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lab title

AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) V1.09



Course title

BackSpace Academy AWS Certified Associate



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About the Lab

Please note that not all AWS services are supported in all regions. Please use the US-East-1 (North Virginia) region for this lab.

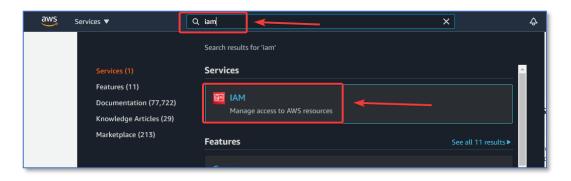
These lab notes are to support the hands on instructional videos of the Identity and Access Management (IAM) section of the AWS Certified Associate Course.

Please note that AWS services change on a weekly basis and it is extremely important you check the version number on this document to ensure you have the lastest version with any updates or corrections.

Creating an IAM User

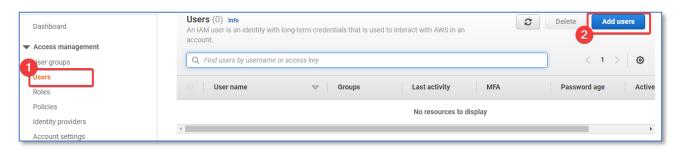
In this section, we will use the Identity and Access Management (IAM) service to create a user with console access and programmatic access.

AWS console search IAM.



Select Users

Click Add user

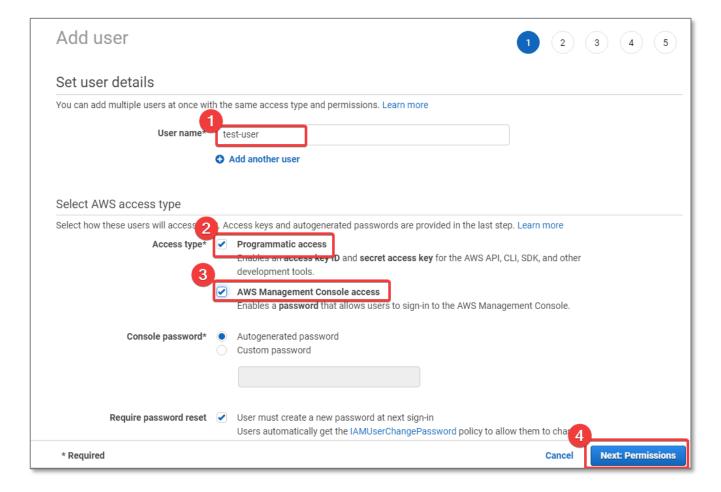


Give the user a name

Check Programmatic access

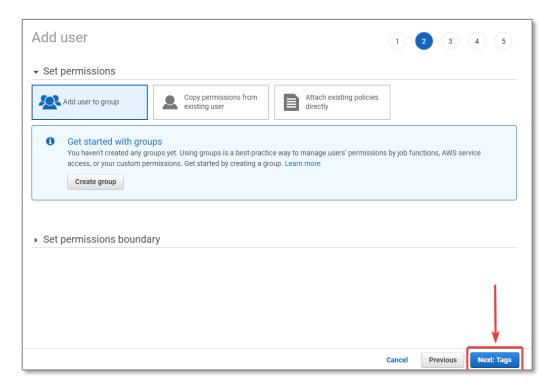
Check AWS Management Console access

Click Next: Permissions



We won't set any permissions for the user at this point.

Click Next Tags

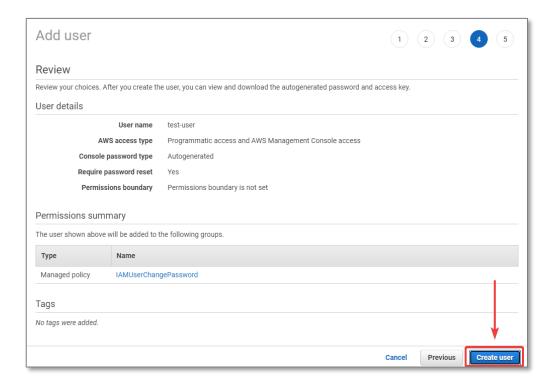


We won't add any tags to the user

Click Next Review



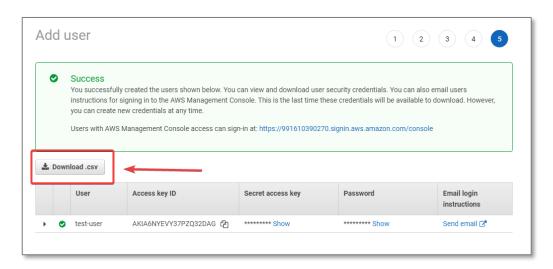
Click Create user



Download the csv file containing the user credentials (access key and secret access key) to a safe location.

You will need this for access using the Command Line Interface (CLI) later in the course.

Click Close

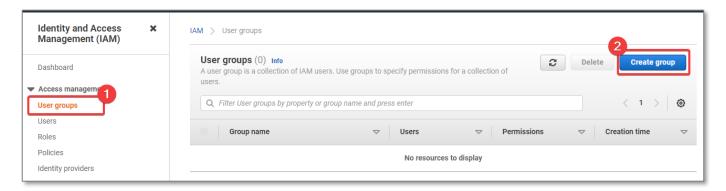


Creating an IAM Group

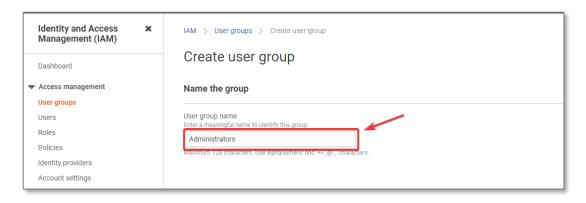
In this section, we will use the Identity and Access Management (IAM) service to create a group with administrator access. We will also add our newly created user to the group.

Select User groups

Click Create group

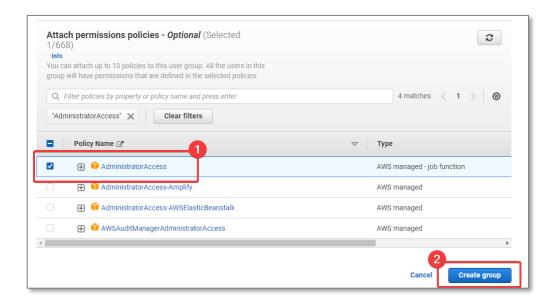


Give the group a name, Scroll down to Policy

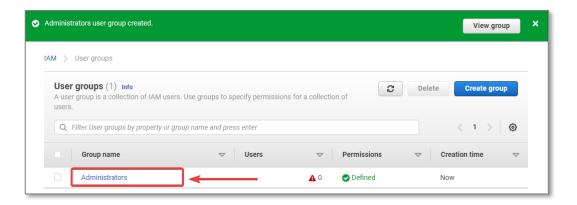


Search for AdministratorAccess and click Create group



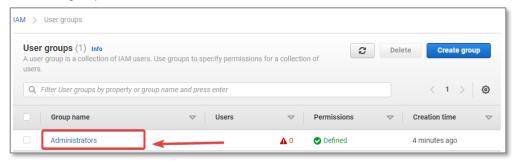


The Group has been created

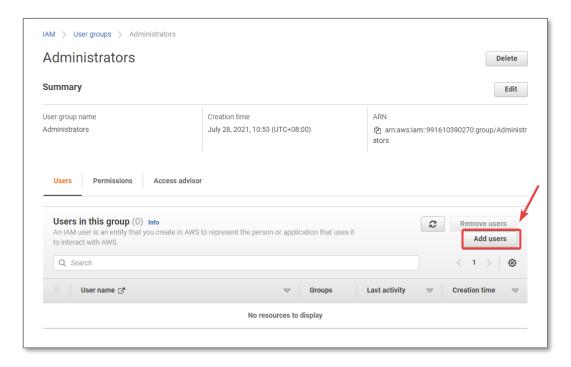


Adding a User to a Group

Select the group Administrator



Click Add Users



Select the newly created user then Click Add users



Setting a Password Policy

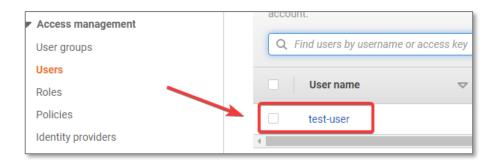
In this section, we will use the Identity and Access Management (IAM) service to set a password policy for our account and also set initial password details of an IAM user.

Setting an initial user password

First, we will setup the initial password for our new user.

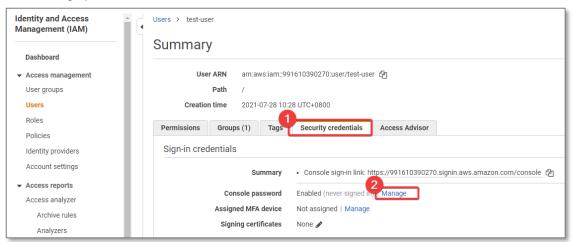
Select Users

Select our new user.



Select Security Credentials

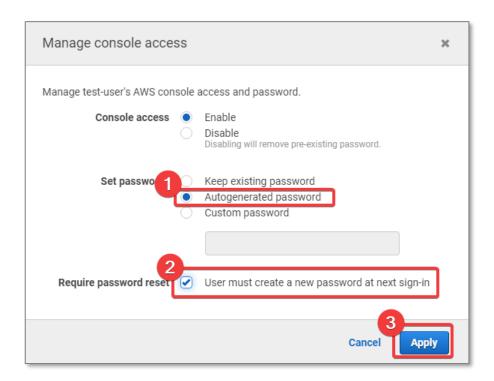
Click Manage password



Select Autogenerated password

Select User must create a new password at next sign-in

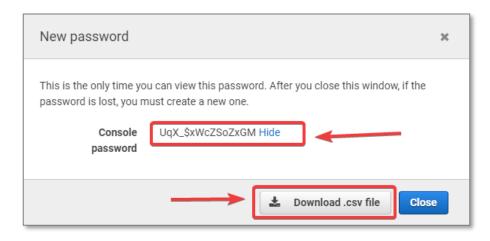
Click Apply



Click on Show to see the password.

If you click *Download .csv file* you will download a file containing the login details. These details can be given to the user.

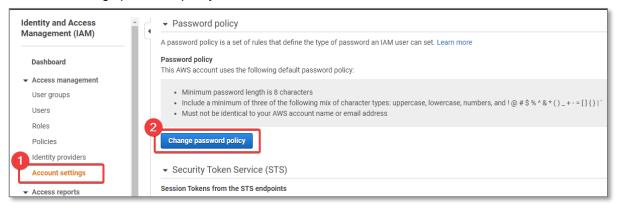
Take note "This is the only time you can view this password. After you close this window, if the password is lost, you must create a new one."



Setting an account password policy

Select Account settings

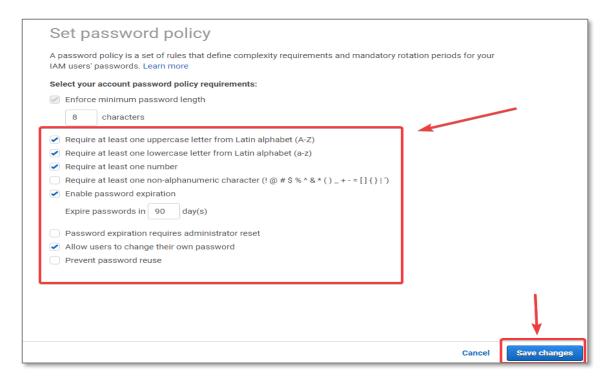
Then Click Change password policy



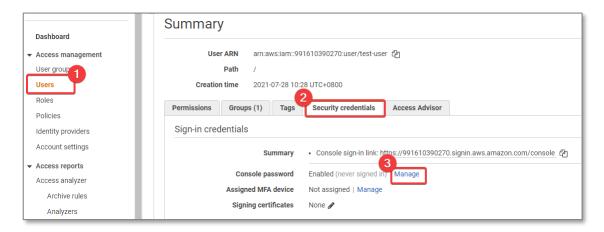
Now make sure your root user account conforms to the password policy

Sign out of your account

Sign in using root account credentials



Go to My security credentials



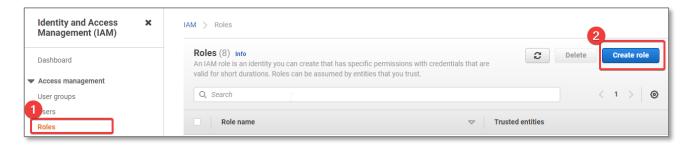
Finish up by signing out of your root user account and signing back in as an IAM user.

Creating an IAM Role

In this section, we will use the Identity and Access Management (IAM) service to create an IAM role for an EC2 instance. This will allow EC2 instances running on our account to access other services on our account.

Select Roles

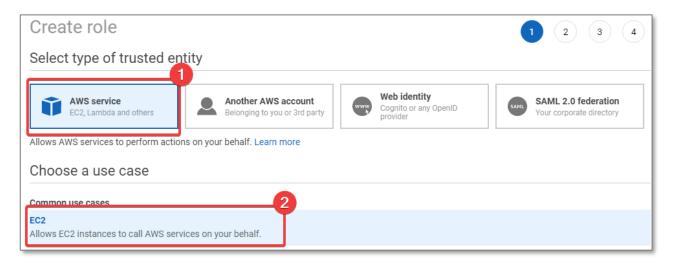
Click Create role



Select AWS service

Select EC2

Click Next: Permissions

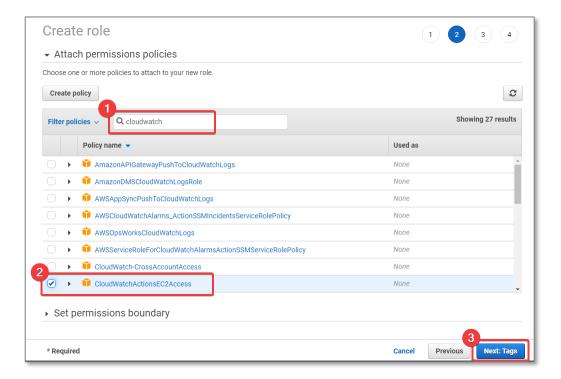


Search for a policy for CloudWatch access

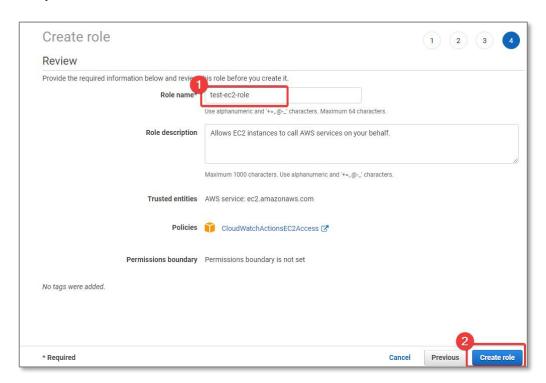
Select CloudWatchActionsEC2Access

Note in a real environment you would select a policy that "grants least privilege". In other words you would attach a policy that only allows access to the service required.

Click Next; Tags and Next; Review



Give your role a name and click "Create role"



Creating an Account Alias

In this section, we will use the Identity and Access Management (IAM) service to create an alias for our account. This will simplify the login process for our users.

Go to the IAM Dashboard

Here you can see the login URL requires the account number.



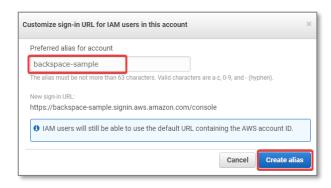
Creating an account alias makes it easier for users to remember the account to login to.

Click Customize



Create a unique alias name

Click Create alias



We can now use the account alias for logging in.

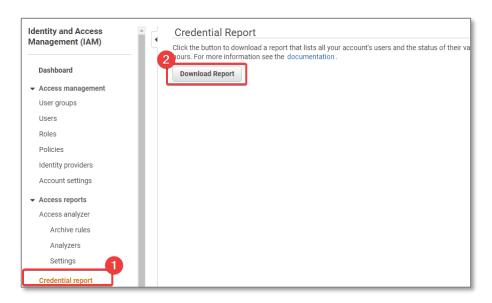


Creating a Credentials Report

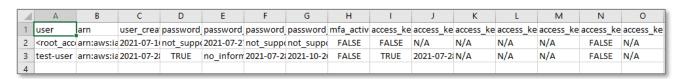
In this section, we will use the Identity and Access Management (IAM) service to create a Credentials Report of our account. This can be used to identify accounts that should be removed or have privileges changed.

Select Credential report

Click Download Report



Open the report to see information on the new user and root accounts.



Clean Up

IAM is a free service so there is no need to clean up to avoid a bill.

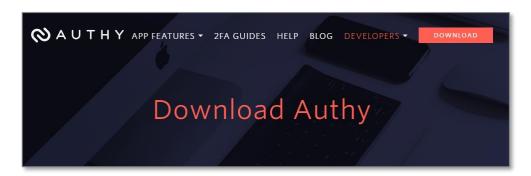
Implementing Multi Factor Authentication (MFA)

In this section, we will use the Identity and Access Management (IAM) service to implement multi factor authentication (MFA) for root access on our account.

Download and install *Authy* to your desktop or mobile.

It is recommended to install it on mobile and desktop in case the app is accidently deleted.

https://authy.com/download/



Enter your phone number details



Verify by SMS (mobile phone) or Phone Call (landline)

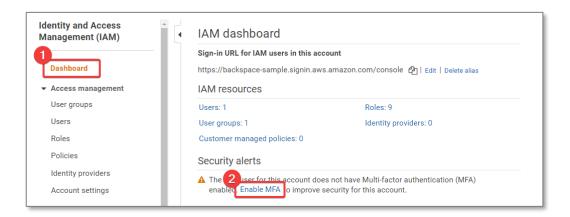


After you have setup Authy

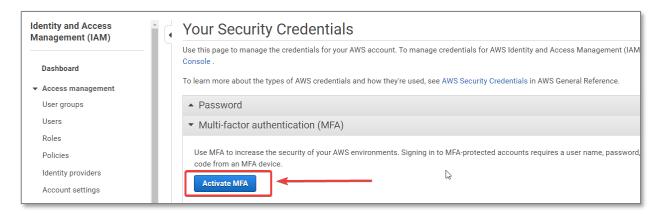
Go to the IAM Management console

Select Dashboard

Select Enable MFA



Click Activate MFA



Select Virtual MFA device

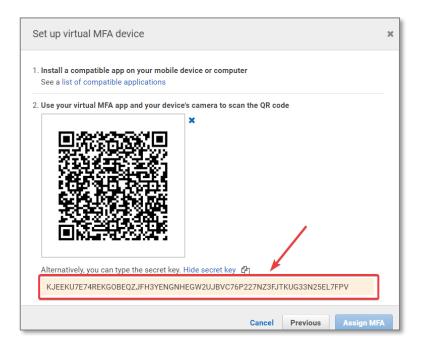
Click Continue



Adding account using Authy Desktop app:

Click on Show secret key for manual configuration

Copy the secret key



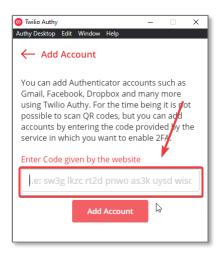
Open Authy app

Click the add icon



Paste the secret key

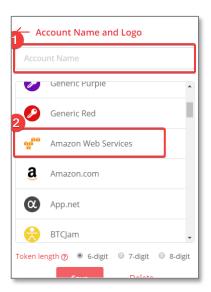
Click Add Account



Give your account a name

Scroll down to select the Amazon Web Services icon.

Click Save



Adding account using Authy Mobile app:

Select Add Account from the top right hand side dropdown menu

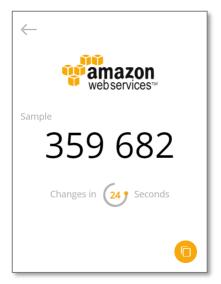
Select SCAN QR CODE

Scan the QR code



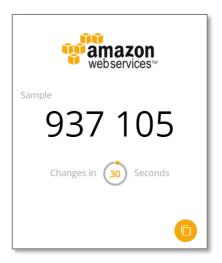
Entering Authentication codes

Type the code into Authentication code 1





Wait for the code to change on the Authy app



Enter the second code

Click Activate virtual MFA



If you get an error: "We encountered the following errors while processing your request: Failed to associate the token" You have been too slow and the token has expired. Input another two consecutive codes.

You should see a success dialog

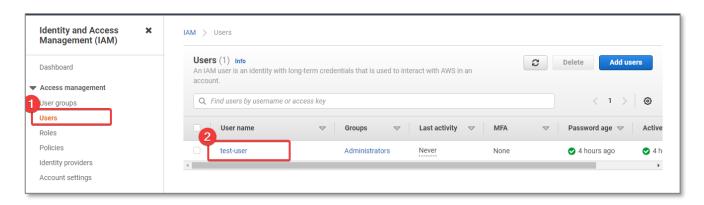
Click Close



Implementing MFA on an IAM User

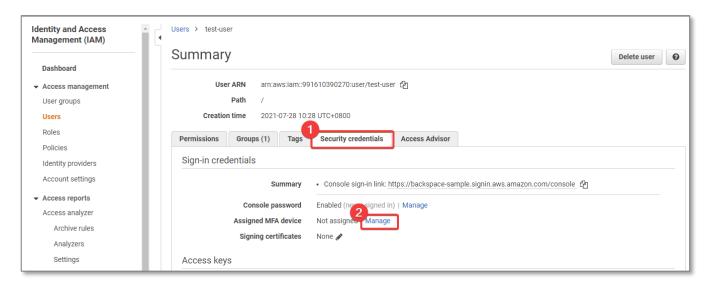
You can implement MFA on a user:

Click on the Users

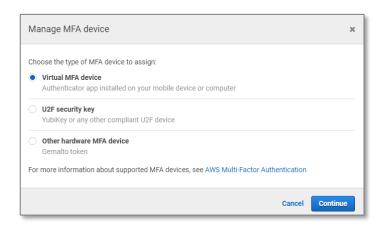


Select Security credentials tab

Click Manage for Assigned MFA device



Repeat the MFA process



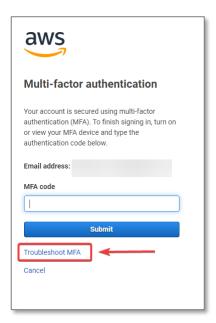
What to do if you are locked out of your root account

You can always get back into your account provided you have the email address and phone number used to set up the account.

If you have not enabled MFA then you can simply click on the lost password link.

If you have enabled MFA then you can use alternative factors of authentication

After you enter your account name and password and are at the MFA login stage, click Troubleshoot MFA



Select Sign in using alternative factors of authentication

