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» Up and running with Node.js and QuickBooks Online



October 9, 2015 | Tristan Sokol (</hub/blog/author/tristan-sokol/>)

Up and running with Node.js and QuickBooks Online

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QuickBooks Online does not have an Intuit produced package for Node.js, but luckily one of the members of the QuickBooks Online community stepped up and contributed their own. In this post I'll be going over how to get the package installed and making your first API request.

0.1 Have Node.js Installed

If you haven't already, head over to <https://nodejs.org/> (<https://nodejs.org/>) and install Node.js for your system. You can check to see if you have Node already installed by opening up a command line and executing

```
node -v
```

0.2 Create an app on Intuit Developer

Head over to <https://developer.intuit.com/> (<https://developer.intuit.com/>) and log in to (or create) your Intuit Developer account, create a new app, and leave that tab open for later. You'll be coming back to copy your OAuth credentials into the example code.

1. Install the node-quickbooks package

In the command line navigate to a location that you'll want to work in and run

```
npm install node-quickbooks
```

This will create a new folder named 'node-quickbooks' and download the node-quickbooks package from npm. You should get an output similar to this:

```
Blog
$ npm install node-quickbooks
node-quickbooks@1.0.19 node_modules/node-quickbooks
├── underscore@1.6.0
├── querystring@0.2.0
├── node-uuid@1.4.3
├── request-debug@0.0.1 (clone@0.1.19)
├── util@0.10.3 (inherits@2.0.1)
├── moment@2.10.6
├── request@2.39.0 (forever-agent@0.5.2, aws-sign2@0.5.0, qs@0.6.6, oauth-sign@0.3.0, stringstream@0.0.4,
├── tunnel-agent@0.4.1, json-stringify-safe@5.0.1, mime-types@1.0.2, tough-cookie@2.0.0, http-signature@0.10
├── hawk@1.1.1, form-data@0.1.4)
└── _
```

([https://assets.qa-developer.intuit.com/wp-](https://assets.qa-developer.intuit.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Screen-Shot-2015-09-14-at-3.52.18-PM-copy.jpg)

[content/uploads/2015/09/Screen-Shot-2015-09-14-at-3.52.18-PM-copy.jpg](https://assets.qa-developer.intuit.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Screen-Shot-2015-09-14-at-3.52.18-PM-copy.jpg))

2. Open up the example

From there you can navigate into the package that you just downloaded and into the example folder.

```
cd node_modules/node-quickbooks/example
```

Here is a bare-bones express application to go through the basics of authorizing your application and making the first few API calls. First you will need to install any dependencies with

```
npm install
```

which will add all of the required packages to example project. Open up the

app.js

file and copy in the OAuth client key and secret from your application on Intuit Developer.



(HTTPS://ASSETS.QA-DEVELOPER.INTUIT.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2015/09/SCREEN-SHOT-2015-09-08-AT-12.17.31-PM1.PNG)

WHAT A CLIENT KEY AND SECRET LOOK LIKE ON THE INTUIT DEVELOPER PAGE.

Then you should be able to run the application with

node app.js



(https://assets.qa-developer.intuit.com/wp-

content/uploads/2015/10/admin-ajax.png)

You should get a notice saying that the express server is running on port 3000. Open up a browser window and navigate to localhost:3000/start. From there you can click on the familiar Connect to QuickBooks button and be able to go through the authorization dialog for your new application. After you finish the authorization, check your command line and you should see a list of all the accounts for the QuickBooks file that you connected to the app. Success!

3. Learning More

This example uses the developer sandbox

(https://developer.intuit.com/docs/0100_quickbooks_online/0100_essentials/0001_develop_quickbooks_apps/0003_sandboxes) but switching over to production QuickBooks accounts is as easy as changing an argument when instantiating the QuickBooks object. The documentation for the client can be found on GitHub here:

https://github.com/mcohen01/node-quickbooks (https://github.com/mcohen01/node-quickbooks)

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