[**https://dashboard.render.com/**](https://dashboard.render.com/)

[**https://chatgpt.com/c/68f3a6d8-6f18-8324-acbe-2e2b9a34fc4b**](https://chatgpt.com/c/68f3a6d8-6f18-8324-acbe-2e2b9a34fc4b)

**Don’t worry — you still have 100% free MySQL database options.**

Here are **three reliable alternatives** that work great with Node.js:

**🅰️ 1. Render.com (Free PostgreSQL or MySQL)**

Render still gives you a **completely free database instance** (Postgres).

🪜 Steps:

1. Go to 👉 <https://render.com>
2. Create account / log in.
3. Go to **Dashboard → New → Database**
4. Choose:
   * **Name:** node\_project\_db
   * **Region:** Singapore (Southeast Asia)
   * **Database type:** PostgreSQL
   * **Instance type:** Free
5. Copy credentials after it’s ready.
6. Update your .env like this:
7. DB\_CONNECTION=pgsql
8. DB\_HOST=dpg-xxxxxxx.render.com
9. DB\_PORT=5432
10. DB\_USER=node\_project\_user
11. DB\_PASSWORD=your\_password\_here
12. DB\_NAME=node\_project\_db

*(✅ Great for testing or small apps.)*

**🅱️ 2. Neon.tech (Free PostgreSQL Cloud)**

Very easy and **forever-free** for hobby usage.

🪜 Steps:

1. Go to 👉 <https://neon.tech>
2. Create an account.
3. Create a new project:
   * **Database name:** node\_project\_db
   * **Region:** Singapore or nearest
4. Copy the connection string (example below):
5. postgresql://user:password@ep-xxx.ap-southeast-1.aws.neon.tech/node\_project\_db
6. .env example:
7. DB\_CONNECTION=pgsql
8. DB\_HOST=ep-xxx.ap-southeast-1.aws.neon.tech
9. DB\_PORT=5432
10. DB\_USER=user
11. DB\_PASSWORD=password
12. DB\_NAME=node\_project\_db

*(✅ 500MB free, instant scaling.)*

**🅾️ 3. Free Local MySQL (XAMPP / WAMP)**

If you only need local development (no cloud access):

🪜 Steps:

1. Install **XAMPP** from https://www.apachefriends.org
2. Start **Apache** and **MySQL**
3. Go to http://localhost/phpmyadmin
4. Create a new DB named node\_project\_db
5. Use:
6. DB\_CONNECTION=mysql
7. DB\_HOST=localhost
8. DB\_PORT=3306
9. DB\_USER=root
10. DB\_PASSWORD=
11. DB\_NAME=node\_project\_db

*(✅ Perfect for local development and testing.)*

Would you like me to guide you through **Render.com** (the easiest free cloud option right now)?  
I can show you exactly what to choose and how to get the credentials.