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Understanding Kubernetes Admission Control

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Introduction

Admission control is the final layer of access control in the Kubernetes API. A Kubernetes cluster can have many admission control modules and the modules used by a cluster can be configured. None of the modules in use must reject the request for a request to be allowed. For example, the ResourceQuota admission controller enforces resource quotas configured in a Namespace. Admission controllers can also modify requests before they are accepted. For example, the LimitRanger admission controller allows you to specify default cpu and memory limits for Pods that don't specify any. A full treatment of admission controllers and how they are configured is outside of the scope of this lab. A list of admission controllers is available in [the official Kubernetes documentation](#).

You will explore the admission controllers in the cluster in this lab step.

Instructions

1. exec into the Kubernetes API Server Pod and display the kube-apiserver help to see what admission controllers are available and enabled by default:

Copy code

```
1 | kubectl exec -n kube-system kube-apiserver-ip-10-0-0-100.us-west
```

```
--enable-admission-plugins strings admission plugins that should be enabled in addition to default enabled ones (NamespaceLifecycle, LimitRanger, ServiceAccount, TaintNodesByCondition, Priority, DefaultTolerationSeconds, DefaultStorageClass, StorageObjectInUseProtection, PersistentVolumeClaimResize, RuntimeClass, CertificateApproval, CertificateSigning, CertificateSubjectRestriction, DefaultIngressClass, MutatingAdmissionWebhook, ValidatingAdmissionWebhook, ResourceQuota). Command-delimited list of admission plugins: AlwaysAdmit, AlwaysDeny, AlwaysPullImages, CertificateApproval, CertificateSigning, CertificateSubjectRestriction, DefaultIngressClass, DefaultStorageClass, DefaultTolerationSeconds, DenyServiceExternalIPs, EventRateLimit, ExtendedResourceToleration, ImagePolicyWebhook, LimitPodHardAntiAffinityTopology, LimitRanger, MutatingAdmissionWebhook, NamespaceAutoProvision, NamespaceExists, NamespaceLifecycle, NodeRestriction, OwnerReferencesPermissionEnforcement, PersistentVolumeClaimResize, PersistentVolumeLabel, PodNodeSelector, PodSecurityPolicy, PodTolerationRestriction, Priority, ResourceQuota, RuntimeClass, SecurityContextDeny, ServiceAccount, StorageObjectInUseProtection, TaintNodesByCondition, ValidatingAdmissionWebhook. The order of plugins in this flag does not matter.
```

There are 17 admission controllers enabled by default, although they can be disabled if desired. To view any non-default admission controllers enabled using the `--enable-admission-plugins` option, connect to a control-plane node where the API server is running.

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```
1 | ssh 10.0.0.100 -oStrictHostKeyChecking=no
```

3. List all the processes on the machine and use grep to select the kube-apiserver process and highlight the `--enable-admission-plugins` option:

[Copy code](#)

```
1 | ps -ef | grep kube-apiserver | grep enable-admission-plugins
```

```
--enable-admission-plugins=NodeRestriction
```

The **NodeRestriction** admission controller is enabled in addition to the default admission controllers in this cluster.

Summary

In this lab step, you learned about admission control as the final layer of access control in the Kubernetes API. You also investigated which admission controllers are enabled in the cluster.

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