

RealAnswers API Integration Guide

Introduction

RealtyBaron allows posting and retrieving questions and answers from its RealAnswers service through an API.

Developer Registration

In order to utilize the features of the API, you must first become a registered developer. To register, simply send a key request to help@realtybaron.com. Please include the following in your request:

- Your company's name
- Your company's email address
- Your company's daytime phone
- Your company's evening phone (if applicable)

We'll create a new API account using these values and send you a developer key, or *app_id* for short. You must keep this key secret.

Methods

Post Question : `/rest/question/post/{context}`

This service endpoint posts a new question to the RealAnswers service. Use the following input parameters to post a question:

Input	Required?	Description	Example
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<i>fname</i>	Yes	The user's first name.	"Joe"
<i>lname</i>	Yes	The user's last name.	"Smith"
<i>email</i>	Yes	The user's email address. We'll notify the user of new answers using this email address.	"joe@example.com"
<i>subject</i>	Yes	The question's topic	"is sacramento a good investment market?"
<i>body</i>	No	The question's text	"I am considering buying investment property - is Sacramento good market for growth or income investment?"
<i>tag</i>	No	One or more keywords describing the question (see tagging for more info)	"buying+investing+growth+income"
<i>redo_url</i>	Yes	The location on your website where the question can be re-phrased by the user if rejected by moderators.	"http://www.example.com/qa/redo?question={0}"
<i>answer_url</i>	Yes	The location on your website where answers to the question can be viewed by the user.	"http://www.example.com/qa/answers?question={0}"
<i>profile_url</i>	No	The location on your website where an agent's profile can be viewed. Requires use of AgentRank API .	"http://www.example.com/ar/profile?username={0}"
<i>app_id</i>	Yes	Your secret API key.	

Some input parameters depend upon the question's location context:

Context	Required Parameters
<i>state</i>	1. <i>state</i> - The state's name or FIPS code
<i>metro</i>	1. <i>metro</i> - The metro's name or MSA code
<i>county</i>	1. <i>county</i> - The county's name or FIPS code
<i>city</i>	1. <i>city</i> - The city's name 2. <i>state</i> - The state's name or FIPS code
<i>zipcode</i>	1. <i>zipcode</i> - A 5-digit postal code
<i>address</i>	1. <i>address</i> - The street's number, name, direction, and suffix (i.e. "100 North Main Street") 2. <i>zipcode</i> - A 5-digit postal code
<i>listing</i>	1. <i>mls_id</i> - The listing's unique MLS identifier 2. <i>mls_name</i> - The multiple listing service where the home is listed

Example request:

<http://www.realtybaron.com/api/rest/question/post/metro>

Example success response:

```
<response>
  <links>
    <link rel="answer"
      type="text/html"
      text="Answer this question"
      title="Are you a real estate agent? Click here to answer question #1"
      href="http://www.realtybaron.com/agent/ViewQuestion.htm?questionId=1" />
  </links>
  <status code="200">
    <messages></messages>
  </status>
</response>
```

Example failure response:

```
<response>
  <links></links>
  <status code="400">
    <messages>
      <message>fname is a required parameter, but empty</message>
    </messages>
  </status>
</response>
```

Get Question : /rest/question/get/{id}

This service endpoint retrieves a specific question from the RealAnswers service.

Example request:

[http://www.realtybaron.com/api/rest/question/get/116?app_id=\[YOUR APP ID\]](http://www.realtybaron.com/api/rest/question/get/116?app_id=[YOUR APP ID])

Example response:

```
<response>
  <question id="116">
    <answers>2</answers>
    <body>I am considering buying investment property - is Sacramento good market for growth or income investment?</body>
    <expiration>2009-09-01T03:04:35-07:00</expiration>
    <title>is sacramento a good investment market?</title>
    <links>
      <link type="text/html"
        title="Powered by RealtyBaron"
        text="Powered by RealtyBaron"
        rel="api"
        href="http://www.realtybaron.com/api"/>
```

```

<link type="text/html"
  title="Are you a real estate agent? Click here to answer question #116"
  text="Answer this question"
  rel="answer"
  href="http://www.realtybaron.com/agent/ViewQuestion.htm?questionId=116"/>
<link type="text/html"
  title="The source of this question is Example"
  text="Source: Example"
  rel="via"
  href="http://www.example.com/answers?question=116"/>
</links>
</question>
<status code="200">
  <messages/>
</status>
</response>

```

Get Answers : `/rest/answers/get/{question}`

This service endpoint retrieves the answers to a specific question from the RealAnswers service.

Answers can be ordered by including the *order* input parameter:

Value	Description
revenue (default)	Answers whose cost-per-click bid is highest are returned first
ranking	Answers whose author is ranked highest are returned first
rating	Answers whose community rating is highest are returned first
recent	Answers whose response date is newer are returned first
oldest	Answers whose response date is older are returned first

Example request:

http://www.realtybaron.com/api/rest/answers/get/116?app_id=[YOUR APP ID]

Example response:

```
<response>
  <answers>
    <answer timestamp="2009-08-28T11:23:57-07:00" rating="0" id="12">
      <badge type="text/html">...(raw HTML excluded for brevity)...</badge>
      <text>Sacramento is one of the best places to invest. Many properties provide a positive cash flow and are at the lowest they have ever been. We have gone a little past the bottom and are moving upwards as most properties under 150K that are bank owned get numerous offers.</text>
      <tools type="text/html">...(raw HTML excluded for brevity)...</tools>
    </answer>
    <answer timestamp="2009-08-31T10:01:33-07:00" rating="0" id="13">
      <badge type="text/html">...(raw HTML excluded for brevity)...</badge>
      <text>Sacramento is a great place to invest. Many homes can produce cash flow with a 20% downpayment. The job market is strong. The rental market is very active and rental properties are being filled quickly. The investment property values that we are seeing today will not last long. As a whole, Sacramento is a very smart investment.</text>
      <tools type="text/html">...(raw HTML excluded for brevity)...</tools>
    </answer>
  </answers>
  <question>
    <body>I am considering buying investment property - is Sacramento good market for growth or income investment?</body>
    <expiration>2009-09-01T03:04:35-07:00</expiration>
    <title>is sacramento a good investment market?</title>
    <links>
      <link type="text/html"
        title="Powered by RealtyBaron"
        text="Powered by RealtyBaron"
        rel="api"
        href="http://www.realtybaron.com/api"/>
      <link type="text/html"
        title="Are you a real estate agent? Click here to answer question #116"
        text="Answer this question"
        rel="answer"
        href="http://www.realtybaron.com/agent/ViewQuestion.htm?questionId=116"/>
      <link type="text/html"
```

```
        title="The source of this question is Example"
        text="Source: Example"
        rel="via"
        href="http://www.example.com/answers?question=116"/>
    </links>
</question>
<status code="200">
    <messages/>
</status>
</response>
```

Find Questions : /rest/questions/find/{context}

This service endpoint finds a list of questions from the RealAnswers service.

Example request:

```
http://www.realtybaron.com/api/rest/questions/find/metro?page_index=0&app_id=[YOUR APP ID]&metro=6920&page_size=1
```

Example response:

```
<response>
  <links>
    <link type="text/html"
      title="Powered by RealtyBaron"
      text="Powered by RealtyBaron"
      rel="api"
      href="http://www.realtybaron.com/api"/>
  </links>
  <questions>
    <question id="116">
      <links>
        <link type="text/html"
          title="Are you a real estate agent? Click here to answer question #116"
```

```
    text="Answer this question"
    rel="answer"
    href="http://www.realtybaron.com/agent/ViewQuestion.htm?questionId=116"/>
<link type="text/html"
    title="The source of this question is Example"
    text="Source: Example"
    rel="via"
    href="http://www.example.com/answers?question=116"/>
</links>
<answers>2</answers>
<expiration>2009-09-01T03:04:35-07:00</expiration>
<title>is sacramento a good investment market?</title>
</question>
</questions>
<status code="200">
  <messages/>
</status>
</response>
```