

IaC Snowflake Admin Service User RSA Key Credentials Creation Script

This script automates the creation of a Snowflake admin service user secured with RSA key-pair authentication. Designed for enterprise environments, it standardizes and accelerates the onboarding of Snowflake service users while maintaining strict security and compliance controls.

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1.0 Let's get started!

1. Take care of the cloud and local environment prerequisites listed below:

You need to have the following cloud accounts:

- [AWS Account](#) *with SSO configured*
- [aws2-wrap](#) utility
- [Snowflake Account](#)

You need to have the following installed on your local machine:

- [AWS CLI version 2](#)
- [Snowflake CLI](#)

2. Clone the repo:

```
git clone https://github.com/j3-signalroom/iac-snowflake-admin_service_user-rsa_key_credentials_creation-script.git
```

3. From the root folder of the [iac-snowflake-admin_service_user-rsa_key_credentials_creation-script/](#) repository that you cloned, run the script in your Terminal to create the Snowflake service user:

```
./provision-snowflake-admin-credentials.sh <create | delete> --  
profile=<SSO_PROFILE_NAME> \  
--
```

```
account_identifier=<ACCOUNT_IDENTIFIER> \
snowflake_admin_user=<SNOWFLAKE_ADMIN_USER> \
snowflake_password=<SNOWFLAKE_PASSWORD> \
snowflake_warehouse=<SNOWFLAKE_WAREHOUSE> \
secrets_root_path=<SECRETS_ROOT_PATH> \
new_admin_service_user=<NEW_ADMIN_SERVICE_USER>
```

Argument placeholder	Replace with
<SSO_PROFILE_NAME>	your AWS SSO profile name for your AWS infrastrucue that houses your AWS Secrets Manager.
<ACCOUNT_IDENTIFIER>	your organization's Snowflake account identifier .
<SNOWFLAKE_ADMIN_USER>	your Snowflake username that has been granted ACCOUNTADMIN privileges.
<SNOWFLAKE_PASSWORD>	your Snowflake password of the <SNOWFLAKE_ADMIN_USER> .
<SNOWFLAKE_WAREHOUSE>	your Snowflake warehouse is the virtual cluster of compute resources that provides CPU, memory, and temporary storage to perform DML (Data Management Language) operations.
<SECRETS_ROOT_PATH>	the root path in AWS Secrets Manager where the secrets will be stored.
<NEW_ADMIN_SERVICE_USER>	the name of the new Snowflake ACCOUNTADMIN service user to be created or updated.

For instance, here is an example command to create a new Snowflake admin service user named **admin_service_user**:

```
./provision-snowflake-admin-credentials.sh create --
profile=AdministratorAccess-0123987654321 \
snowflake_account_identifier=abcdef-xyz12345 \
snowflake_admin_user=your_admin_user \
snowflake_password=your_admin_password \
snowflake_warehouse=COMPUTE_WH \
secrets_root_path=/snowflake_admin_service_user_credentials \
new_admin_service_user=admin_service_user
```

The output of the script running successfully:

Attempting to automatically open the SSO authorization page in your default browser.
If the browser does not open or you wish to use a different device to authorize this request, open the following URL:

<https://your-organization.awsapps.com/start/#/device>

Then enter the code:

WXYZ-ABCD

Successfully logged into Start URL: <https://your-organization.awsapps.com/start>

writing RSA key

writing RSA key

CREATE USER admin_service_user TYPE=SERVICE

RSA_PUBLIC_KEY="MIIBIjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAA0CAQ8AMIIBCgKCAQEAfVfuwgFR6bD0qI
j+Em2E6asyvZ66I0BgHG6uxgzQzy0NxGVXSguXDWdQGyAWce4WGD8ZKG4g1UFgY+swF1jqHXpW
QqHd1mG99XigUSFhr0iF8cD7eA797GAygPyWywfYeK2aRduedqh9+DGtVF8jfeT+KCV6GQWZqF
v1nChJY+o1rDpF14PhmVVwyEpNrmIJ3WUIeQo7m1gRL1ZlNKaucahuHI0oJUaKlC0xYY3AkHgZ
ecN24d/HF5TN0TX4rb6fXUQgbkj1ga3WxsaEoyq8mU4DwrLo/Eqhngx9Dq3GQUU8cxvZrwJm6X
Rn5WgFRpWafDBnBJuP8xDHTG5oN9bbywIDAQAB" DEFAULT_ROLE=PUBLIC;

```
+-----+
| status                                     |
+-----+
| User ADMIN_SERVICE_USER successfully created. |
+-----+
```

GRANT ROLE ACCOUNTADMIN TO USER admin_service_user;

```
+-----+
| status                                     |
+-----+
| Statement executed successfully. |
+-----+
```

GRANT ROLE SECURITYADMIN TO USER admin_service_user;

```
+-----+
| status                                     |
+-----+
| Statement executed successfully. |
+-----+
```

GRANT ROLE SYSADMIN TO USER admin_service_user;

```
+-----+
| status                                     |
+-----+
| Statement executed successfully. |
+-----+
```

```
{
  "ARN": "arn:aws:secretsmanager:us-east-
1:0123987654321:secret:/snowflake_admin_service_user_credentials-0zVHcy",
```

```
"Name": "/snowflake_admin_service_user_credentials",
"VersionId": "645f7f6c-e8ef-4fba-b0c6-7ece065abdfd"
}
```

1.1 Snowflake

Below is a picture of an example Snowflake admin service user created with the **ACCOUNTADMIN** role granted by the script:

<

ADMIN_SERVICE_USER

...

About

Login name

ADMIN_SERVICE_USER

Display name

ADMIN_SERVICE_USER

Default role

PUBLIC

Default warehouse

—

Default namespace

—

MFA

No

Last login

—

Status

Enabled

Roles

[Granted roles \(3\)](#)

User type

Service

Programmatic access tokens

Create PAT to authenticate into Snowflake

Active

Expired

No active programmatic access tokens

Privileges

ACCOUNTADMIN (Current Role)

OWNERSHIP

Group by Role

+ Privilege

Grants

ADMIN_SERVICE_USER has 3 grants

Search

Grant Role

NAME ↑	GRANTED DATE	GRANTED TO	GRANTED ON	GRANTED BY	
ACCOUNTADMIN	10/19/25	USER	ROLE	SYSTEM	...
SECURITYADMIN	10/19/25	USER	ROLE	ACCOUNTADMIN	...
SYSADMIN	10/19/25	USER	ROLE	ACCOUNTADMIN	...

1.2 AWS Secrets Manager Secrets

Here is the list of secret keys generated by the script:

Key	Description
snowflake_account_identifier	Your organization's Snowflake account identifier .
snowflake_organization_name	The name of your Snowflake organization, which is the part of the account identifier before the hyphen.

Key	Description
snowflake_account_name	The name of your Snowflake account, which is the part of the account identifier after the hyphen.
new_admin_service_user	The name of the new Snowflake admin user to create and manage future Snowflake resources.
active_key_number	The current active RSA public key number.
snowflake_rsa_public_key_1_pem	The new_admin_service_user Snowflake RSA Public Key 1 PEM, which is encoded in base64 .
snowflake_rsa_public_key_2_pem	The new_admin_service_user Snowflake RSA Public Key 2 PEM, which is encoded in base64 .
snowflake_rsa_private_key_1_pem	The new_admin_service_user Snowflake RSA Private Key 1 PEM, which is encoded in base64 .
snowflake_rsa_private_key_2_pem	The new_admin_service_user Snowflake RSA Private Key 2 PEM, which is encoded in base64 .

2.0 Inside the Script

This bash script provisions or removes Snowflake admin credentials by creating a service account with RSA key-pair authentication and storing the credentials in AWS Secrets Manager:

2.1 What it Does

2.1.1 Create Mode

When run in **create** mode, the script performs the following actions:

1. Generates two RSA key pairs (2048-bit) for Snowflake authentication, converting them to the required formats (PKCS8 private keys and base64-encoded public keys)
2. Creates a Snowflake service user with:
 - The first public key for authentication
 - **ACCOUNTADMIN**, **SECURITYADMIN**, and **SYSADMIN** role grants:

Role	Description
ACCOUNTADMIN	The ACCOUNTADMIN role in Snowflake is the highest-level administrative role within a Snowflake account. It has full control over all objects, resources, and configurations within the account. This role is responsible for managing all aspects of the Snowflake environment, including user access, resource allocation, and security settings.

Role	Description
SECURITYADMIN	The SECURITYADMIN role in Snowflake is a built-in system role designed to manage security-related tasks, primarily concerning user and role management. The SECURITYADMIN role has elevated privileges that allow it to control access within a Snowflake account, making it one of the key roles for maintaining the security posture of a Snowflake environment.
SYSADMIN	The SYSADMIN role in Snowflake is one of the predefined system roles that comes with a broad set of administrative privileges. It is designed to provide comprehensive control over most Snowflake resources, such as databases, schemas, warehouses, and other objects within an account. The SYSADMIN role is typically used for database administrators who manage the creation and configuration of Snowflake resources and control access to them.

- **SERVICE** account type designation.
3. Stores credentials in AWS Secrets Manager including:
- Snowflake account identifiers (full identifier, organization name, account name)
 - Service username
 - Both RSA key pairs (public and private)
 - Active key indicator (for key rotation)
4. Cleans up temporary key files from disk

2.1.2 Delete Mode

When run in **delete** mode, the script performs the following actions:

1. Removes the Snowflake service user created in **create** mode.
2. Deletes the associated RSA key pairs from the file system.
3. Removes the credentials stored in AWS Secrets Manager.

2.2 Script Sequence Diagram

```
sequenceDiagram
    participant Script as Bash Script
    participant OpenSSL as OpenSSL
    participant FS as File System
    participant Snow as Snowflake CLI
    participant AWS as AWS Secrets Manager

    Note over Script: RSA Key Pair 1 Generation
    Script->>OpenSSL: genrsa 2048
    OpenSSL-->>Script: RSA private key (raw)
    Script->>OpenSSL: pkcs8 -topk8 -inform PEM -nocrypt
    OpenSSL->>FS: private_key_1.p8

    Script->>OpenSSL: rsa -pubout -outform DER
```

```
OpenSSL-->>Script: Public key (DER format)
```

```
Script->>OpenSSL: base64 -A
```

```
OpenSSL->>FS: public_key_1.pub
```

```
Script->>OpenSSL: base64 -A (private key)
```

```
OpenSSL->>FS: private_key_1.b64
```

```
Note over Script: RSA Key Pair 2 Generation
```

```
Script->>OpenSSL: genrsa 2048
```

```
OpenSSL-->>Script: RSA private key (raw)
```

```
Script->>OpenSSL: pkcs8 -topk8 -inform PEM -nocrypt
```

```
OpenSSL->>FS: private_key_2.p8
```

```
Script->>OpenSSL: rsa -pubout -outform DER
```

```
OpenSSL-->>Script: Public key (DER format)
```

```
Script->>OpenSSL: base64 -A
```

```
OpenSSL->>FS: public_key_2.pub
```

```
Script->>OpenSSL: base64 -A (private key)
```

```
OpenSSL->>FS: private_key_2.b64
```

```
Note over Script: Snowflake Service User Creation
```

```
Script->>FS: cat public_key_1.pub
```

```
FS-->>Script: Public key content
```

```
Script->>Snow: CREATE USER TYPE=SERVICE with RSA_PUBLIC_KEY
```

```
Snow-->>Script: Service User created successfully
```

```
Script->>Snow: GRANT ROLE ACCOUNTADMIN
```

```
Snow-->>Script: Role granted
```

```
Script->>Snow: GRANT ROLE SECURITYADMIN
```

```
Snow-->>Script: Role granted
```

```
Script->>Snow: GRANT ROLE SYSADMIN
```

```
Snow-->>Script: Role granted
```

```
Note over Script: AWS Secret Creation
```

```
Script->>FS: cat public_key_1.pub
```

```
FS-->>Script: Public key 1 content
```

```
Script->>FS: cat public_key_2.pub
```

```
FS-->>Script: Public key 2 content
```

```
Script->>FS: cat private_key_1.b64
```

```
FS-->>Script: Private key 1 content
```

```
Script->>FS: cat private_key_2.b64
```

```
FS-->>Script: Private key 2 content
```

```
Script->>AWS: create-secret with JSON payload
```

```
Note right of AWS: Secret contains:
```

- Account info
- User info
- Both public keys
- Both private keys
- Active key: 1

```
AWS-->>Script: Secret created successfully
```

3.0 Resources

- [Snowflake Configuring key-pair authentication](#)
- [Supported Snowflake Clients](#)