

# Step 1: Sign up for Cloud Pak for Data as a Service

You can sign up for a free version of Cloud Pak for Data as a Service and provision Lite plans of the core services. The core services are Cloud Pak for Data as a Service, Watson Machine Learning, Watson Knowledge Catalog, Watson OpenScale, plus Cloud Object Storage.

If you have already provisioned an instance of Watson Studio or Watson Knowledge Catalog, sign up for Cloud Pak for Data as a Service with the same IBM Cloud account to create Lite plans of the remaining core services.

1. Go to [Try Cloud Pak for Data as a Service](#).
2. Select the service region.
3. Agree to the terms, Data Use Policy, and Cookie Use.
4. Log in with your IBMid (usually an email address) if you have an existing IBM Cloud account. If you don't have an IBM Cloud account, click **Create an IBM Cloud account** to create a new account.
5. After the Cloud Pak for Data as a Service core services finish provisioning, open up the dashboard by clicking **Go to Cloud Pak for Data as a Service**.

# Step 2: Set up a billable IBM Cloud account

You must have a billable IBM Cloud account to provision paid service plans and to work with the complete functionality of the services. There are two types of billable accounts: Pay-As-You-Go and Subscription.

# Pay-As-You-Go accounts

IBM Cloud accounts paid by credit card are called Pay-As-You-Go accounts. You pay only for billable services that you use, with no long-term contracts or commitments.

You can provision plans for all services in the IBM Cloud services catalog, including plans in the Cloud Pak for Data as a Service services catalog.

To set up a Pay-As-You-Go account:

1. Log in to Cloud Pak for Data as a Service and click **Buy** in the header or choose **Administration > Account and billing > Account upgrade** from the main menu.

2. On the **Buy Cloud Pak for Data** page, click **Enter credit card information** in the Pay-As-You-Go section.
3. Enter the information about your account, including your payment information.
4. Click **Create account** to submit your information.

After your payment information is processed, your account is upgraded and you can access the full IBM Cloud catalog, including Cloud Pak for Data as a Service services. For billable services that you use beyond any free allowances, you receive a monthly invoice.



# Subscription accounts

With subscriptions, you commit to a minimum spending amount for a certain period and receive a discount on the overall cost.

Subscriptions are limited to service plans in the Cloud Pak for Data as a Service catalog. To purchase plans for other IBM Cloud services, set up a Pay-As-You-Go account.

Subscription credits are activated using a unique code that you will receive by email. To activate the subscription, you apply the subscription code to an account. Be careful when selecting the account, because once the subscription has been applied to an account, it cannot be undone.

To purchase subscription credits for Cloud Pak for Data as a Service, contact IBM Sales by filling out the subscription form. Click here to open the form: [Subscription form](#).

If the form is not available, you can also open it from the Cloud Pak for Data as a Service dashboard:

1. Log in to Cloud Pak for Data as a Service and then click **Buy** in the header or choose **Administration > Account and billing > Account upgrade** from the main menu.
2. On the **Buy Cloud Pak for Data** page, click **Contact sales**.

communicate with IBM Sales that you want to set up a subscription account for Cloud Pak for Data as a Service. An associate from IBM Sales will contact you to set up a subscription. When your subscription is ready, you will receive an email from IBM containing a unique subscription code.

Follow these steps to apply the subscription code to your account:

1. Locate the unique code from the email that you received from IBM.
2. Navigate to your IBM Cloud account, and select **Manage > Account** from the header. Be sure to select the correct account.



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3. Select **Account settings** and locate the **Subscription and feature codes** section on the page.
4. Click **Apply code**.
5. Copy and paste the code from the email into the **Apply a code** field and click **Apply**.

# Step 3: (Optional) Configure restrictions for the account

Complete these optional tasks to secure your account:

- Restrict the scope of resources that are available in Cloud Pak for Data as a Service to the current account. See [Set the scope of resources](#).