Lab Guide

Accessing IBM Cloud

#### Preface

As you begin your journey into the IBM Cloud, IBM’s premier platform as a service (PaaS) where all services reside, take a moment and watch the following video. It will give you a good idea of IBM’s platform and the steps outlined in this document.

* How to setup your [IBM Cloud](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBkY-Fs1d6E).

We recommend that you register for the IBM Cloud from home or your office. Often doing it as a class all at once, through a single gateway prompts the security settings for IBM Cloud to delay or not verify your account thinking that it is a hack.

##### Pre-Requisites

There are two main tasks that you must undertake:

* Obtain an IBM Cloud account
* Apply the promo code to extend the Lite offerings into a Trial account.

**Obtain an IBM Cloud account**

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| 1. Open the IBM Cloud website: <https://console.bluemix.net/> in a web browser. 2. Click **Create a free account**. 3. Fill out the form with requested information. Note that you must use a valid email address, because IBM Cloud sends you an email to verify your account. 4. Click **Create Account.** 5. Complete the steps as prompted. 6. Log back into IBM Cloud. 7. Click **Catalog**. 8. Remove the **label:lite** from the search field and press enter. |  |

**Apply the Promo Code**

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| To obtain a promo code you must refer to the email that you received from IBM.   1. Copy the code as it appears in the email, which is specific to you. Each participant has a unique code. 2. Back to your IBM Cloud, from the main menu, select **Manage > Billing and usage > Billing**. 3. Scroll down to the **Feature (Promo) Codes** section. 4. Paste the code in the **FEATURE CODE** box 5. Click **Catalog** to return to the listing of the platform services.   You are now ready to begin the exercises. |  |