

Microservices, Serverless, OpenShift
Module 2 Glossary: Introduction to Serverless

Term	Definition
Action	Code that performs one specific task. It performs work when invoked.
FaaS	“Function as a Service,” is an event-driven computing model. Code is executed in response to events. Like serverless, FaaS abstracts away from infrastructure management so that developers can focus on building, running, and managing application packages as functions. Functions are stateless software that run customized logic for business purposes. Application code is typically packaged as a container and runs in response to events or requests. Functions scale down to zero when there are no requests. Functions run only in response to incoming requests.
Feed	A convenient way to configure an external event source to fire trigger events that can be consumed by cloud functions.
IBM Cloud Functions	A polyglot FaaS programming platform for developing lightweight code that scales and runs on demand.
Monte Carlo Simulation	A computationally heavy mathematical method used to estimate hard-to-predict outcomes, such as predicting the strength and path of a hurricane.
Namespace	A resource that contains other IBM Cloud Functions entities such as actions and triggers. An IBM Cloud Functions namespace is considered an instance within IBM Cloud Functions. Account admins can delegate user access to a namespace.
OCR	“Optical Character Recognition” takes an image of text, such as a scanned receipt, and converts the image into machine-encoded searchable, editable text.
Package	A bundle of feeds and actions.
Rule	An instruction that associates a trigger with an action. Every time the trigger fires, the rule uses the trigger event as input and invokes the associated action.
Sequence	A chain of actions, invoked in order, where the output of one action is passed as input to the next action. By creating a sequence, you can combine existing actions for quick and easy reuse. A sequence can then be invoked just like an action, through a REST API or automatically in response to an event.

Serverless

An approach to computing that offloads responsibility for common infrastructure management tasks to cloud providers and tools, enabling engineers to focus their time and effort on the business of logic specific to their applications or processes.

Trigger

A declaration that enables an action to automatically respond to events from IBM Cloud and third-party services. A trigger reacts to a certain type of event, whether from a user or by an event source.