OpenRouter provides a unified API that gives you access to hundreds of AI models through a single endpoint, while automatically handling fallbacks and selecting the most cost-effective options. Get started with just a few lines of code using your preferred SDK or framework.

> ☆ Looking for information about free models and rate limits? Please see the FAQ

In the examples below, the OpenRouter-specific headers are optional. Setting them allows your app to appear on the OpenRouter leaderboards. For detailed information about app attribution, see our App Attribution guide.

Using the OpenAI SDK

Python   TypeScript

```python
from openai import OpenAI

client = OpenAI(
  base_url="https://openrouter.ai/api/v1",
  api_key="<OPENROUTER_API_KEY>",
)

completion = client.chat.completions.create(
  extra_headers={
    "HTTP-Referer": "<YOUR_SITE_URL>", # Optional. Site URL for ranking
    "X-Title": "<YOUR_SITE_NAME>", # Optional. Site title for rankings
  },
  model="openai/gpt-4o",
  messages=[
    {
      "role": "user",
      "content": "What is the meaning of life?"
    }
  ]
)
```

Using the OpenRouter API directly

| **Python** | TypeScript | Shell | | 🗐 |

```python
import requests
import json

response = requests.post(
  url="https://openrouter.ai/api/v1/chat/completions",
  headers={
    "Authorization": "Bearer <OPENROUTER_API_KEY>",
    "HTTP-Referer": "<YOUR_SITE_URL>", # Optional. Site URL for ranking
    "X-Title": "<YOUR_SITE_NAME>", # Optional. Site title for rankings
  },
  data=json.dumps({
    "model": "openai/gpt-4o", # Optional
    "messages": [
      {
        "role": "user",
        "content": "What is the meaning of life?"
      }
    ]
  })
)
```

The API also supports [streaming](#).

Using third-party SDKs

For information about using third-party SDKs and frameworks with OpenRouter, please [see our frameworks documentation.](#)