## Hands-on Lab Prerequisites

To be able to complete the hands-on tutorials, you need to have access to some services on IBM Cloud, which in turn requires you have access to an IBM Cloud account.

If you already have an IBM Cloud account and you know how to access and create service instances on IBM Cloud, you do not need to continue reading this document.

The following steps outline the steps to create an IBM Cloud account and the required services for this hands-on lab. In this document, we'll show how to create Watson Assistant service but the same process can be followed for creating other services.

## Create IBM Cloud account and required services

1- If you have an IBM Cloud account already, then navigate to <a href="https://cloud.ibm.com">https://cloud.ibm.com</a> and provide your IBMid (annotated with red rectangle in Figure 1) and click **Continue** to authenticate by providing your IBM Cloud account credentials.

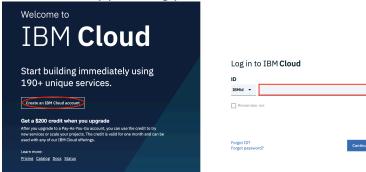


Figure 1: IBM Cloud Sign up

If you do not have an IBM Cloud account, please sign up for an IBM Cloud account by navigating to <a href="https://cloud.ibm.com/registration">https://cloud.ibm.com/registration</a> and following the instruction to sign up for an account.

2- Once you've authenticated, click on **Catalog** (annotated with red oval) and click on AI in the left navigation column (annotated with red arrow) as shown in Figure 2.

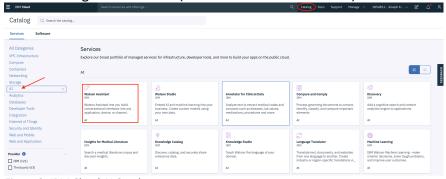


Figure 2: IBM Cloud AI Catalog

- 3- Click on Watson Assistant tile (annotated with red rectangle) as shown in Figure 2.
- 4- On Watson Assistant service creation page, select a region (Dallas), choose the **Plus Trial** plan (note that Plus Trial plan is unique to Watson Assistant; however most services support a **Lite** plan which is free), and click **Create** button. You can also optionally specify a unique name for the service and add any tags if you wish (need to scroll down).

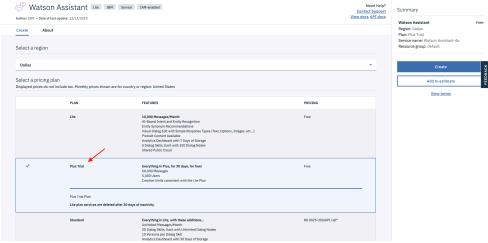


Figure 3: Watson Assistant service creation page

5- \*\*Optional\*\* If you need to get service credentials to be able to access the service via APIs, follow these steps:

On the Watson Assistant page, click Service credentials from the left navigation column (annotated with red oval). If credentials are already created for your service, click on the View credentials drop down (annotated with red arrow) and copy/paste the credentials. If not, then click New credential (annotated with red rectangle) and press **Add** on the pop-up window. Then copy/paste credentials from View credentials drop down as shown in Figure 4.



Figure 4: Service Credentials

You can repeat these steps to create other service instances on IBM Cloud.