

How to Set Up an SSL Certificate for your application using AWS Certificate Manager(ACM)

Step 1: Prerequisites

Before starting, ensure you have the following :

- *An AWS account with sufficient permissions to manage ACM and related services.*
- *A domain name registered through Rout 53 or any other domain registrar.*

Step 2: Open AWS Certificate Manager

1. *Log in to your AWS Management Console.*
2. *Navigate to Certificate Manager:*
 - *Search for “Certificate Manager” in the search bar at the top of the console.*
 - *Click on Certificate Manager under the Services section.*

Step 3: Request a Certificate

1. *Click the Request a certificate button.*
2. *Choose Request a public certificate (recommended for most applications).*
3. *Click Next.*

Step 4: Specify Domain Names

1. Enter the domain name(s) you want the certificate to cover. For example:
 - `example.com`(your root domain)
 - `*.example.com`(to include all subdomains like www.example.com or `app.example.com`).
2. Click Next .

Step 5: Choose Validation Method

AWS ACM requires you to validate ownership of your domain. You can choose one of two methods:

Option 1: DNS Validation (Recommended)

1. Select DNS validation and click Next.
2. AWS will provide a CNAME record that needs to be added to your domain's DNS settings.
 - If you use Route 53, click Create a record in Route 53 to automatically add the required CNAME record.
 - If you use another DNS provider, log in to your domain registrar and manually add the provided CNAME record.

Option 2: Email Validation

1. Select Email validation and click Next.
2. AWS will send validation emails to the domain's registered email addresses (e.g., admin@example.com, webmaster@example.com).
3. Check your email inbox, find the validation email, and follow the instructions to complete validation.

Step 6: Review and Submit

1. *Review the information you entered :*
 - *Ensure all domain names are correct.*
 - *Confirm the validation method.*
2. *Click Confirm and Request.*

Step 7: Validate the Domain

Depending on the validation method you choose :

- *For DNS validation, wait for the DNS changes to propagate(usually within a few minutes to a few hours).*
- *For Email Validation, click the link in the validation email to confirm ownership.*

Once the validation is complete, the certificate's status will change to issue in ACM.

Step 8: Use the SSL Certificate

After the certificate is issued, you can associate it with your application. The steps vary depending on the service you use:

Option 1: For AWS Load Balancers (ALB/ELB)

1. *Navigate to the **EC2** service and select **Load Balancers**.*
2. *Choose the load balancer you want to attach the certificate to.*
3. *Edit the **Listener** settings:*
 - *Add an HTTPS listener if one does not exist.*
 - *Select your ACM certificate from the drop-down menu.*
 - *Save the changes.*

Option 2: For CloudFront Distributions

1. *Navigate to the **CloudFront** service.*
2. *Choose the distribution you want to secure.*
3. *Edit the distribution's settings and select your ACM certificate under the **SSL Certificate** section.*
4. *Save the changes.*

Option 3: For Other Services (e.g., API Gateway, Elastic Beanstalk)

Follow the specific service documentation to associate the SSL certificate with your application.

Step 9: Test Your Application

1. *Access your application via the HTTPS protocol (e.g., <https://example.com>).*
2. *Verify that the SSL certificate is active and the browser shows a secure connection.*

