Providers

OpenAI

OpenAI provides developer APIs for GPT models. Codex supports `ChatGPT sign-in` for subscription access or `API key` sign-in for usage-based access. Codex cloud requires ChatGPT sign-in.

Option A: OpenAI API key (OpenAI Platform)

Best for: direct API access and usage-based billing. Get your API key from the OpenAI dashboard.

CLI setup

```
openclaw onboard --auth-choice openai-api-key
# or non-interactive
openclaw onboard --openai-api-key "$OPENAI_API_KEY"
```

Config snippet

```
{
  env: { OPENAI_API_KEY: "sk-..." },
  agents: { defaults: { model: { primary: "openai/gpt-5.1-codex" } } },
}
```

Option B: OpenAI Code (Codex) subscription

Best for: using ChatGPT/Codex subscription access instead of an API key. Codex cloud requires ChatGPT sign-in, while the Codex CLI supports ChatGPT or API key sign-in.

CLI setup (Codex OAuth)

```
# Run Codex OAuth in the wizard
openclaw onboard --auth-choice openai-codex

# Or run OAuth directly
openclaw models auth login --provider openai-codex
```

Config snippet (Codex subscription)

```
{
  agents: { defaults: { model: { primary: "openai-codex/gpt-5.3-codex" } } },
}
```

Notes

Model refs always use `provider/model` (see   ).

Auth details + reuse rules are in   .

‹ **Anthropic**   **OpenRouter** ›

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