# API Research Document for E-Commerce Platform Integration

Objective  
To integrate product data from platforms like Shopify, AliExpress, Amazon, and more into our e-commerce platform using their APIs, eliminating the need for our own product database.

## 1. Shopify API

Access: Available worldwide, including in Pakistan.

Free Tier: Developers can access Shopify’s APIs for free by creating a Shopify Partner account. This allows testing and development without charges.

Costs: Merchants using Shopify plans incur costs based on their plan’s fees. If developing public apps, a revenue-sharing model may apply based on Shopify’s terms.

## 2. AliExpress API

Access: Globally accessible, including Pakistan. Requires registration through the AliExpress affiliate portal.

Free Tier: Free API access for affiliate program members to fetch product data, subject to usage limits.

Costs: Generally free for affiliates. Higher data volumes or advanced commercial integration may have costs or restrictions.

## 3. Amazon API (Product Advertising API & Selling Partner API)

Product Advertising API:  
- Access: Accessible in Pakistan if registered as an Amazon Associate.  
- Free Tier: Free access for active affiliates who meet Amazon’s performance conditions.  
- Costs: No direct fees, but maintaining access depends on meeting sales or affiliate metrics.

Selling Partner API:  
- Access: Available for registered Amazon sellers for managing products and operations.  
- Costs: Fees may be tied to seller account costs or marketplace participation fees.

## 4. Daraz API (Local Option for Pakistan)

Access: Daraz is a major e-commerce platform in Pakistan and South Asia. API access is available for registered sellers.

Free Tier: No cost for basic data management via the API as a Daraz seller.

Costs: API use is free for sellers, but sales commissions or platform fees may apply for transactions.

## 5. eBay Developer Program

Access: Available globally, including Pakistan, with a focus on product data and marketplace integration.

Free Tier: Free API access with rate limits for developers.

Costs: No direct charges for API access, though restrictions and limits may apply based on commercial usage.

## 6. Walmart API

Access: Walmart’s API is primarily for sellers on the Walmart Marketplace. Pakistani developers can access it upon approval.

Free Tier: Free for approved sellers.

Costs: No charges for API usage, but standard seller fees for the marketplace may apply.

## 7. Best Buy API

Access: Available globally; provides product data for free public access.

Free Tier: Free access with rate limits.

Costs: No direct cost for public product data access.

## Recommended Approach for E-Commerce Project

1. Local Market Focus: Daraz API can be a good choice for regional relevance in Pakistan, allowing access to local e-commerce data.  
2. Cost Efficiency: Use free tiers and affiliate programs to reduce costs during the development phase.  
3. Global Integration: For international product data, Shopify, AliExpress, Amazon, and eBay APIs offer reliable access.

## Considerations

- Terms & Conditions: Review API terms to ensure compliance and understand rate limits or usage restrictions.  
- Authentication: All APIs typically require API keys or tokens for access and data management.