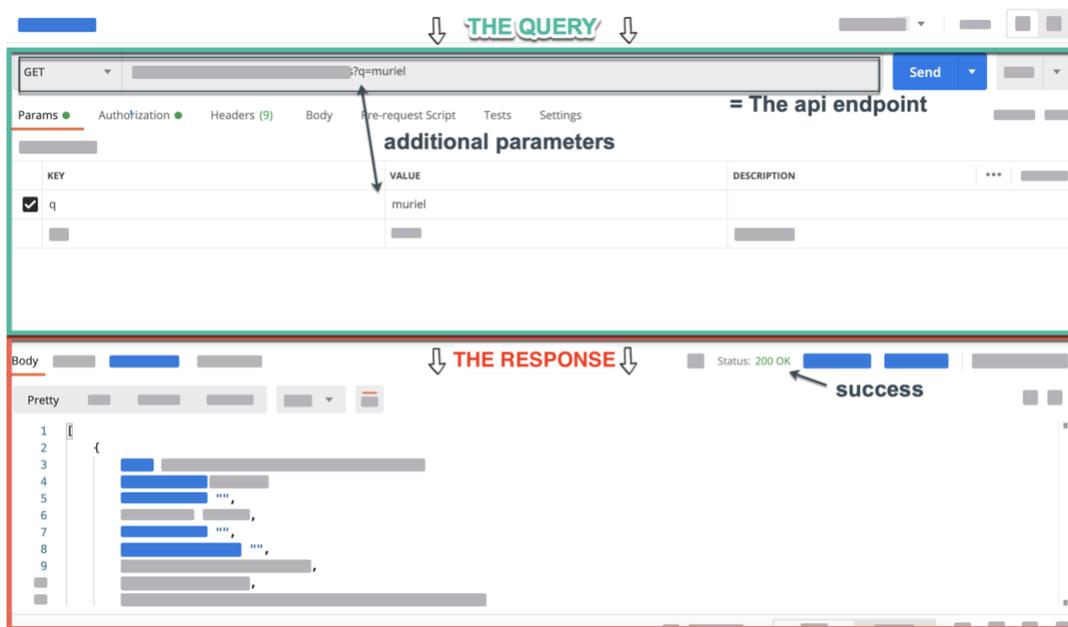
The stakeholders for this example

- The sender = the creator of the signature process: Jake PERALTA
- The signers:
 - The employee: Muriel ATTEO
 - Her manager: John DOE

Assumptions

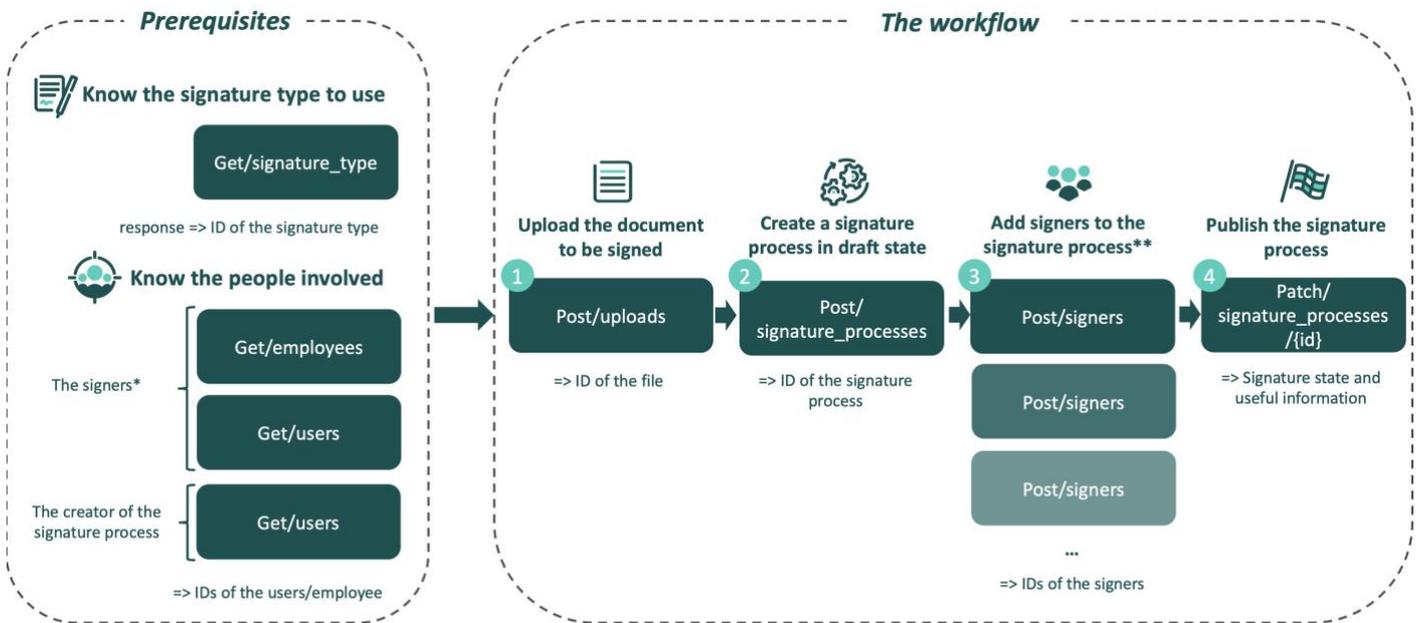
- we are using Postman here.
- we are on the "client" scope: <https://doc.people-doc.com/api/?urls.primaryName=Client>
- we have already retrieved authentication token: see [the documentation about that](#)
- we decide to use a Protect & Sign signature type.
- we already know the document type id for the document to be signed ("contrat")

How to read/understand a Postman window:



The steps to keep in mind

Order	What	Endpoint
Prerequisite	Get the unique HRSD ID for the right signature type to use	GET/signature_type
Prerequisite	Get the unique HRSD ID of the sender of the signature process	GET/users
Prerequisite	Get the unique HRSD ID of the signers	GET/users and/or GET/employees
#1	Upload the document to sign	POST/uploads
#2	Create a signature process in draft state	POST/signature_processes
#3	Add signer(s) to the signature process	POST/signers
#4	Start the signing process	PATCH/signature_processes



* The 'external' people (i.e. a candidate), will be declared in the step #3 of the workflow

** 1 call per signer to be created

Get the unique HRSD ID for the right signature type to use (prerequisite)

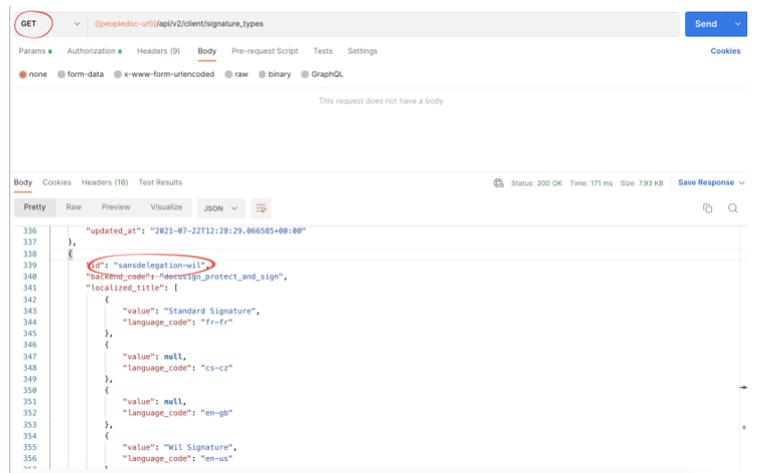
The query: [GET/signature_types](#)

GET https://{{peopledoc-url}}/api/v2/client/signature_types

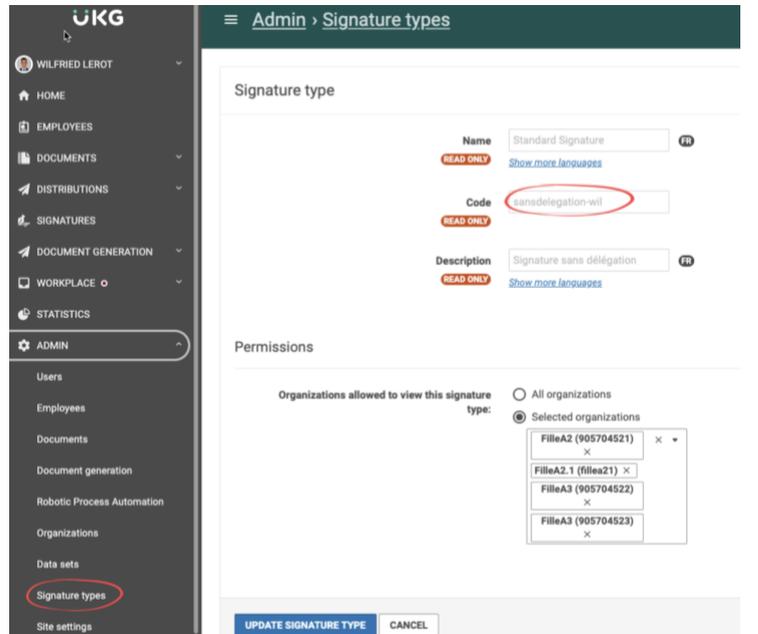
The response (example)

```
[
  {
    "id": "sansdelegation-wil",
    "backend_code": "docusign_protect_and_sign",
    "localized_title": [
      {
        "value": "Standard Signature",
        "language_code": "fr-fr"
      }
    ],
    "localized_description": [
      {
        "value": "Signature sans délégation",
        "language_code": "fr-fr"
      }
    ],
    "display_in_ui": true,
    "default_sms_notification": {
      "user": false,
      "employee": false,
      "guest": false
    },
    "two_factor_auth_settings": {
      "mode": "email",
      "value_user": false,
      "value_guest": false,
      "value_employee": false
    },
    "delegation": false,
    "template_id": null,
    "external_authentication": false,
    "display_terms_on_signature_portal": true,
    "title": "Standard Signature",
    "description": "Signature sans délégation",
    "created_at": null,
    "updated_at": "2022-12-14T15:46:26.275814+00:00"
  }
]
```

Screenshot



NB: you can find this data in the UI.



Get the unique HRSD ID of the sender of the signature process (prerequisite)

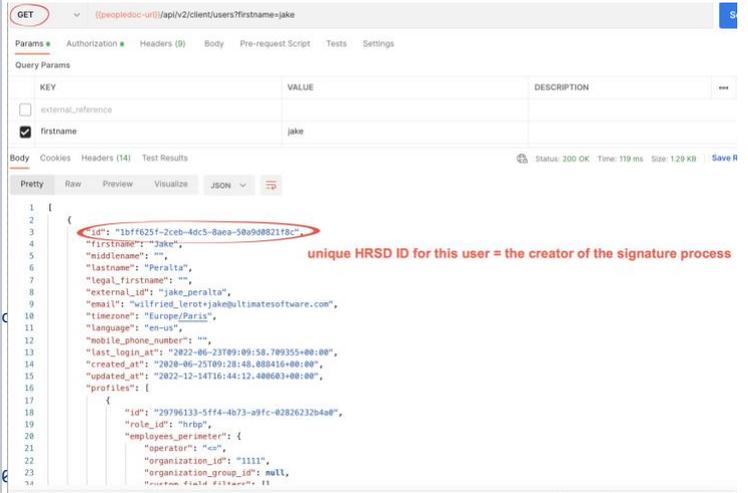
The query: [GET/users](#) (example here, with the HR Jake PERALTA)

GET <https://{{peopledoc-url}}/api/v2/client/users?firstname=jake>

The response (example)

```
[
  {
    "id": "1bff625f-2ceb-4dc5-8aea-50a9d0821f8c",
    "firstname": "Jake",
    "middlename": "",
    "lastname": "Peralta",
    "legal_firstname": "",
    "external_id": "jake_peralta",
    "email": "Silfried_lerot+jake@ultimatesoftware.com",
    « timezone » : « Europe/Paris »,
    « language » : « en-us »,
    "mobile_phone_number": "",
    "last_login_at": "2022-06-23T09:09:58.709355+00:00",
    "created_at": "2020-06-25T09:28:48.088416+00:00",
    "updated_at": "2022-12-14T16:44:12.400603+00:00",
    "profiles": [
      {
        "id": "29796133-5ff4-4b73-a9fc-02826232b4a0",
        "role_id": "hrbp",
        "employees_perimeter": {
          "operator": "<=",
          "organization_id": "1111",
          "organization_group_id": null,
          "custom_field_filters": []
        }
      },
      {
        "id": "a4a94d1a-4b24-40a5-9972-8c6ea606cca4",
        "role_id": "admin",
        "employees_perimeter": {
          "operator": "<=",
          "organization_id": "908134593",
          "organization_group_id": null,
          « custom_field_filters » : []
        }
      }
    ]
  }
]
```

Screenshot



Get the unique HRSD ID(s) for the signer(s) (prerequisite)

In this example the signers will be:

1. The employee Muriel ATTEO (the query is detailed below)
2. Her manager John DOE (here, same query than the previous one about the creator)

✔ At this step, we want to retrieve unique HRSD IDs of users or employees, what we call "employee UUID" or "user UUID" to declare them as signers.

In **another step** these employee/user will have a unique "**signer ID**" linked to a **specific signature process**.

Use case :

The same manager John DOE (user UUID = '1234') can take part in several signature processes. To send him a reminder for a specific signature process only, we'll use the "signer ID" (= 'abc') which is linked to this signature process.

User name	User UUID	Signature process name	Signature process ID	Signer ID of John Doe
John DOE	1234	Contrat Muriel ATTEO	1351963462	abcd
		Contrat Jim BOSMANN	1592603266	efgh
	

The query: GET/employees (an example here, for Muriel ATTEO)

GET https://{{peopledoc-url}}/api/v2/client/employees?external_id=murielatteo

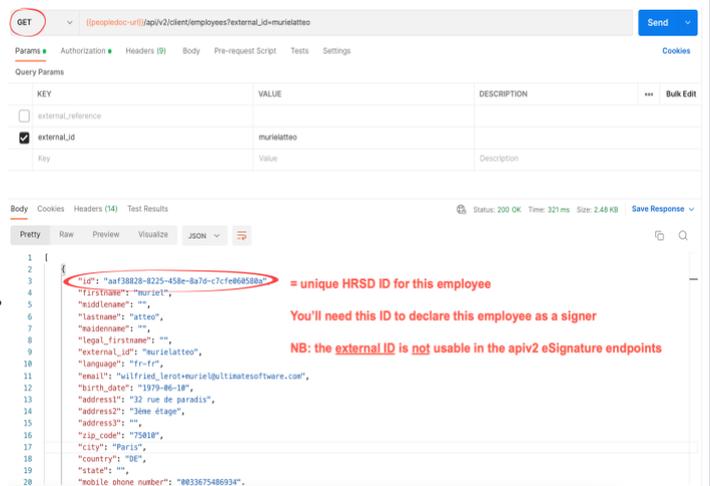
NB: many possible parameters are available to find the right employee. Here the "external_id" is equal to what we call "Technical ID" in the UI

The response (example)

```
[
  {
    "id": "aaf38828-8225-458e-8a7d-c7cfe060580a",
    "firstname": "muriel",
    "middlename": "",
    "lastname": "atteo",
    "maidenname": "",
    "legal_firstname": "",
    "external_id": "murielatteo",
    "language": "fr-fr",
    "email": "wilfried_lerot+muriel@ultimatesoftware.com",
    "birth_date": "1979-06-10",
    "address1": "32 rue de paradis",
    "address2": "3ème étage",
    "address3": "",
    "zip_code": "75010",
    "city": "Paris",
```

Screenshot

Please read the warning about the external ID in this screenshot



```
"country": "DE",
"state": "",
"mobile_phone_number": "0033675486934",
"status": "active",
"terminated": false,
"starting_date": "2021-06-01",
"created_at": "2015-11-17T13:24:20.960753+00:00",
"updated_at": "2022-12-14T17:23:08.657586+00:00",
"registration_references": [
  {
    "employee_number": "0036131",
    "active": false,
    "departure_date": "2017-07-13",
    "organization_id": "905704545",
    "created_at": "2015-11-17T13:24:20.974815+00:00",
    "updated_at": "2017-07-13T16:11:20.558147+00:00"
  },
  {
    "employee_number": "1234566",
    "active": true,
    "departure_date": null,
    "organization_id": "908134593",
    "created_at": "2017-07-13T16:11:06.990074+00:00",
    "updated_at": "2020-12-07T11:03:54.192501+00:00"
  }
],
"departure_date": null,
"custom_fields": [
  {
    "code": "est-manager",
    "value": "0",
    "label": "No"
  }
]
]
```

1. Upload the document to be signed

The query: [POST/uploads](#) (an example here)

POST <https://{{peopledoc-url}}/api/v2/client/uploads>

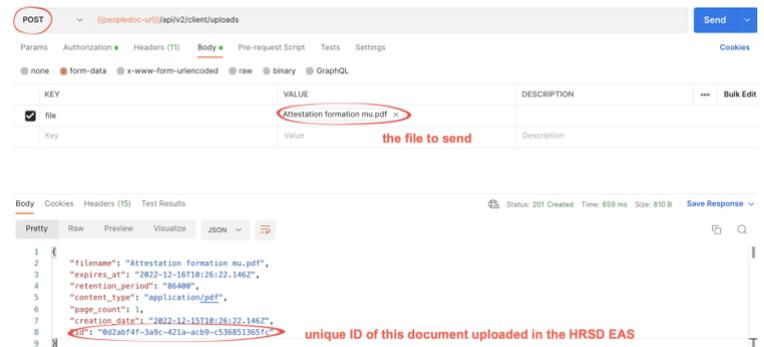
file=@" /path/to/some/attestation formation mu.pdf"

NB: use this endpoint and **not the POST/document**

The response (example)

```
{
  "filename": "Attestation formation mu.pdf",
  "expires_at": "2022-12-16T10:26:22.146Z",
  "retention_period": "86400",
  "content_type": "application/pdf",
  "page_count": 1,
  "creation_date": "2022-12-15T10:26:22.146Z",
  "id": "0d2abf4f-3a9c-421a-acb9-c536851365fc"
}
```

Screenshot



The `id` attribute will be what we call the **upload_id**, it's the public id which reference the uploaded document.

2. Create the Signature Process in draft state

After the document is uploaded, you can create a signature process in the draft state. If you don't specify the state when creating the signature, it's created in **draft by default**. When in a draft state the signing process is **not yet started** (=Nothing is sent to the signer(s) and to the electronic signature provider).

Also, when creating a signature process in a draft state all attributes are optional. The only **required attributes are the signature_type_id and the title**. Any other attributes can be updated by doing a PUT or a PATCH request before starting the signing process. It can be a good practice to put data about the creator (="sender") of the signature process in this first call.

The query: [POST/signature_processes](#) (an example here)

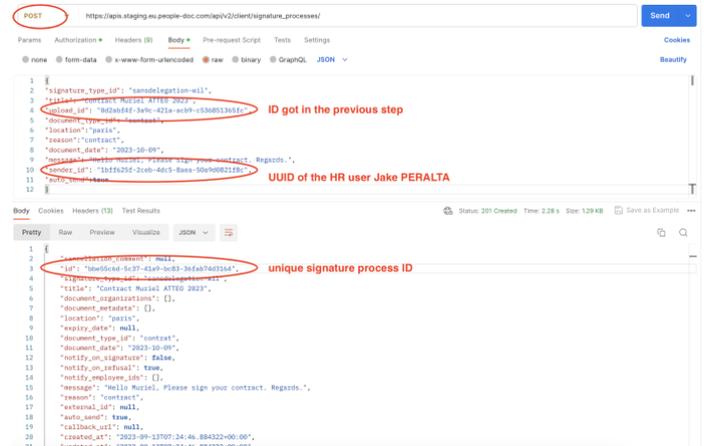
POST https://{{peopledoc-url}}/api/v2/client/signature_processes

```
{
  "signature_type_id": "sansdelegation-wil",
  "title": "Contract Muriel ATTEO 2023",
  "upload_id": "0d2abf4f-3a9c-421a-acb9-c536851365fc",
  "document_type_id": "contrat",
  "document_date": "2021-12-15",
  "message": "Hello Muriel, Please sign your contract. Xoxo.",
  "sender_id": "1bff625f-2ceb-4dc5-8aea-50a9d0821f8c"
}
```

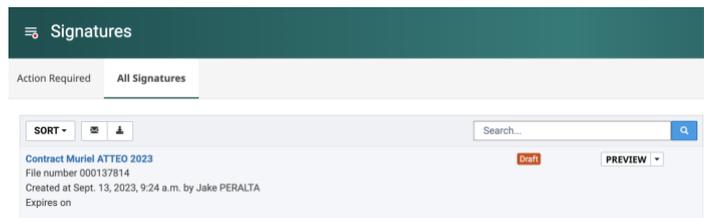
The response (example)

```
{
  "cancellation_comment": null,
  "id": "bbe55c6d-5c37-41a9-bc83-36fab74d3164",
  "signature_type_id": "sansdelegation-wil",
  "title": "Contract Muriel ATTEO 2023",
  "document_organizations": [],
  "document_metadata": [],
  "location": "paris",
  "expiry_date": null,
  "document_type_id": "contrat",
  "document_date": "2023-10-09",
  "notify_on_signature": false,
  "notify_on_refusal": true,
  "notify_employee_ids": [],
  "message": "Hello Muriel, Please sign your contract.
  Regards.",
  "reason": "contract",
  "external_id": null,
  "auto_send": true,
  "callback_url": null,
  "created_at": "2023-09-13T07:24:46.884322+00:00",
  "updated_at": "2023-09-13T07:24:46.884322+00:00",
  "file_number": "000137814",
  "sender": {
    "id": "1bff625f-2ceb-4dc5-8aea-50a9d0821f8c",
    "first_name": "Jake",
    "last_name": "Peralta"
  },
  "signers": [],
  "is_cancelable": false,
  "is_deletable": true,
  "state": "draft"
}
```

Screenshot



The `id` attribute will be what we call the `signature_process_id`. At this step the signature process is created in **Draft** and visible on the dashboard:



3. Add signers to the Signature Process

Now that we have an existing signature process in draft state it's now time to add signers to it.

Signers can be of three types:

- **external** means that the signer doesn't exist in the platform, and you'll have to provide yourself all the signer's informations (first_name, last_name, email_address, ...)
- **user** means it's an existing HR user in the platform and you'll only have to provide the corresponding user_id
- **employee** means it's an existing employee in the platform and you'll only have to provide the corresponding employee_id
- **organization*** (only with the Protect & Sign signature type, the organization is defined by the company stamp)

Please have a look at the prerequisite steps described before if the signer is an employee or a user.

In our example the signers are (1) the employee Muriel ATTEO, then (2) her manager John DOE.

(For an 'external' more data are mandatory in the call)

⚠ **To keep in mind: 1 call per signer**

only 1 signer = 1 call POST/signers

2 signers = 2 calls POST/signers

3 signers = 3 calls POST/signers

etc.

It's not possible to declare all the signers at once in one call. You can set the order of the signers as a parameter.

Let's see only the 1st signer.

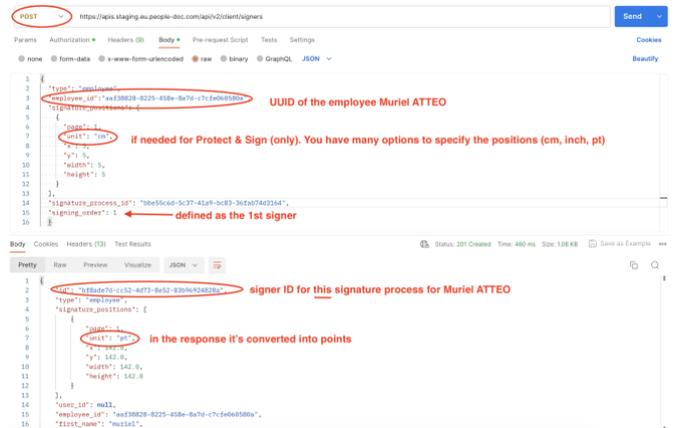
The query: [POST/signers](#) (an example here with Muriel ATTEO)

```
POST https://{{peopledoc-url}}/api/v2/client/signers
{
  "type": "employee",
  "employee_id": "aaf38828-8225-458e-8a7d-c7cfe060580a",
  "signature_positions": [
    {
      "page": 1,
      "unit": "cm",
      "x": 5,
      "y": 5,
      "width": 5,
      "height": 5
    }
  ],
  "signature_process_id": "bbe55c6d-5c37-41a9-bc83-36fab74d3164",
  "signing_order": 1
}
```

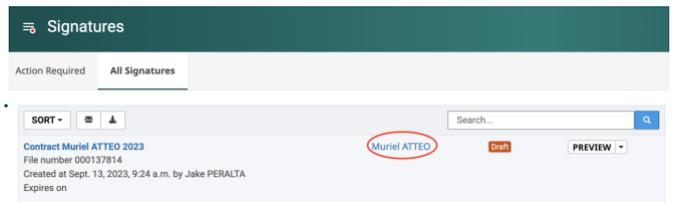
The response (example)

```
{
  "id": "363c1da3-85db-4173-a3a5-f1ff90a9241b",
  "type": "employee",
  "signature_positions": [
    {
      "page": 1,
      "unit": "pt",
      "y": 142.0,
      "height": 142.0,
      "x": 142.0,
      "width": 142.0
    }
  ],
  "user_id": null,
  "employee_id": "aaf38828-8225-458e-8a7d-c7cfe060580a",
  "first_name": "muriel",
  "last_name": "atteo",
  "email_address": "wilfried_lerot+muriel@ultimatesoftware.",
  "mobile_phone_number": "",
  "signing_order": 1,
  "access_code": null,
  "sms_notification": false,
  "two_factor_auth": {
    "sms": false,
    "email": false
  },
  "message": "Hello Muriel : custo message employee",
  "state": "pending",
  "signature_process_id": "54e5d7fd-006d-4a1b-8c27-d9a892d20691",
  "signed_at": null
}
```

Screenshot



You can check in the UI: now Muriel ATTEO is the 1st signer.



4. Start the signing process

Finally, when all the signers have been created, we can change the state of the signature process to signing. Changing the state to signing means that it will start the signing process. The signature will be created on the electronic signature provider side and all notifications will be sent.

The query: `PATCH/signature_processes/{id}` (an example here)

```
PATCH https://{{peopledoc-url}}/api/v2/client/signature_processes/bbe55c6d-5c37-41a9-bc83-36fab74d3164
{
  "state": "signing"
}
```

The response (example)

```
{
  "cancellation_comment": null,
  "id": "bbe55c6d-5c37-41a9-bc83-36fab74d3164",
  "signature_type_id": "sansdelegation-wil",
  "title": "Contract Muriel ATTEO 2023",
  "document_organizations": [
    {
      "id": "908134593",
      "name": "MèreA"
    }
  ],
  "document_metadata": [],
  "location": "paris",
  "expiry_date": "2023-09-27",
  "document_type_id": "contrat",
  "document_date": "2023-10-09",
  "notify_on_signature": false,
  "notify_on_refusal": true,
  "notify_employee_ids": [],
  "message": "Hello Muriel, Please sign your contract. Regard",
  "reason": "contract",
  "external_id": null,
  "auto_send": true,
  "callback_url": null,
  "created_at": "2023-09-13T07:24:46.884322+00:00",
  "updated_at": "2023-09-13T08:33:32.992002+00:00",
  "file_number": "000137814",
  "sender": {
    "id": "1bff625f-2ceb-4dc5-8aea-50a9d0821f8c",
    "first_name": "Jake",
    "last_name": "Peralta"
  },
}
```

Screenshot

The screenshot shows a REST client interface. The top part displays a PATCH request to the URL `https://apis.staging.eu.people-doc.com/api/v2/client/signature_process/bbe55c6d-5c37-41a9-bc83-36fab74d3164`. The request body is `{ "state": "signing" }`. Below the request, the response body is shown in JSON format, matching the example response provided in the text. The response includes fields like `id`, `signature_type_id`, `title`, `document_organizations`, `document_metadata`, `location`, `expiry_date`, `document_type_id`, `document_date`, `notify_on_signature`, `notify_on_refusal`, `notify_employee_ids`, `message`, `reason`, `external_id`, `auto_send`, `callback_url`, `created_at`, `updated_at`, `file_number`, and `sender`.

The "real" signature process is started. 🚀

The screenshot shows a web interface for managing signatures. The title is "Signatures". There is a search bar and a "PREVIEW" button. The main content area shows a signature process for "Contract Muriel ATTEO 2023" with file number "000137814". It was created on Sept. 13, 2023, at 9:24 a.m. by Jake PERALTA and expires on Sept. 27, 2023. The organization is "MèreA (908134593)". The status of the signature process is "In progress", indicated by a red circle around the "In progress" label.

```
"signers": [  
  {  
    "id": "bf8ade7d-cc52-4d73-8e52-83b96924828a",  
    "first_name": "muriel",  
    "last_name": "atteo",  
    "state": "pending",  
    "signing_order": 1  
  }  
],  
"is_cancelable": true,  
"is_deletable": false,  
"state": "signing"  
}
```

To go further

Don't hesitate to dig deeper options like:

- **"callback_url"**: a parameter available in the POST and PATCH/signature_processes endpoints to be informed about the status of the signature process.

If provided, this URL will be called at the end of the signing process, when all signers have signed the document, when one of the signers has refused to sign, or when the **expiry_date** has expired.

- **webhooks**: you can also leverage our webhooks (documentation available [here](#)). This will enable you to be informed of a greater number of signature-related events (compared to the callback_url feature) and other events about employee creation/update/etc, requests, process tasks, etc.
- **"auto_send"**: a parameter available in the POST and PATCH/signature_processes endpoints to archive automatically the signed document into the employee folder AND send the notification at the end of the process.

Indicates if the signed document should be automatically sent to all signers at the end of the signature process (true). Or notify the creator of the signature at the end of the process to connect to the interface to send the document manually (false). If there is an employee signer on the signature, then the signed document will be automatically archived in the employee folder.

- **"signing_url"**: a parameter available in the POST and PATCH/signers to retrieve the link sent to the signer to sign the document.

NB: a UKG HRSD agent must tick a checkbox beforehand in the back-office tool for this parameter to be usable. It will be usable only if this signature type is not visible on the UI of the platform, but only usable through apis.

Signing URL for this signer, only available when **include_signer_link** is enabled on the signature type and if the state of the signer is **in_progress**

- **POST/signature_processes/{id}/archive**: it's an api endpoint very useful to archive the signed document when the signer was an **external** (i.e a candidate). Once they have signed their contract, they become officially employee, then your HRIS sends this information to UKG to create this new employee in the database. If you use the callback_url or the webhook feature, you can obtain the status of the signature, and the confirmation of the new employee creation in UKG; you can then use this "archive" endpoint to archive the signed document into this new employee's folder. Otherwise, the signed document will remain in the "signature" tab in HRSD.