

Part 1: Creating an AWS Free Tier Account

1. Sign Up for AWS

- Go to [AWS Free Tier Sign-Up](#).
- Click "**Create a Free Account**".
- Follow the on-screen instructions to enter your details (email address, password, and account type).
- Provide the required billing information (credit/debit card) — **you won't be charged as long as you stay within the free tier limits**.
- Complete the verification process (phone verification and identity verification).
- Select the **Basic Support Plan** (Free).

2. Log in to AWS Management Console

- After creating your account, log in to the AWS Management Console at <https://aws.amazon.com/console/>.

3. Familiarize Yourself with the AWS Console

- Once logged in, explore the various AWS services, and note the free tier offerings by visiting the [AWS Free Tier page](#).

Part 2: Setting Up Budget Management & Alerts

1. Access the Billing Dashboard

- From the AWS Console, navigate to the **Billing Dashboard** by clicking on your account name (top-right corner) and selecting **Billing Dashboard**.

2. Create a Budget

- In the Billing Dashboard, select **Budgets** from the left-hand menu.
- Click on **Create Budget**.
- Choose **Cost Budget** and click **Next**.
- Configure your budget settings:
 - **Name**: Enter a descriptive name for your budget (e.g., "Monthly AWS Budget").
 - **Period**: Choose **Monthly**.
 - **Start Month**: Select the current month.
 - **Amount**: Enter a budget limit. For example, if you want to ensure no more than \$10 is spent, set the amount to \$10.
 - Click **Next**.

3. Set Budget Alerts

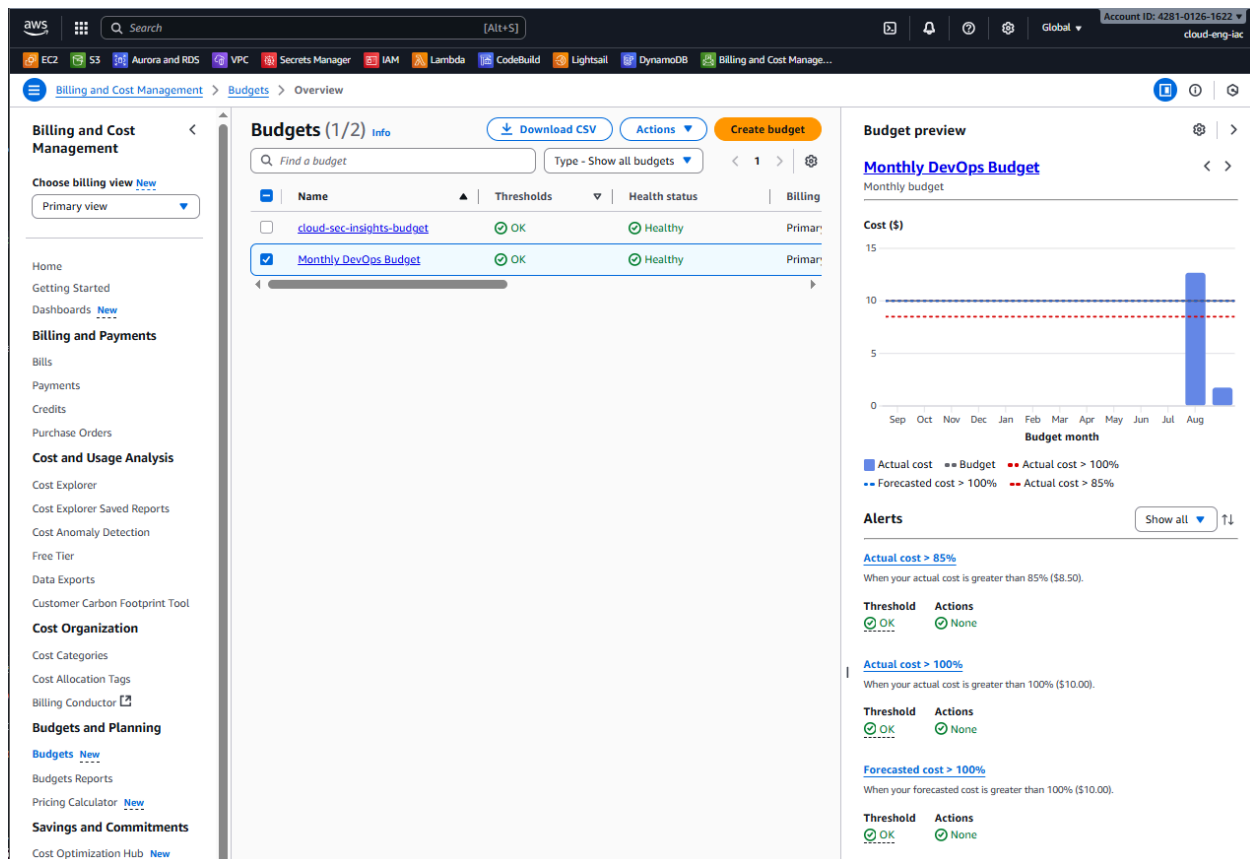
- Set up alerts so that AWS will notify you if your spending approaches your budget limit.
- Configure alert thresholds (e.g., 50% of your budget, 80%, and 100%).
- Enter an email address where AWS will send the notifications.
- Click **Next** and review your settings.

4. Review & Confirm Your Budget

- Review your budget and alert settings.
- Click **Create Budget** to finalize.

Submission:

- After completing the steps, submit a screenshot of your AWS Budget setup page showing your budget and alert configurations.



- Ensure that the screenshot clearly shows:
 - The budget name
 - The budget amount
 - The alert thresholds

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the process of creating an AWS Free Tier account.
- Learn how to manage AWS costs by setting up budgets and alerts.
- Familiarize yourself with the AWS Management Console, Billing Dashboard, and Budget settings.
- Gain confidence in managing your AWS account to ensure you don't exceed free tier limits.

Tips:

- Make sure to check AWS Free Tier limits regularly to avoid accidental charges.
- Monitor your usage and receive email alerts to help you stay within budget.

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By completing this assignment, you will have an active AWS account and will be set up to monitor and control your costs effectively, preparing you for further hands-on learning throughout the course.

Questions for this assignment

Why is it important to set up budget alerts when using an AWS account?

Budget alerts keep you from getting surprised by charges. They let you:

- **Catch runaway costs early:** A misconfigured service (like an EC2 instance left running, or logs exploding in S3) can rack up charges quickly. Alerts give you a chance to shut things down before it snowballs.
- **Stay within planned spend:** If you're experimenting or running a project with limits, alerts act like guardrails.
- **Track usage trends:** They help you see which services are driving costs, not just the total bill at the end of the month.
- **Avoid account suspension issues:** If bills get out of hand and you don't pay, AWS can lock you out. Alerts help prevent getting anywhere near that situation.

So it's not about the alert itself, but about giving you time to react before your credit card takes the hit.