* Clone the project repository from GitHub:  
  <https://github.com/barmalka1419/Attendance-management-system-Carmey-Gil-Center-/tree/main>
* **Deployed Application:**  
  The system is also deployed and accessible at the following URL: [Attendance Management System on Render](https://attendance-management-system-carmey-gil-1s78.onrender.com/)
* If you choose to use the deployed version, please note the following:  
  **Wait for the Backend Server**

**Option 1: Running Frontend Only (Using Render Backend)**

In the current setup, the backend server is hosted on **Render**, and all requests from the frontend are configured to point to the Render server's URL.

**Steps:**

1. **Run the Frontend**:
   * Open a terminal in the frontend directory.
   * Install dependencies: **npm install**
   * Start the application: **npm start**

**Wait for the Backend Server:**  
The Render server may take up to 5 minutes to wake up from idle mode. Once the server has fully started, it will function smoothly without delays. To confirm that the server is ready, click on the "Attendance Registration" and wait for the guide images to load. This indicates that the server is fully operational. Once the images are displayed, you can begin using the system, and it will work seamlessly.

**Testing the Login Feature:**  
If you choose to test the **Login** functionality, you can use the following credentials of an existing user in the system:

* **Username:** barmalk1419@gmail.com
* **Password:** 123456

Enter these details to log in as a guide and explore the available options within the system.

**Option 2: Running the Complete Application Locally (Frontend + Backend)**

This option involves running both the **frontend** and **backend** locally. You will need to configure MongoDB, set up the backend server, and modify the frontend to point to the local backend.

**Update the Connection String**:

* Open the server.js file in the backend directory.
* Replace the placeholder connection string with your MongoDB connection string.
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 **Create a Database and Collection**:

* In MongoDB Atlas:
  1. Click **Create Database** in the control panel.
  2. Enter the database name: CarmeyGil.
  3. Create a collection named: Guides.

**Add an Initial Object**:

* Add an object to the Guides collection with all necessary details.
* Once the object is added, you will be able to use its credentials to log in to the system and test the guide's functionality.

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**Running the Backend Locally:**

Open a terminal in the backend directory.

Install dependencies: npm install

Start the backend server: npm start

Updating Frontend to Point to Local Backend

If you choose to run the backend locally, you must update the frontend code to point to your local server.

1. Open the frontend codebase (typically in the src directory).
2. Search for all instances of the current backend URL (Render server URL).
3. Replace them with the local backend URL: <http://localhost:5000/>

**Running the Frontend Locally**

Open another terminal in the frontend directory.

Install dependencies: npm install

Start the React application: npm start

Access the Application.

**Summary of Options:**

* **Option 1 (Frontend Only)**:  
  Use this option if you do not want to configure MongoDB or the backend locally. All requests will go to the Render server.
* **Option 2 (Complete Local Setup)**:  
  Use this option for full local control, including running your own MongoDB instance and backend server. This requires updating the frontend to point to the local backend.

**If you encountered difficulties setting up a guide and a service recipient in MongoDB, we have another solution available. It can be found in the startDB folder along with a full guide. Please refer to it for assistance.**