Process of Creating Box App and Utilizing Box API to Establish Box Client

## Prerequisites:

1. AD account
2. Access to ucop.box.com

## Step 1. Creating Box App

1. Go to UCOP Box Developer console: <https://ucop.app.box.com/developers/console>
2. Create a Platform App and follow this link: <https://developer.box.com/guides/getting-started/first-application/>
3. On Application Type choose Custom App.
4. On Authentication method choose either JWT or Client Credential Grant (CCG)
5. On General Settings:
   1. App name – name for the app. NOTE: name the app to the process.
   2. Collaborators – add developer’s email address including Infrastructure Application Support team such as: Louis Zeoli ([louis.zeoli@ucop.edu](mailto:louis.zeoli@ucop.edu)) and Cameron Pon ([Cameron.pon@ucop.edu](mailto:Cameron.pon@ucop.edu))

## Step 2. Testing Box App using Developer Token

Developer token is a temporary token that expires after 60 minutes. Although developer token can be used in API to access Box folders, it should not be used in production.

1. Once the app is created, go to App> Configuration > Developer Token and click Generate Developer Token and retrieve the developer token
2. Also retrieve the Client ID, Client Secret, and Enterprise ID ( found in App > General Setting)

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1. Test the connectivity in script. In this example I am using Python script and I refer to Python Box sdk gen. Reference: https://github.com/box/box-python-sdk/blob/main/docs/usage/authentication.md

A close-up of a computer screen

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## Step 3. Adding Box App Service Account to Box folder

When a Box app is created, a Service Account ID is assigned to the app. See App > General Settings > Service account Info. Assign the Service Account email to the Box folder’s collaborator.

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Here is how to add Service Account as collaborator in Box folder:

1. Go to ucop.box.com > [target folder]
2. Click the ellipsis (…) > More Actions > Manage Collaborators

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1. On Collaborators page, click Share and paste the Service Account email address and click Send

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By adding the Service Account to collaborator, the Service Account now has access to the target Box folder and a Box client session can be initiated using CCG or JWT.

## Step 4. Initiating Box Client using CCG or JWT

CCG or JWT (JSON Web Token) allows your application to authenticate itself with the Box API for a given enterprise. It uses Service Account that represents the app and can perform API calls.

To authenticate using JWT in Python script follow the script below:

A screen shot of a computer code

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To learn more about JWT see this link: <https://developer.box.com/guides/authentication/jwt/>

To authenticate using CCG in Python script follow the script below:

A screen shot of a computer

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To learn more about CCG see this link:

https://developer.box.com/guides/authentication/client-credentials/