# What is a Role?

* A role is a set of permissions that grant access to actions and resources in AWS. These permissions are attached to the role, not to an IAM User or a group.
* An IAM User can use a role in the same AWS account or a different account.
* An IAM User is similar to an IAM User; role is also an AWS identity with permission policies that determine what the identity can and cannot do in AWS.
* A role is not uniquely associated with a single person; it can be used by anyone who needs it.
* A role does not have long term security credential, i.e., password or security key. Instead, if the user uses a role, temporarily security credentials are created and provided to the user.
* You can use the roles to delegate access to users, applications or services that generally do not have access to your AWS resources.

### Situations in which "IAM Roles" can be used:

* Sometimes you want to grant the users to access the AWS resources in your AWS account.
* Sometimes you want to grant the users to access the AWS resources in another AWS account.
* It also allows the mobile app to access the AWS resources, but not want to store the keys in the app.
* It can be used to grant access to the AWS resources which have identities outside of AWS.