

**NAME**

**wpa\_supplicant** - WPA/802.11i Supplicant for wireless network devices

**SYNOPSIS**

```
wpa_supplicant [-BdhKLqstuvW] [-b br_ifname] -c config-file [-C ctrl] [-D driver] [-f debug file]  
[-g global ctrl] -i ifname [-o override driver] [-O override ctrl] [-P pid file] [-N -i ifname]  
-c config-file [-C ctrl] [-D -driver] [-p driver_param] [-b br_ifname] ...]
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **wpa\_supplicant** utility is an implementation of the WPA Supplicant component, i.e., the part that runs in the client stations. It implements WPA key negotiation with a WPA Authenticator and EAP authentication with an Authentication Server. In addition, **wpa\_supplicant** controls the roaming and IEEE 802.11 authentication/association support of the wlan(4) module and can be used to configure static WEP keys based on identified networks.

The **wpa\_supplicant** utility is designed to be a "daemon" program that runs in the background and acts as the backend component controlling the wireless connection. It supports separate frontend programs such as the text-based wpa\_cli(8) program.

The following arguments must be specified on the command line:

**-i ifname**

Use the specified wireless interface.

**-c config-file**

Use the settings in the specified configuration file when managing the wireless interface. See wpa\_supplicant.conf(5) for a description of the configuration file syntax and contents.

Changes to the configuration file can be reloaded by sending a SIGHUP to the **wpa\_supplicant** process or with the wpa\_cli(8) utility, using "wpa\_cli reconfigure".

**OPTIONS**

The following options are available:

**-b** Optional bridge interface name.

**-B** Detach from the controlling terminal and run as a daemon process in the background.

**-d** Enable debugging messages. If this option is supplied twice, more verbose messages are displayed.

- D** Driver name (can be multiple drivers: nl80211,wext).
- f** Log output to debug file instead of stdout.
- g** Global ctrl\_interface.
- h** Show help text.
- K** Include key information in debugging output.
- L** Display the license for this program on the terminal and exit.
- N** Start describing a new interface.
- o** Overrides driver parameter for new interfaces.
- O** Override ctrl\_interface parameter for new interfaces.
- p** Specify driver parameters.
- P** File in which to save the process PID.
- q** Decrease debugging verbosity (i.e., counteract the use of the **-d** flag).
- s** Send log messages through syslog(3) instead of to the terminal.
- t** Include timestamp in debug messages.
- v** Display version information on the terminal and exit.
- W** Wait for a control interface monitor before starting.

### SEE ALSO

ath(4), ipw(4), iwi(4), ral(4), rum(4), ural(4), wlan(4), wpi(4), zyd(4), wpa\_supplicant.conf(5), devd(8), ifconfig(8), wpa\_cli(8)

### HISTORY

The **wpa\_supplicant** utility first appeared in FreeBSD 6.0.

### AUTHORS

The **wpa\_supplicant** utility was written by Jouni Malinen <[j@w1.fi](mailto:j@w1.fi)>. This manual page is derived from the *README* file included in the **wpa\_supplicant** distribution.