## Add authentication support to a web API

ASP.NET Core Identity adds user interface (UI) login functionality to ASP.NET Core web apps. To secure web APIs and SPAs, use one of the following:

* [Azure Active Directory](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/api-management/api-management-howto-protect-backend-with-aad)
* [Azure Active Directory B2C](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory-b2c/active-directory-b2c-custom-rest-api-netfw) (Azure AD B2C)
* [IdentityServer4](https://identityserver.io/)

IdentityServer4 is an OpenID Connect and OAuth 2.0 framework for ASP.NET Core. IdentityServer4 enables the following security features:

* Authentication as a Service (AaaS)
* Single sign-on/off (SSO) over multiple application types
* Access control for APIs
* Federation Gateway

For more information, see [Welcome to IdentityServer4](https://docs.identityserver.io/en/latest/index.html).

## Additional resources

[View or download sample code for this tutorial](https://github.com/dotnet/AspNetCore.Docs/tree/main/aspnetcore/tutorials/first-web-api/samples). See [how to download](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/aspnet/core/introduction-to-aspnet-core?view=aspnetcore-5.0#how-to-download-a-sample).

For more information, see the following resources:

* [Create web APIs with ASP.NET Core](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/aspnet/core/web-api/?view=aspnetcore-5.0)
* [ASP.NET Core web API documentation with Swagger / OpenAPI](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/aspnet/core/tutorials/web-api-help-pages-using-swagger?view=aspnetcore-5.0)
* [Razor Pages with Entity Framework Core in ASP.NET Core - Tutorial 1 of 8](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/aspnet/core/data/ef-rp/intro?view=aspnetcore-5.0)
* [Routing to controller actions in ASP.NET Core](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/aspnet/core/mvc/controllers/routing?view=aspnetcore-5.0)
* [Controller action return types in ASP.NET Core web API](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/aspnet/core/web-api/action-return-types?view=aspnetcore-5.0)
* [Deploy ASP.NET Core apps to Azure App Service](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/aspnet/core/host-and-deploy/azure-apps/?view=aspnetcore-5.0)
* [Host and deploy ASP.NET Core](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/aspnet/core/host-and-deploy/?view=aspnetcore-5.0)
* [Microsoft Learn: Create a web API with ASP.NET Core](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/modules/build-web-api-aspnet-core/)