Cloud Functions (2nd Gen) Serverless Functions on Cloud Run



What are they?

Cloud Functions 2nd gen **are Cloud Run services** + an event handling layer

You write single-purpose code (Python, Node.js, Go...)

Google wraps it in a container, deploys to Cloud Run, scales automatically

Pay per invocation + per compute second (just like Cloud Run)

Comparison

Aspect	FastAPI Service	Cloud Run Job	Cloud Function
Framework	FastAPI + Uvicorn	Pure Python script	functions-framework
HTTP Interface	☑ Full REST API	X No HTTP	Single HTTP endpoint
Containerization	Docker required	Docker required	X Just code
Deployment	Cloud Build + Docker	Cloud Build + Docker	Direct upload
Runtime Limits	Unlimited	Unlimited	9 minutes max
Memory Limits	Up to 32GB	Up to 32GB	Up to 8GB
Cold Start	~1-3 seconds	~1-3 seconds	~100ms
Complexity	Medium	Low	Lowest

Simple function

```
python
import functions_framework
@functions framework.http
def hello world(request):
    name = request.args.get("name", "World")
    return {"message": f"Hello, {name}!"}
```

Deployment

- GUI
- CLI
- Cloudbuild (same as cloud run and cloud run jobs, minus dockerfile)

Example cloudbuild.yaml

```
steps:
 - name: 'gcr.io/cloud-builders/gcloud'
   args:
      - functions
      - deploy
      - weather-ingestion
      - '--runtime=python311'
      - '--trigger-http'
      - '--entry-point=weather_ingestion'
      - '--source=.'
      - '--env-vars-file=env.yaml'
      - '--set-secrets=API_KEY=WEATHER_API_KEY:latest'
      - '--region=europe-north2'
```

Supported triggers

HTTP

Pub/Sub

Cloud Storage events

Eventarc events (Audit Logs, custom events)

Workflows and scheduler

- Functions can be run by scheduler
- They can also be run as part of a workflow