Quickstart guide: Deploying to IIS

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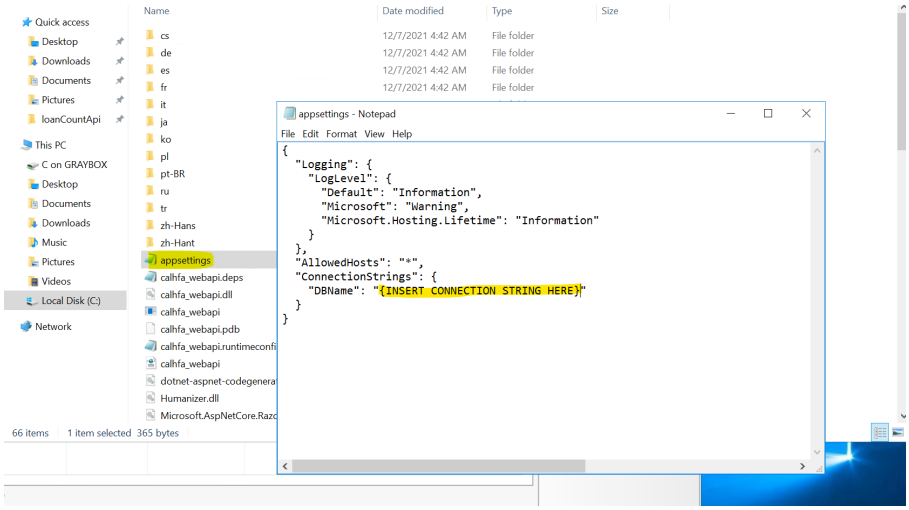
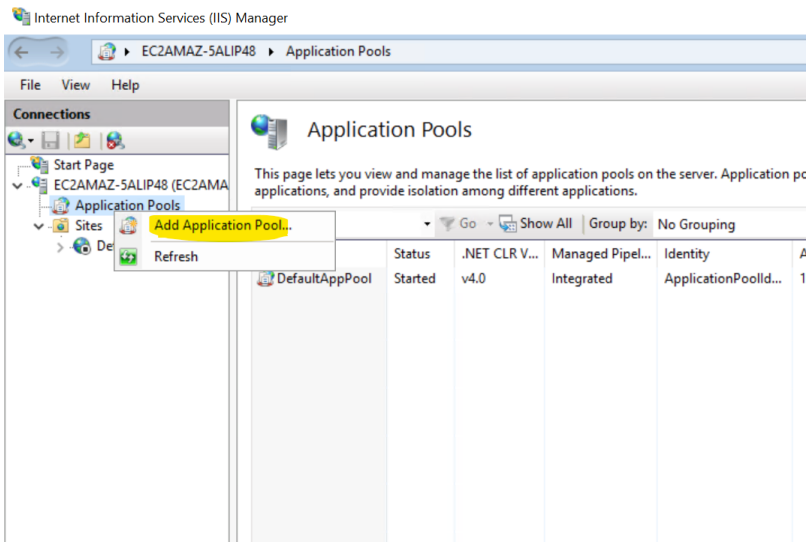
This tutorial is a step-by-step guide to setting up our API on IIS. We assume you will have knowledge of some of these steps. You may even want to do it your own way if you know what you are doing. It's really just as simple as putting the build folder in your webroot, setting up IIS to host the folder, and setting the connection string in the appsettings.json file. This is how we did it.

1. Our API uses ASP.NET Core 5.0.0. If you do not have the ASP.NET Core Runtime, Install the winx64 hosting bundle at https://dotnet.microsoft.com/download/dotnet/5.0.
2. In the API package we gave you, copy the "loanCountApi" folder located in "releaseV1_0_winx64." Paste it into the desired directory of your webroot. This folder will function as the parent folder so rename it as you see fit.
    - *Note: If the application is not under the inetpub directory, ensure that the IIS user (IIS_USRS) account has read and write access to the path*
3. Ensure that the connection string is set to your SQL Server Database.

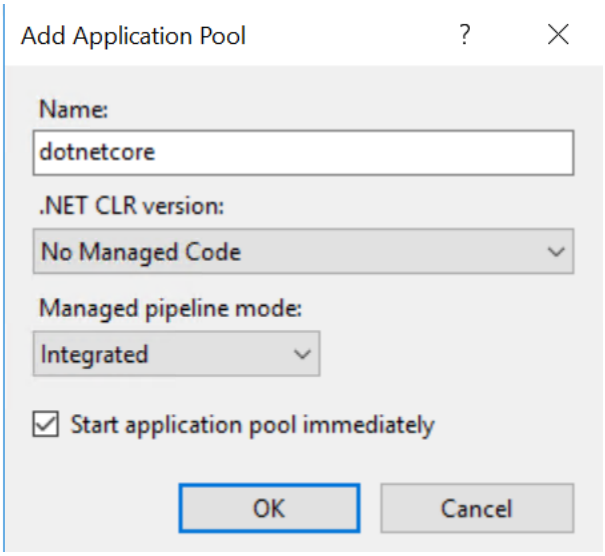


4. Copy the path of the application directory to your clipboard

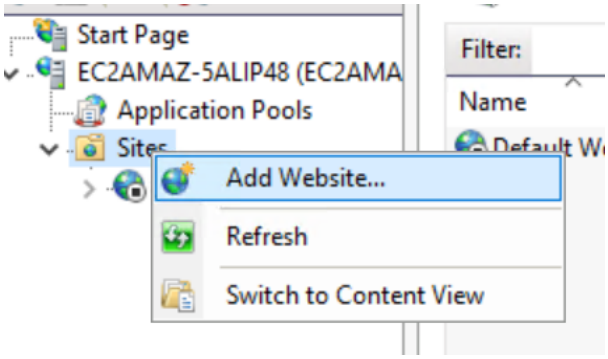
5. In IIS, add an application pool



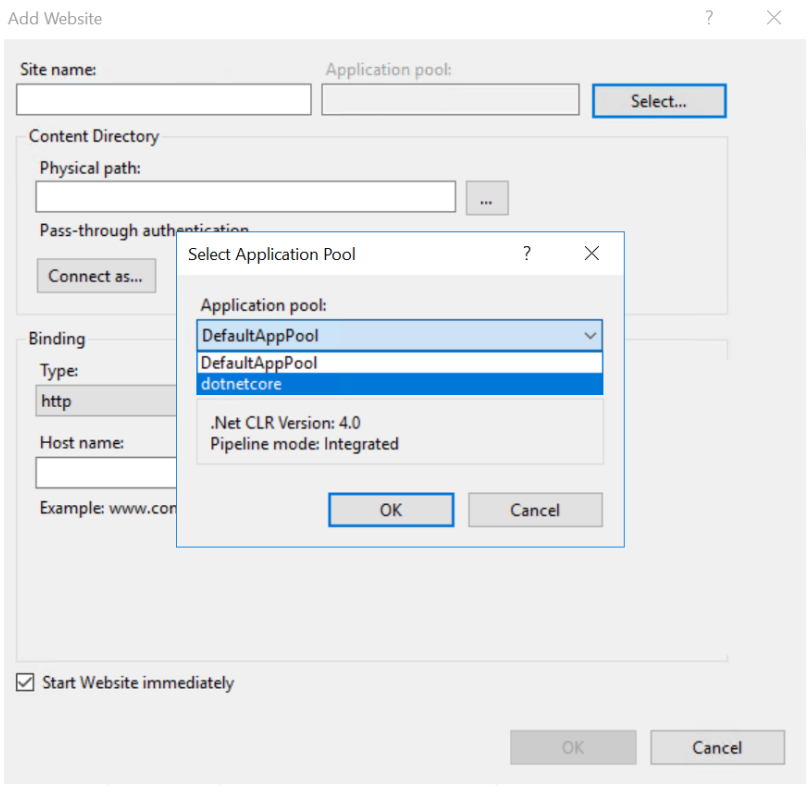
6. Name the application pool and select "no managed code" in the .NET CLR dropdown. Select "OK".



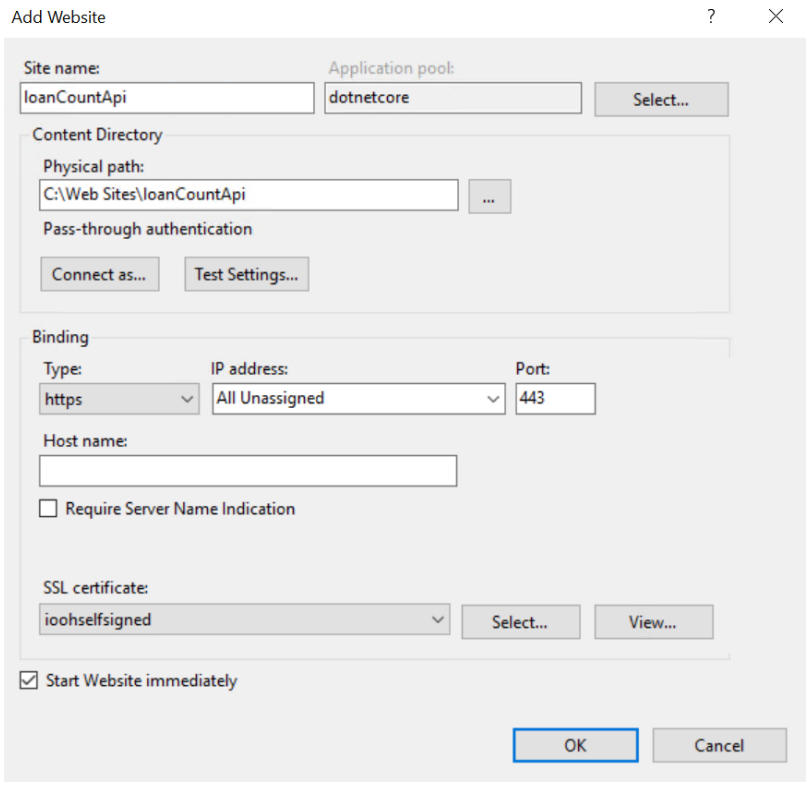
7. Add a new website by right clicking the "Sites" folder



8. In the Add website window, click the "Select..." button and change the application pool to the one you created



9. *Note: In this step you will have to select your SSL certificate, so make sure you add it to IIS if you haven't already. For information on how to add an SSL certificate to IIS, refer to this article.*
Name your website and select the physical path where you placed the application folder in step 1. If it is no longer in your clipboard, you can specify the path via the menu button to the right of the field. Change the binding type to https and specify the port you want to run on. Then select your SSL certificate.



10. That's it! The website should now be running on https. If you try to connect on http you will get a hanging page. You may add an http binding to prevent this, but you should set up http to https redirects as the API will not function on http. For more information on how to redirect all http traffic to https, refer to this stackexchange answer.