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Your first AI request with curl: the address, the key and the model

Using the AI API

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Your first AI request with curl: the address, the key and the model

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In short: an AI request needs three things: the address `https://api.interweb.ao/v1/chat/completions`, the key in the `Authorization` header and the `id` of a model. With curl, which already comes with Linux, macOS and Windows, you make your first request in a few minutes, without installing anything or writing a program.

Before you start

1. Create a key in the **API Center** with the `ai:read` and `ai:write` permissions. Start with a `sandbox_` key: it answers in the same format and costs nothing. The fields are explained in **creating an API key**.

2. Keep the key in an environment variable, so you do not type it in the command. On Linux and macOS: `export INTERWEB_API_KEY="sandbox_..."`. On Windows: `setx INTERWEB_API_KEY "sandbox_..."`, then open a new terminal.

3. To use a `prod_` key, have AI credits in **All in One AI**.

1. The three parts of the request

What	Where it goes	Example
The address	After `curl`	`https://api.interweb.ao/v1/chat/completions`
The key	In the `Authorization` header	`Authorization: Bearer $INTERWEB_API_KEY`
The model	In the `model` field of the body	`deepseek-ai/deepseek-v4-flash`

The model id always has a slash. Copy it from the **Models** tab of All in One AI, with the «Copy the id» button, or from the `GET /v1/models` list. See **how to list the models through the API**.

2. The request on Linux and macOS

Paste this into the terminal as it is:

```
curl "https://api.interweb.ao/v1/chat/completions" \
  -H "Authorization: Bearer $INTERWEB_API_KEY" \
  -H "Content-Type: application/json" \
    -d '{"model": "deepseek-ai/deepseek-v4-flash", "messages": [{"role": "user", "content": "Write a two-sentence welcome message for our website."}], "max_tokens": 200}'
```

`max_tokens` limits the length of the answer and lowers the credit reservation. Without it, the reservation counts 4096 output tokens.

3. The request on Windows

In PowerShell, the quotes inside the JSON cause trouble. The simplest way is to put the body in a file. Type `notepad request.json` (if Notepad asks whether to create the file, answer yes), paste this and save:

```
{
  "model": "deepseek-ai/deepseek-v4-flash",
   "messages": [{"role": "user", "content": "Write a two-sentence welcome message for our website."}],
  "max_tokens": 200
}
```

In the same folder, send the request with `curl.exe`. The `@` before the name tells curl to read the body from that file:

```
curl.exe "https://api.interweb.ao/v1/chat/completions" -H "Authorization: Bearer $env:INTERWEB_API_KEY" -H "Content-Type: application/json" -d "@request.json"
```

4. Reading the answer

The answer comes as JSON. The text is in `choices[0].message.content` and the tokens counted are in `usage`: that is what you pay for. If `finish_reason` is `length`, the answer stopped at `max_tokens`. Raise the value and try again.

With a `sandbox_` key, the text is always "Resposta de teste (sandbox)." and `usage` is zero. It means the address, the key and the model are right. Change the variable to your `prod_` key and repeat to see a real answer. Add `-i` to the command to see the headers too: `X-API-Mode` says `sandbox` or `production`.

If you get an error:
`401` means the key is missing or wrong (on Windows, did you open a new terminal after `setx`?); `404 model_not_found` means the model id is misspelt; `402 insufficient_credits` means there are not enough credits for the reservation. See **the AI API errors, one by one**.

Once curl works, move to your program. With the OpenAI SDK only the address and the key change: see **using the OpenAI SDK**.

RECOMMENDED

Did your first request work? See the models and their prices in All in One AI.

See All in One AI →

SEE ALSO

- **Using the OpenAI SDK with All in One AI: only the address and the key change**
- **Testing All in One AI in the Sandbox at no cost: what each answer looks like**
- **Code examples in our API docs: curl, PHP, Python and JavaScript, ready to copy and adapt**
- **Showing the AI reply as it is written in your website or app (streaming)**
- **All in One AI**

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