Windows Azure™

bring the cloud
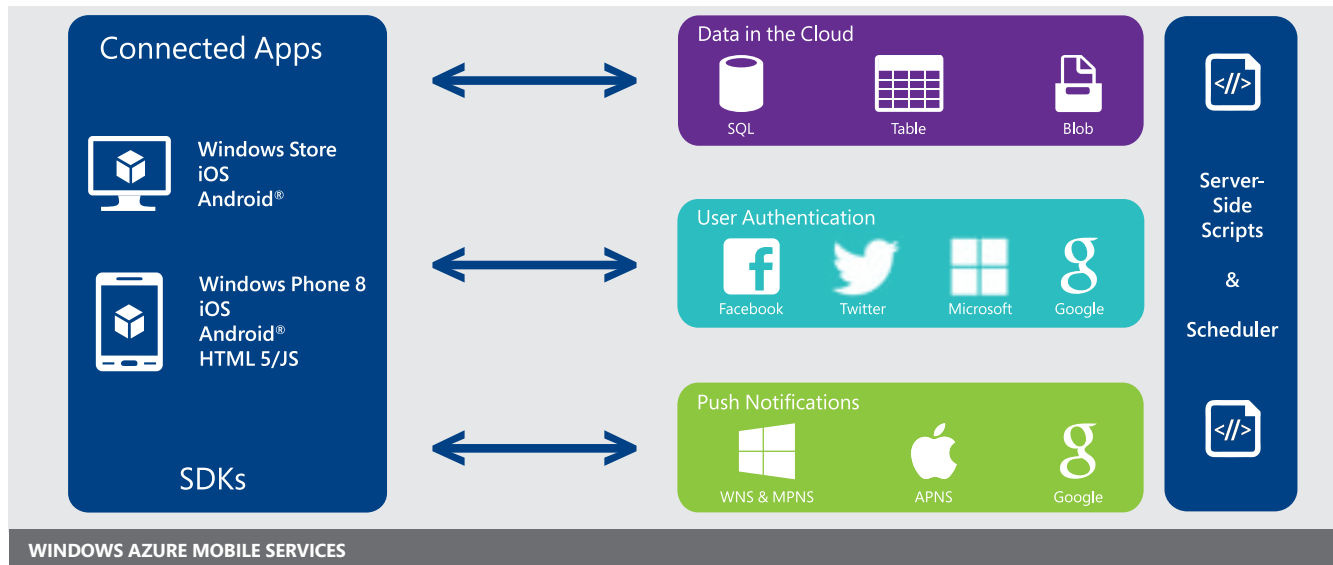## to your
windows apps

Create richer app experiences with Windows Azure. Add cloud services like data storage to create a leaderboard for a game app. Use identity services to make it easy for users to sign in with their Microsoft® (Live), Facebook, Twitter or Google accounts. Or let a game player know it's their turn next with push notifications. Windows Azure Mobile services can help you easily add cloud features to build the next killer app.

GO WHERE THE JOBS ARE GOING

IDC, a leading technology analyst firm, predicts seven million jobs will be created in cloud computing in the next three years. Use this guide to start learning the developer skills high in demand.

Microsoft

the sky's the limit

Connected Apps

Windows Store
iOS
Android®

Windows Phone 8
iOS
Android®
HTML 5/JS

SDKs

WINDOWS AZURE MOBILE SERVICES

Data in the Cloud — SQL · Table · Blob

User Authentication — Facebook · Twitter · Microsoft · Google

Push Notifications — WNS & MPNS · APNS · Google

Server-Side Scripts & Scheduler

WINDOWS DEVICES SOAR WITH AZURE MOBILE SERVICES

Windows provides a development platform for making fast, fluid apps designed for touch. Windows Azure Mobile Services takes Windows Store and Windows Phone app performance even higher. Let us show you what we mean.

3 THINGS YOU SHOULD CONSIDER

You can build an app that does everything locally, for example, a single-player card game where all you can do is play against the computer.

Or you can connect that app to a cloud backend using Windows Azure Mobile Services, and you can do much more:

1. **Data** (Store high scores in an SQL database with one line of code to insert, update or delete data objects from the SQL database.)

2. **Identity** (Add user profiles by using social sign-in from Microsoft (formerly Windows Live), Facebook, Twitter or Google.)

3. **Push notifications** (Notify a player that it's their turn by a notification popup or Live Tile update.)

You can spend energy on your app development and not have to reinvent the wheel. Go straight to gaining the benefits of the cloud for your app without having to spend tons of time on plumbing code in the backend.

http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg1

3 simple steps to get started
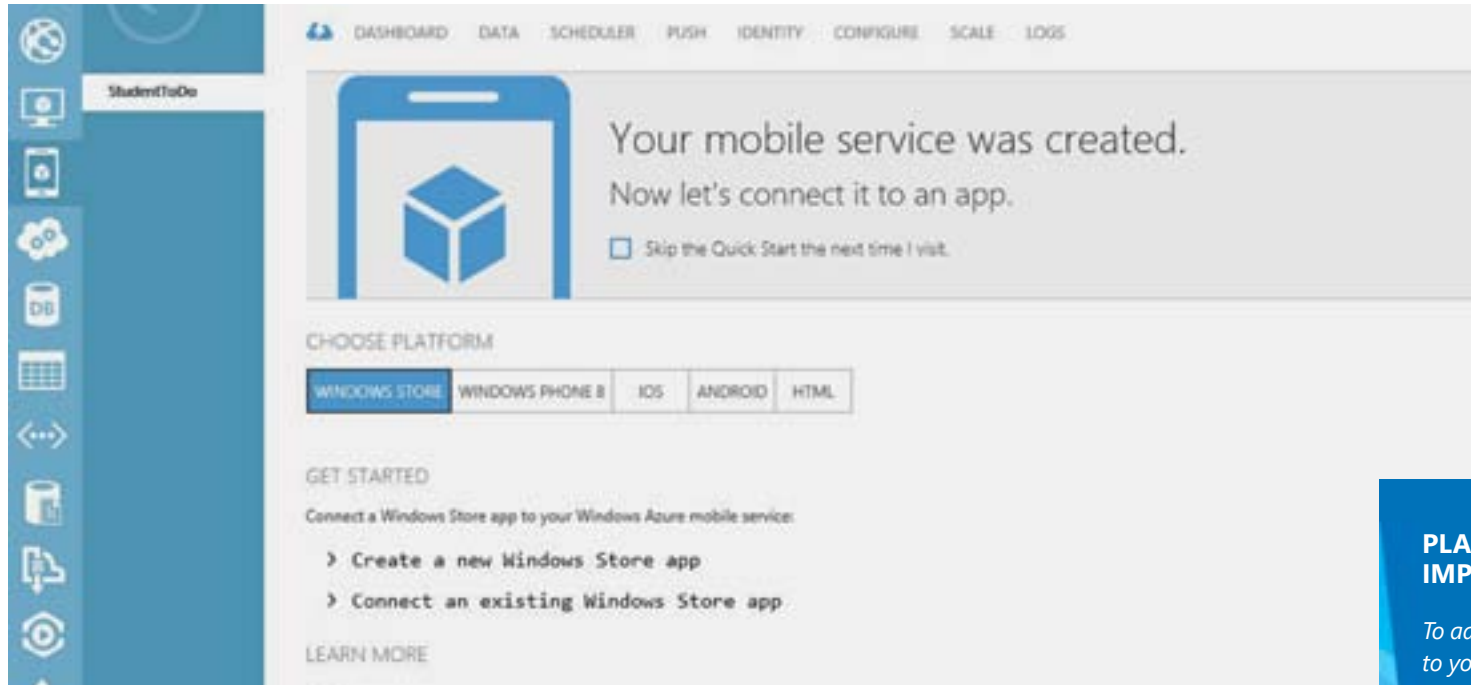
1 DOWNLOAD YOUR TOOLS   **2** PLAN AND BUILD YOUR APP   **3** TEST AND PUBLISH YOUR APP

PLANNING AHEAD IS IMPORTANT

To add cloud-enabled performance to your Windows app, you need to plan like a pro. This guide will walk you through the process of integrating Windows Azure Mobile Services into your design.

1 get your design and dev tools

Microsoft DreamSpark®

Get a Windows Azure Account. Sign up online. (http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg7)

FOLLOW THESE STEPS

1. Download Visual Studio® 2012 Express for Windows 8 (http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg4)

2. Get a Windows Azure account (http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg7)

3. Download the Windows Azure Mobile Services SDK (http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg6) for Visual Studio 2012

PROFESSIONAL DESIGN TOOLS AND DEVELOPMENT AT NO CHARGE TO STUDENTS

Microsoft DreamSpark.com (http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg013) offers you software and tools so you can build the technology skills that build your career.

You can find all the resources and instructions to make an awesome app. Let us guide you to the best video tutorials, lab exercises, app templates, code samples, relevant forums and expert help from Microsoft.

2 plan and build your app

ONE STEP AT A TIME

We have what you need to easily learn how to use Windows Azure Mobile Services. You can choose a video or step-by-step instructions online.

Choose the type of Windows app you're making, and get started

WINDOWS 8 APP
(http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg11)

WINDOWS PHONE APP
(http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg12)

LEARN BY DOING

In this exercise (http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg11) you will create a simple To Do List app, and then a new cloud-connected service that lets you store your Windows app data in the cloud.

ADD PRO FEATURES

Data

Learn how to store and retrieve data for a Windows Store app.

http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg8

Discover how Azure handles all of the Web service APIs for you to create, read, update and delete rows from your table. You'll gain professional skills in storing your Windows app's data in SQL database tables.

Identity

Learn how to authenticate people that use your app.

http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg9

Discover how to identify your app users using your favorite identification providers such as Microsoft, Facebook, Twitter and Google.

Notifications

Learn how easy it is to add push notifications to your app.

http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg10

Make sure your app users get updates when the app is not open or in use. Notifications can overlay on a device screen to get the user's attention; a simple tap takes the user right to the relevant place in your app to take action.

For Windows Phone and Windows 8 apps, you can add "Live tile" updates, a unique and popular feature.

3 test and publish your app
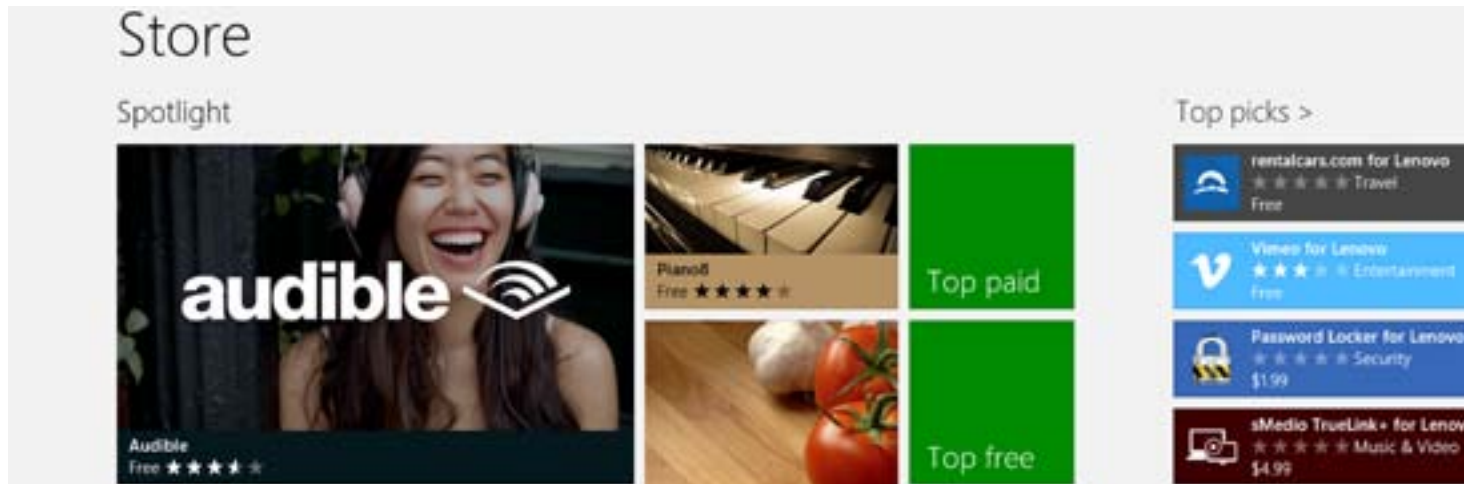
STUDENTS CAN PUBLISH WINDOWS APPS AT NO COST

To get your free Windows Store or Windows Phone Dev Center account, you must first verify you're a student at DreamSpark.com (http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg13). It's fast and easy.

HOW TO PUBLISH YOUR APP

Next, use your Windows Store code that you get from DreamSpark.com to publish your Windows Store app for free.

The simple instructions on how to publish your app (http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg14) are explained at the Store.

EASY SCALING OF YOUR APP

When you attach Azure Mobile Services to your app, there's a new world of possibilities.

From the start, your app will be connecting your app users to the extra features that come from being in the cloud.

As your app gets more downloads and attracts more users, you can scale up your Windows Azure Mobile Service to grow as your app grows as easily as moving a slider. More users means more data to store and more Web API requests to your Mobile Service for data. It's all easily managed from your Windows Azure Management Portal.

For this added performance, there will be a modest monthly fee. The good news is that the popularity of your app should help cover the cost for greater cloud storage.

TIP

When you submit your app to the Store, make sure you have good sample data in your Windows Azure Mobile Service SQL Database so the reviewer sees your app perform in the best light.

Do not make changes to your Windows Azure Mobile Service that would break your app and make it fail in the Windows Store testing and certification.

resources recap

1 DOWNLOAD

Visual Studio 2012 Express
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg4

Windows Azure Management Portal
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg5

Windows Azure Mobile Services SDK
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg6

Sign Up for Azure Account
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg7

2 PLAN AND BUILD

Data
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg8

Identity
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg9

Notifications
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg10

Build a Windows 8 App
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg11

Build a Windows Phone App
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg12

3 TEST AND PUBLISH

DreamSpark.com
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg013

Publish Your App Instructions
http://aka.ms/winaz_gsg14