GCP: HOWTO Get Free Credit

1. Prerequisites

1.1 Prerequisite: Google account OR Google Gmail account

Before proceeding,

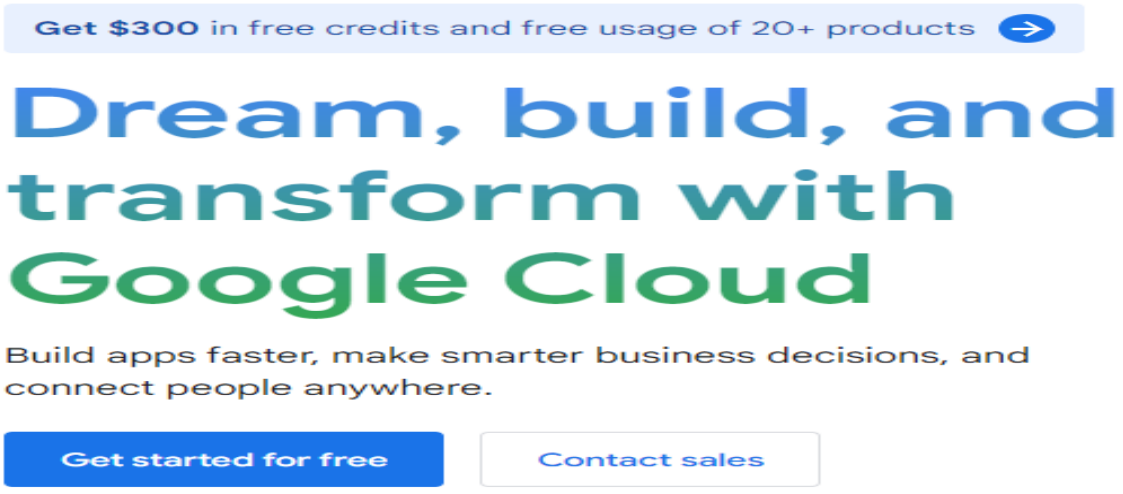
- The user should have a Google account or Google Gmail account at hand.
    - If not, the user should create a new one first

IMPORTANT NOTES:
--) **NO special character** like the **period '.'** in the username of the account.
--) A username with a period '.' – for example: John.Smith@gmail.com – would cause serious problems later.
--) The **best (safest) format** for the username should be only **ONE word**, all lower case.
For example: **johnsmith@gmail.com**.

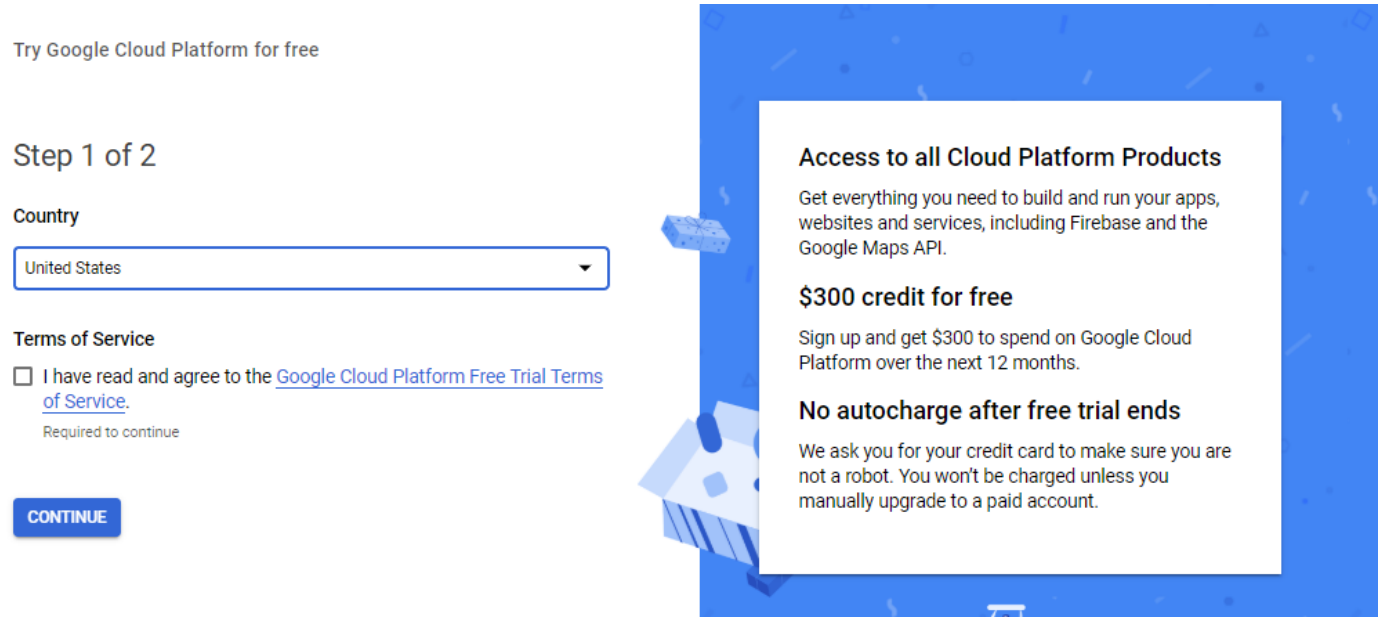
2. Get Free Credits

Access the link:
https://cloud.google.com/free

Using the above Google account/Gmail to get the Free-Trial $300.00 credit.

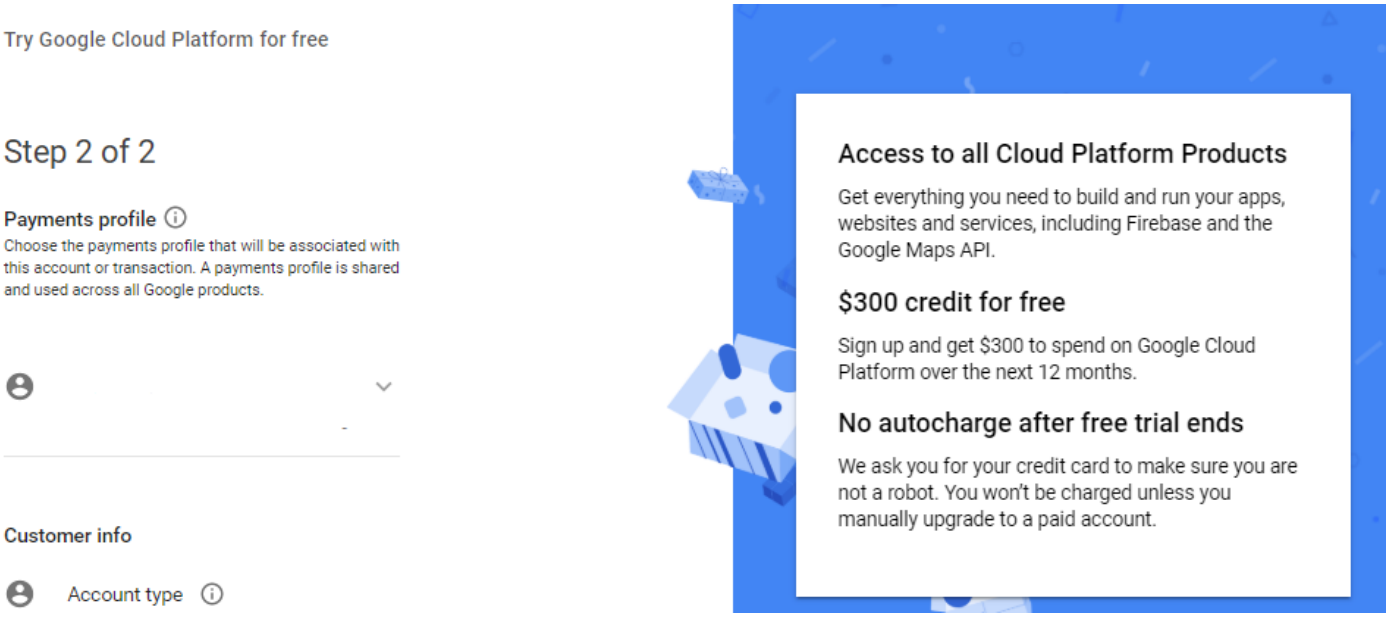


Click Get started for free



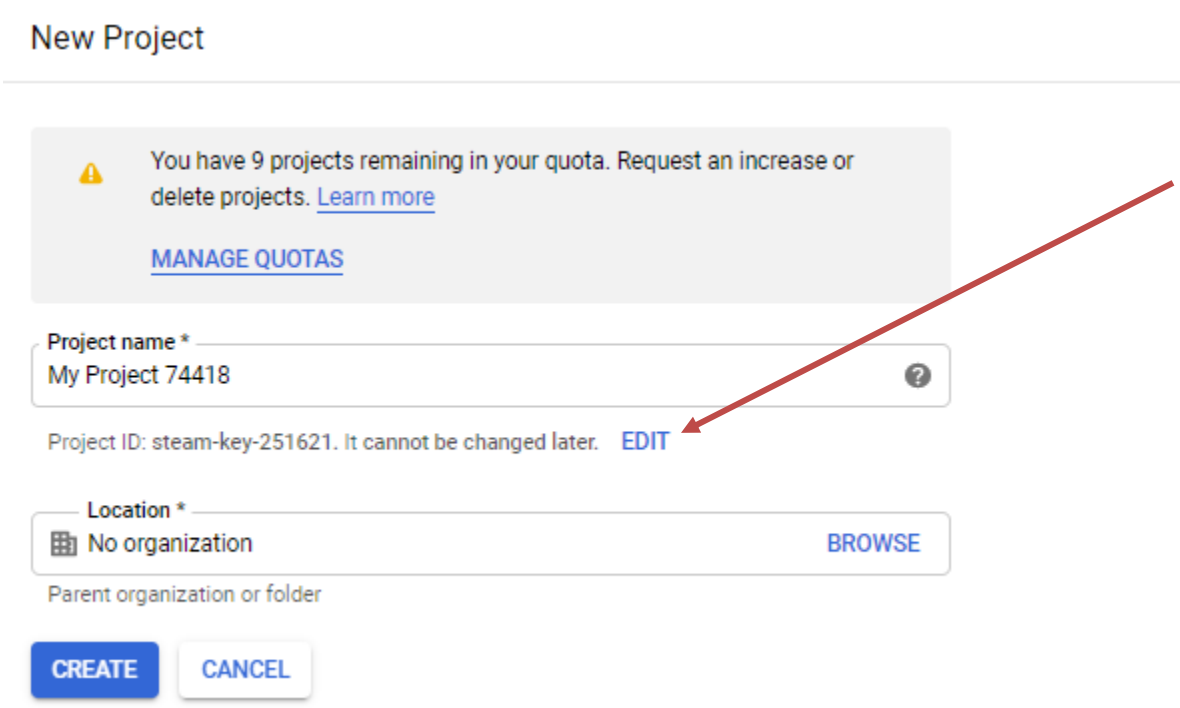
Check Term of Service: I have read …

Click CONTINUE



NOTES:
--) The user has to provide credit card info here.

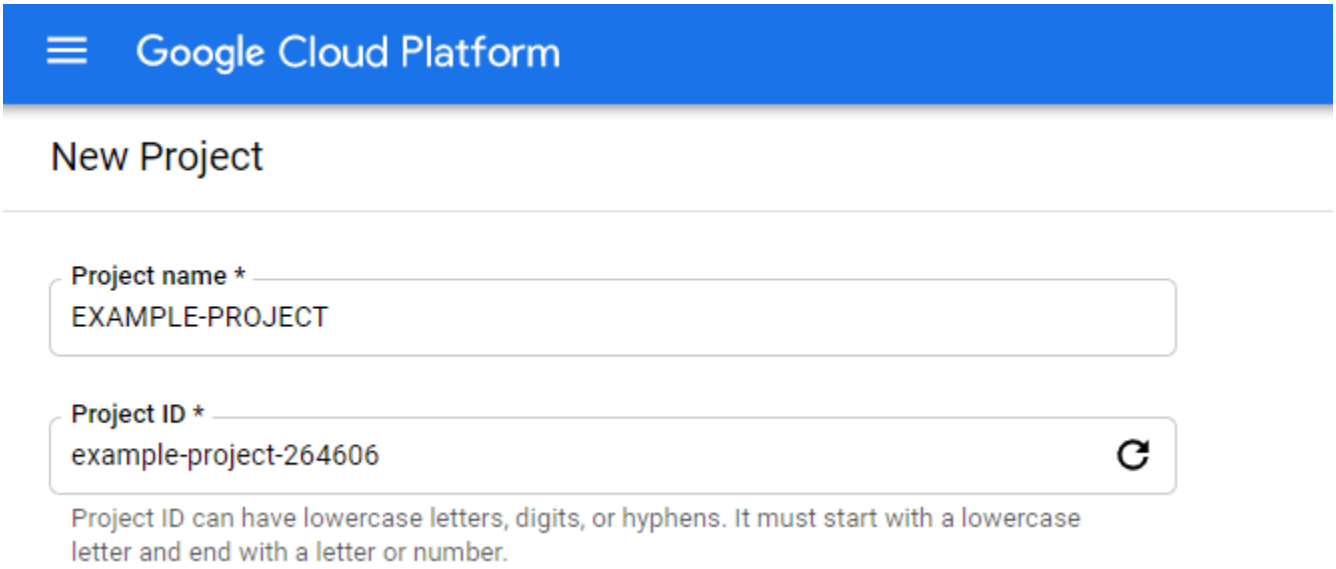
Click START MYFREE TRIAL



ENTER Project name: **EXAMPLE-PROJECT**

IMPORTANT NOTES:
--) The user can name the project as he/she wants.

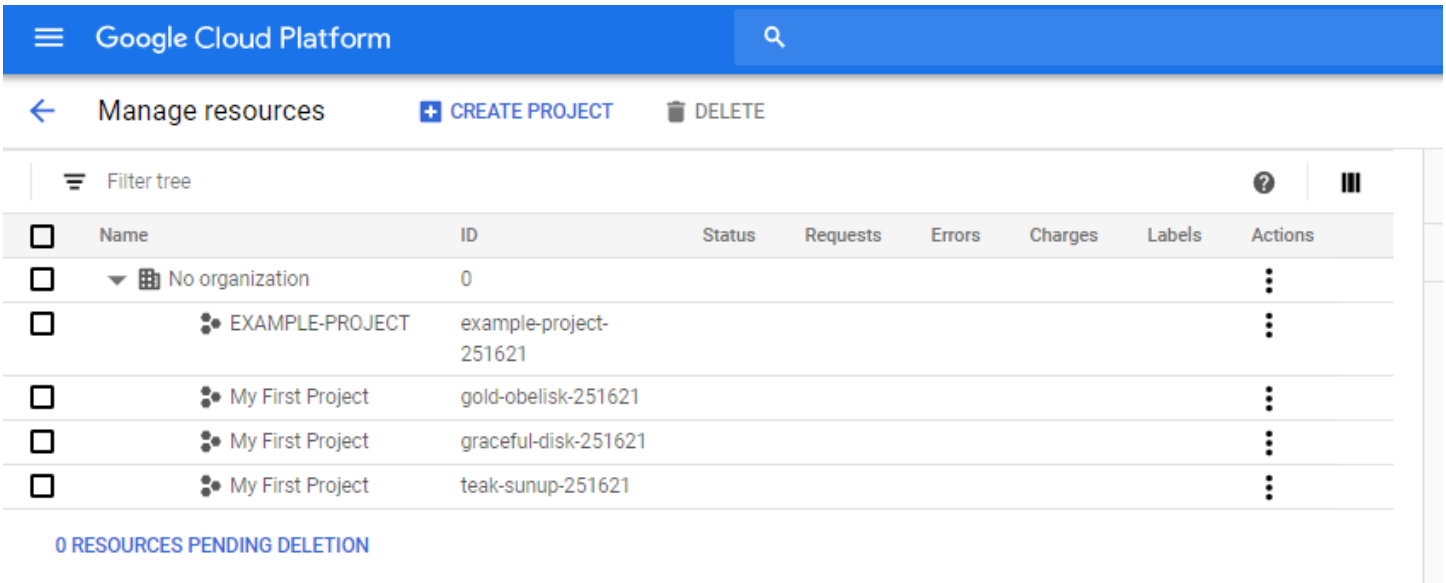
Click EDIT

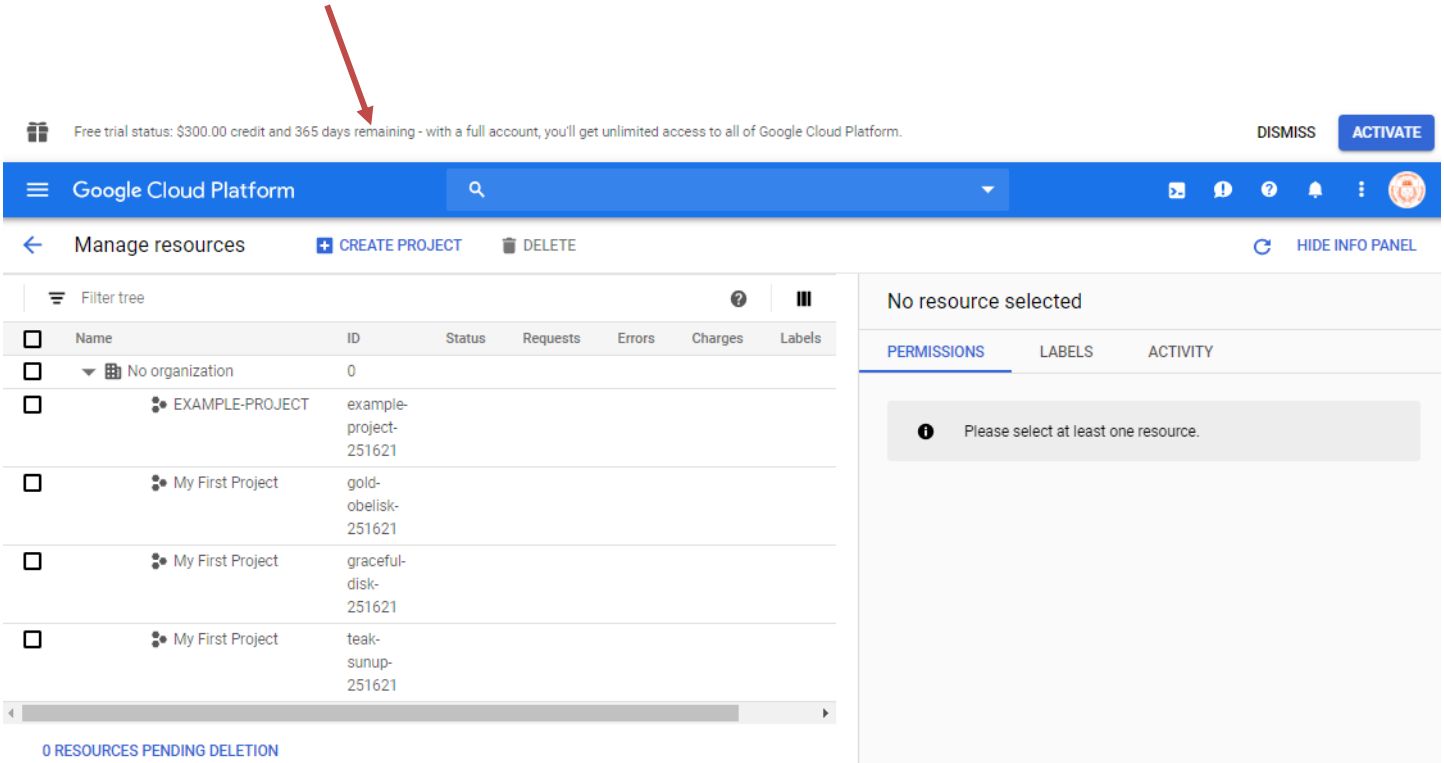


IMPORTANT NOTES:
--) Write down the PROJECT-ID.
--) It is much needed later.

Click **CREATE**

…….. MAY NEED TO REFRESH THE PAGE SEVERALL TIMES UNTIL THE NEW PROJECT SHOWS UP ……



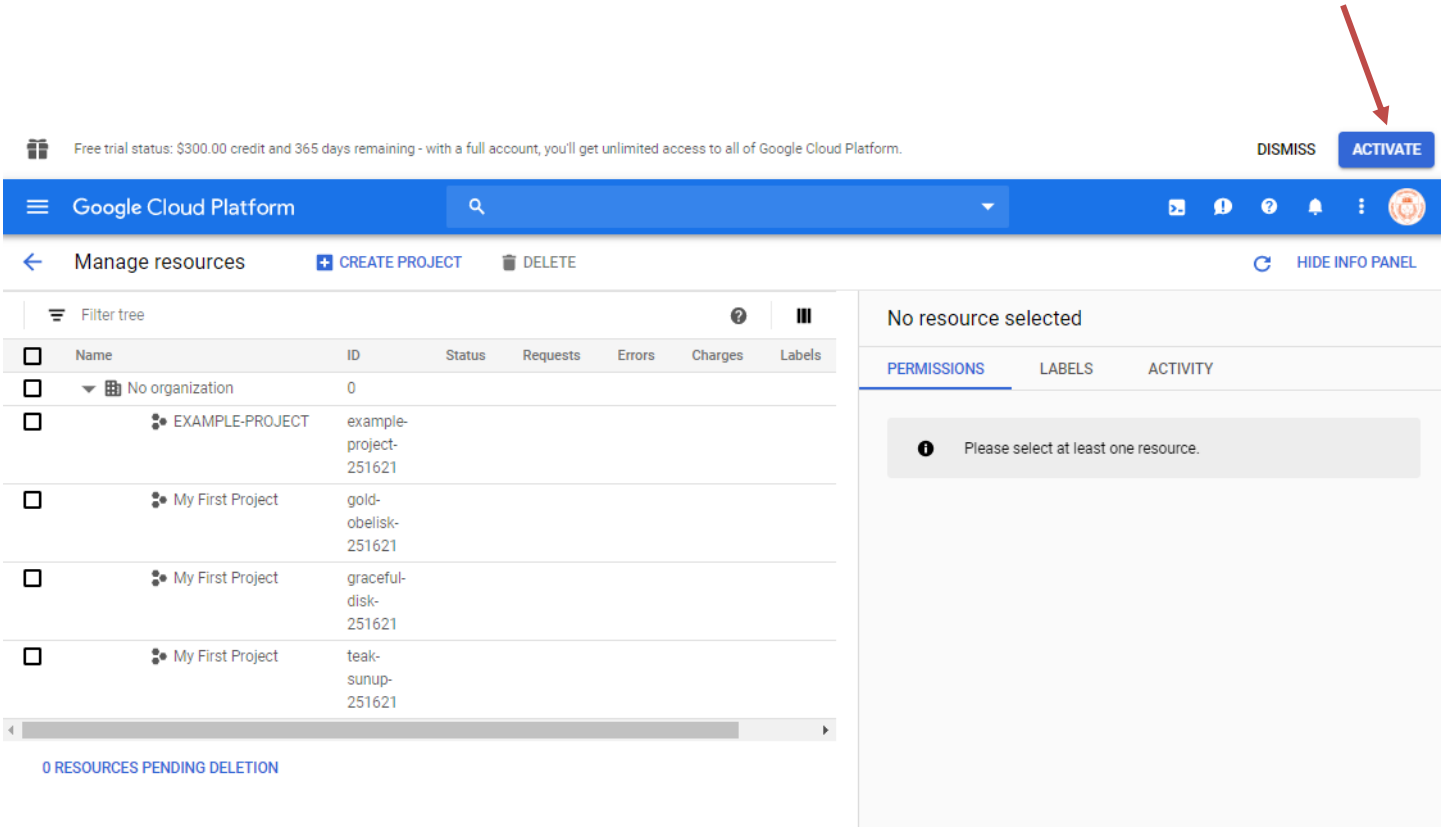


IMPORTANT NOTES:

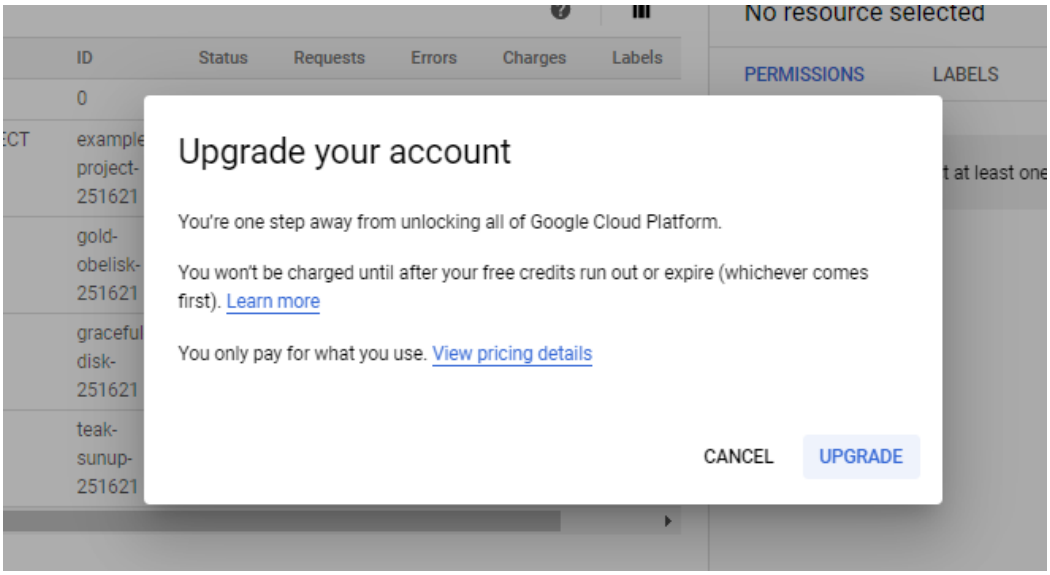
--) There is a line of text that informs the user about the free credit benefits:

*"**Free trial status: $300.00 credit and 365 days remaining - with a full account, you'll get unlimited access to all of Google Cloud Platform.**"*

*--) The user needs to **activate** the free credit to get all the benefits:*



Click **ACTIVATE**



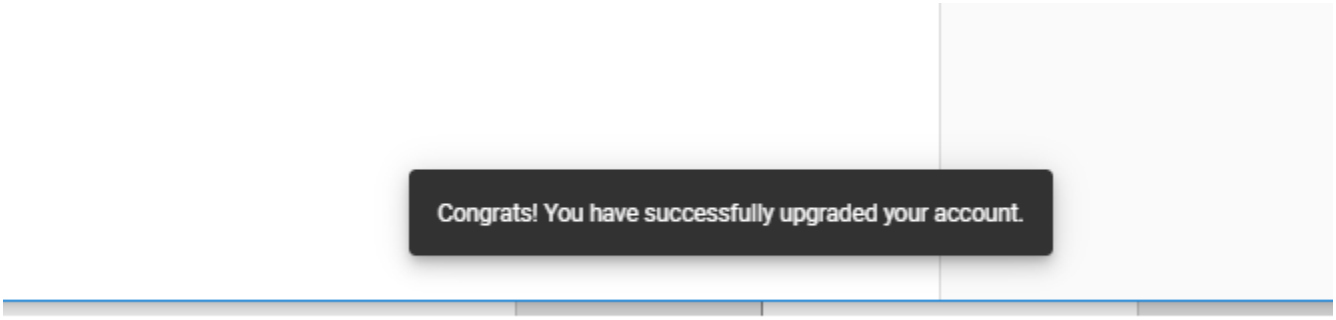
Click **UPGRADE**

IMPORTANT NOTES:

*--) The user must **UPGRADE** the status of the account to get all the benefits of the free credit.*

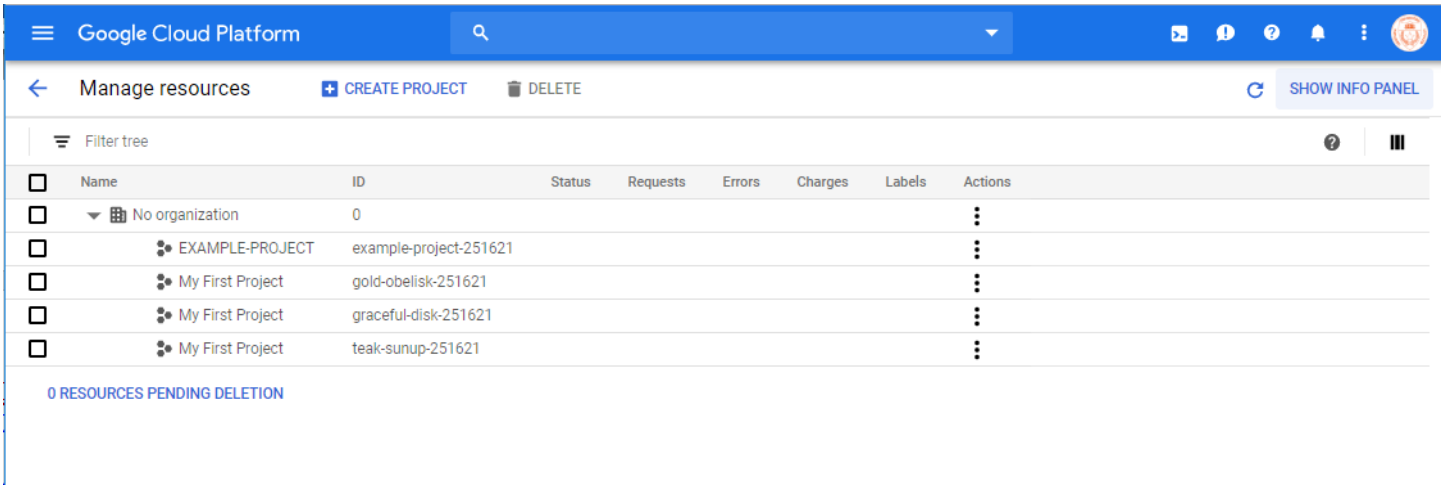
*--) **UPGRADING** the account has nothing to do with whether the credit will be charged or not.*

--) The credit card will only be charged when the free credit has run out or expired.



IMPORTANT NOTES:

--) The user should see the above Congrat! message to be sure that he/she can get all the benefits of the free credit.



THE ACCOUNT IS READY FOR USE WITH THE FREE CREDIT.