Data Analytics Products (https://cloud.google.com/products/big-data/)
Cloud Pub/Sub (https://cloud.google.com/pubsub/)
Documentation (https://cloud.google.com/pubsub/docs/) Guides

Cloud Pub/Sub authentication

This topic describes authentication information for Cloud Pub/Sub.

Supported authentication methods

Cloud Pub/Sub supports the following authentication methods.

Service accounts

Service accounts are recommended for almost all use cases, whether you are developing locally or in a production application. For an example of how to set up authentication with a service account, see Pub/Sub client libraries (https://cloud.google.com/pubsub/docs/reference/libraries).

For more information about setting up authentication with a production application, see setting up authentication for server to server production applications (https://cloud.google.com/docs/authentication/production).

User accounts

You can authenticate users directly to your application, when the application needs to access resources on behalf of an end user. For most use cases, we recommend using a service account instead (#service-accounts).

Examples of why to use user accounts with Cloud Pub/Sub include:

- Administrative actions

  Note that identity information is captured in audit logs (https://cloud.google.com/pubsub/docs/audit-logging).

If your application uses end user authentication, you need to specify OAuth scopes when making a method call. See Pub/Sub reference (https://cloud.google.com/pubsub/docs/apis/) for

per-method OAuth scopes.

For more information about setting up authentication with user accounts, see authenticating as an end user (https://cloud.google.com/docs/authentication/end-user).

Access control

Roles limit an authenticated identity's ability to access resources. When building a production application, only grant an identity the permissions it needs in order to interact with applicable GCP APIs, features, or resources.

For more information about these roles, see Cloud Pub/Sub access control (https://cloud.google.com/pubsub/docs/access-control).

More information

- To learn more about GCP authentication, see the authentication guide (https://cloud.google.com/docs/authentication/).

⭐ **Note:** Pub/Sub does not support API keys as an authentication method.