

MUST READ: Firebase Cloud Functions & Billing

In the next lecture, we'll write some server-side code which we need. We'll do that with a feature called "Firebase Cloud Functions", the following text refers to that feature and to what we'll do in the next lecture.

Please read it carefully if you plan on following along in code!

Especially consider the below notes **before you deploy the function** we created in the next lecture via `firebase deploy`!

Generally, Firebase Cloud Functions - a feature we're going to use in the next lecture - are part of Firebase' free tier and you can get started with them for free.

Starting on June 22nd 2020, you need a billing account (i.e. also a **credit card** though) if you're cloud function should run with Node.js v10. So you need a credit card to create such a billing account.

This **does not mean that you're going to be billed** for the function execution though! As long as you stay within the free tier, you'll **NOT be billed** (see: <https://firebase.google.com/support/faq#expandable-19>).

There is one exception though - you can expect a very small charge per month if you deployed your functions - also see <https://firebase.google.com/support/faq#expandable-19>.

If you don't have a credit card and/ or you don't want to incur that small charge, you can't use cloud functions with Node 10 unfortunately.

For the moment, you **could use Node 8** instead of Node 10 and you should be able to deploy without a credit card (and without being billed therefore).

You set the Node version in the `functions/package.json` file (which will be created in the next lecture) like this:

```
"engines": {"node": "8"}
```

Simply add that key-value pair to the `functions/package.json` file.

However, **support for Node 8 will end on February 15th 2021** - see: <https://firebase.google.com/support/faq#functions-pricing>

Thereafter, you need to use Node 10 and hence you need to use a credit card.