Give one reason (there are many) OAuth token should not be granted in the main flow, assuming the user has sent in the correct credentials.

One interesting reason, is if your API is not actually part of the system that handles credentials/auth. A good example is something that uses a google account, you get redirected to a google page to allow the app/api and that in turn can grant an OAuth key to the app/api.

Bonus reason, it gives you greater control of duration of allowance to your API.