



# Microsoft for Startups: Free Azure and Other Benefits



By [Chris Pietschmann](#) | January 14, 2020 - 8:07 AM CST (14:07 UTC)

Categories: [Architecture](#), [Infrastructure](#), [Offer](#)



Awhile back Microsoft had the BizSpark program that offered free Microsoft software for startups. A couple of my own startups were able to get free licenses for Microsoft software and Azure services credits to help get bootstrapped. While BizSpark is no longer around, Microsoft has a newer program called [Microsoft for Startups](#) that offers similar benefits, plus more than BizSpark ever offered!



We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept

The Microsoft for Startups program has a large number of benefits that are offered for any startup that participates. Plus, there are additional benefits for startups that meet certain qualifying criteria.

Here's a list of some of the most notable benefits offered by the Microsoft for Startups program; for qualifying startups:

- up to \$120k of free Azure cloud for **two years**
- Visual Studio Enterprise cloud subscription
- Office 365 Business Premium
- Dynamics 365 for Customer Engagement and Talent
- Enterprise grade Azure support
- NDA roadmap briefings with engineers
- 1:1 consultations
- Architectural Design Sessions
- 1:1 few coding events
- Business enablement
  - Customized 6-month Go-To-Market plan
  - Dedicated marketplace onboarding support desk
  - Marketplace listing optimization
- Sales enablement
  - A dedicated success manager
  - Bi-directional lead sharing with our sales teams
  - Targeted account planning
- And much more!

This is not an official list, and these benefits may change with or without notice. Please reference the official [Microsoft for Startups](#) site for the current benefits offered to startups.



## Microsoft for Startups Eligibility Requirements

Microsoft does have some requirements that need to be met for a "startup" to qualify for the program. Just as the old BizSpark program was targeted towards startups building products, and

We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept

Here are the other qualification requirements for getting your Startup accepted in the Microsoft for Startups program:

- Offer an innovative, technical solution that supports customers in their digital transformation
- Less than five years of existence
- Less than \$10M in total annual revenue
- Seed or Series A, or equivalent phase of development
- Up to \$20M in funding

If you're interested in getting your startup signed up and enrolled in the [Microsoft for Startups](#) program, then you'll certainly want to go to the official website and [apply today!](#)

## About the Author



### Chris Pietschmann

Chris is the **Founder of Build5Nines.com** and a **Microsoft MVP** in Azure & IoT with 20 years of experience designing and building Cloud & Enterprise systems. He is also a **Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect**, developer, **Microsoft Certified Trainer (MCT)**, and Cloud Advocate. He has a passion for technology and sharing what he learns with others to help enable them to learn faster and be more productive.

## Related

BizSpark: Free Azure usage for Startups

The Microsoft BizSpark program offers FREE stuff to Startups for 3 years. This includes software, service, technical support, as well as Microsoft Azure cloud February 6, 2016  
In "Offer"



Microsoft Certification 2019 Roadmap for Role-based Paths

July 17, 2019  
In "Certification"



Azure Weekly: Mar. 5, 2018 - MVP Summit this Week!

March 5, 2018  
In "Build5Nines Weekly Newsletter"

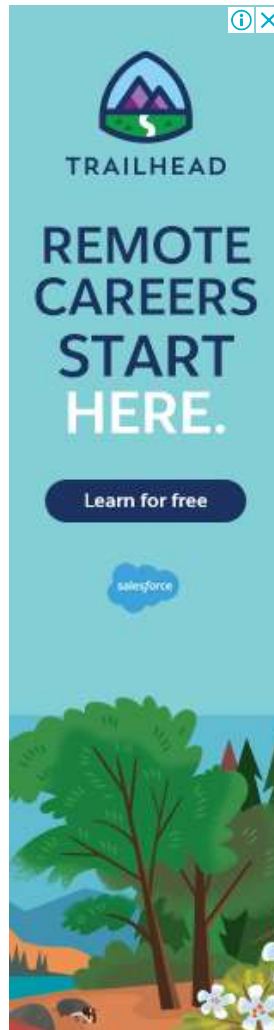
## 1 Comment

We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept

startup partners...

Which for my new Fintech start we disappointing.



## Popular Articles

### HTTP Error 500.30 - ANCM In-Process Start Failure

Common solutions to this issue:

- The application failed to start
- The application started but then stopped
- The application started but threw an exception during startup

Troubleshooting steps:

- Check the system event log for error messages
- Enable logging the application process' stdout messages
- Attach a debugger to the application process and inspect

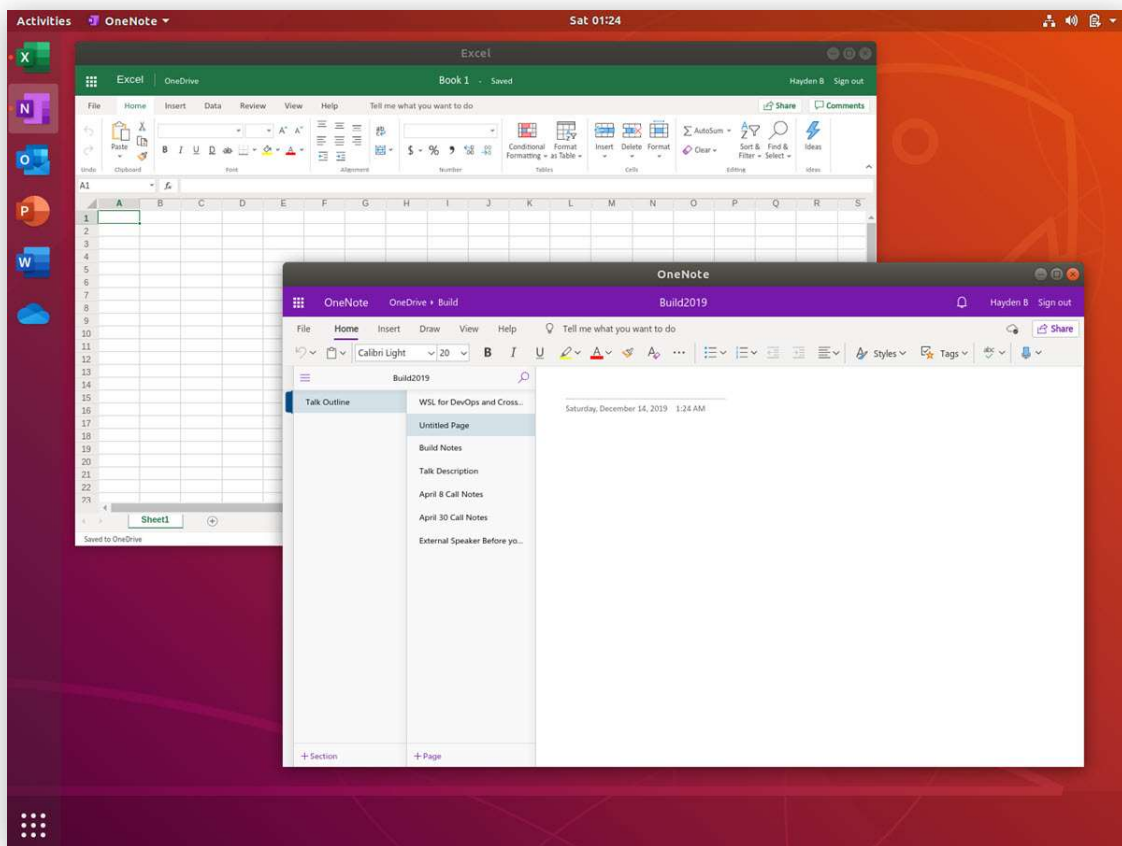
For more information visit: <https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkID=2028265>

We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept



Azure Functions: Extend Execution Timeout Past 5 Minutes



Run Office 365 Apps on Ubuntu with an Open Source Web App Wrapper

We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept





<https://Build5Nines.com>

Azure Cloud Shell

PowerShell | ? | [Icons]

Chris@...t.com

Requesting a Cloud Shell. **Succeeded.**  
Connecting terminal...

MOTD: Switch to Bash from PowerShell: bash

VERBOSE: Authenticating to Azure ...  
VERBOSE: Building your Azure drive ...  
Azure:/

PS Azure:> Get-AzContext

Name	Account	SubscriptionName	Environment
V...	e (a35... MSI@...)	V...	AzureCloud

Azure:/

PS Azure:> Get-AzContext

Name	Account	SubscriptionName	Environment
V...	e (a35... MSI@...)	V...	AzureCloud

Azure:/

PS Azure:> Set-AzContext -SubscriptionName "test"

Set-AzContext : Please provide a valid tenant or a valid subscription.  
At line:1 char:1  
+ Set-AzContext -SubscriptionName "test"

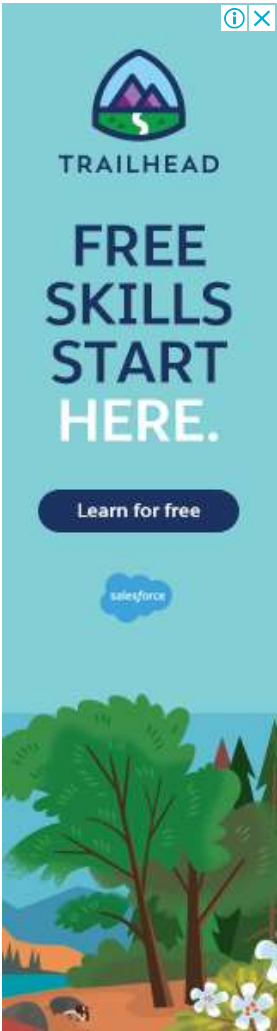


Apple

Accept



Azure Regions Interactive Map



Popular Videos

We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept



9:26

Manager for Windows 10

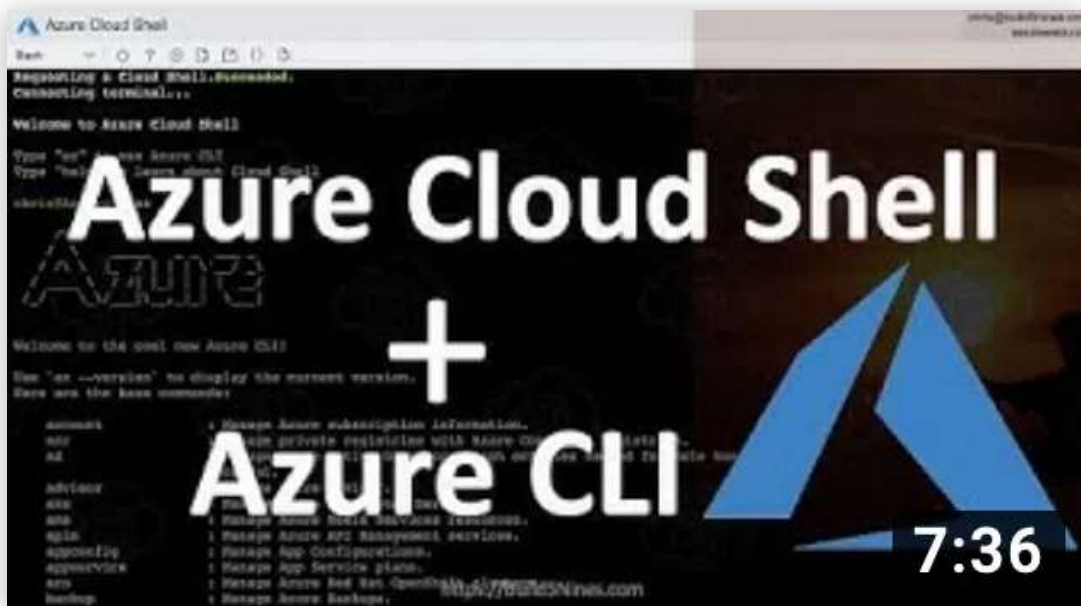
A look at winget, Windows Package



17:33

Azure Portal

Create Ubuntu Linux on Azure using



7:36

Getting Started with Azure CLI and Cloud Shell

## Latest Videos

Azure CLI Kung Fu VM for Administrators, DevOps, Developers and SRE!

Getting Started with Azure CLI and Cloud Shell – Azure CLI Kung Fu Series

Properly Shutdown Azure VM to Save Money

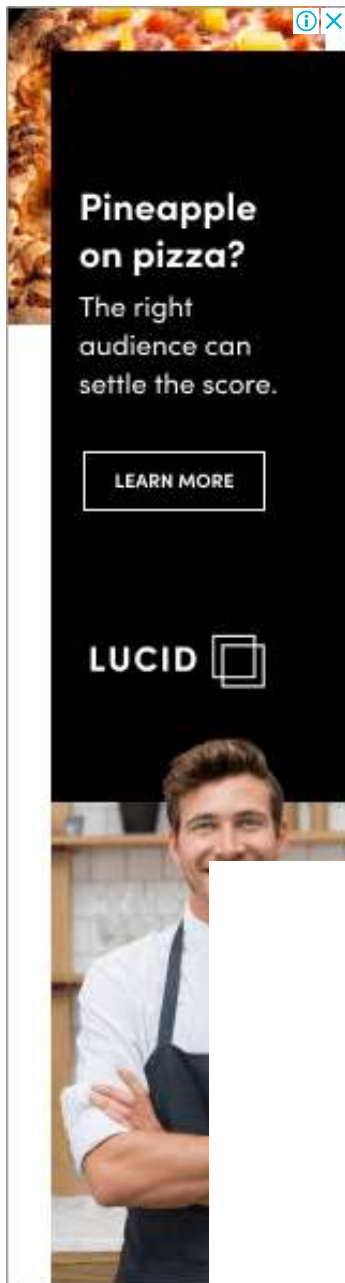
Create Azure IoT Hub in Azure Portal

## Legal Disclaimer

We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept





## Popular Articles

- [Fix .NET Core HTTP Error 500.30 After Publish to App Service from Visual Studio](#)
- [Azure Functions: Extend Execution Timeout Past 5 Minutes](#)
- [Run Office 365 Apps on Ubuntu with an Open Source Web App Wrapper](#)
- [Properly Shutdown Azure VM to Save Money](#)
- [Azure PowerShell Az: List and Set Azure Subscription](#)
- [Check Hyper-V \(Intel VT-x\) Virtualization Support on macOS Computer](#)
- [Azure Regions Interactive Map](#)
- [Use Terraform Input Variables to Parameterize Infrastructure Deployments](#)

We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept

## Latest Articles

- We are back live for a conference!
- How my passion for BCDR saved my life
- Stopping Azure subdomain takeovers
- Latest Cloud News: IoT, Security, Azure Sphere, and more! (December 4, 2020 – Build5Nines Weekly)
- Latest Cloud News: Apple on K8s, IoT, Microsoft Pluton and more! (November 20, 2020 – Build5Nines Weekly)

## Latest Videos

- Azure CLI Kung Fu VM for Administrators, DevOps, Developers and SRE!
- Getting Started with Azure CLI and Cloud Shell – Azure CLI Kung Fu Series
- Properly Shutdown Azure VM to Save Money

## Legal Disclaimer

Build5Nines.com (Build Five Nines / 99.999%) is a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for sites to earn advertising fees by advertising and linking to Amazon.com. We also participates in affiliate programs with Udemy, Pluralsight, Techsmith, and others.

Build5Nines.com is compensated for referring traffic and business to these companies.

Here are some Privacy Policy links for our affiliates: Udemy - Rakuten Affiliate

Republishing content from this site is prohibited.

[Books](#)   [Videos](#)   [Newsletter](#)   [More](#)



Copyright © Build5Nines.com. All rights reserved.

We use cookies to improve your browsing experience. To find out more about our cookie policy, see here: [Privacy Policy](#)

Accept