

Guide to API Authentication - Access Hash Authentication

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Introduction

Access hashes allow you to authenticate with the server as the `root` user. To view or retrieve an access hash, use WHM's *Remote Access Key* interface (*WHM >> Home >> Clusters >> Remote Access Key*).

Important:

- We deprecated WHM's *Remote Access Key* feature in cPanel & WHM version 64. We **strongly** recommend that you use API tokens instead.
- This method is **only** available for WHM authentication.
- API calls that use a method that includes a URL **must** use the correct port:
 - 2082 — Unsecure calls to cPanel's APIs.
 - 2083 — Secure calls to cPanel's APIs.
 - 2086 — Unsecure calls to WHM's APIs, or to cPanel's APIs via the WHM API.
 - 2087 — Secure calls to WHM's APIs, or to cPanel's APIs via the WHM API.
 - 2095 — Unsecure calls to cPanel's APIs via a Webmail session.
 - 2096 — Secure calls to cPanel's APIs via a Webmail session.

Otherwise-correct calls will return `Permission denied` or `Function not found` errors if they use an incorrect port number.

- This document **only** includes cPanel & WHM authentication methods. For Manage2 authentication information, read our [Guide to the Manage2 API](#) documentation.

Related documentation

Access hashes

Scripts can include an access hash in the HTTP header that they send to the server during API functions. The system stores access hashes in the `.accesshash` file in each user's home directory.

Example Perl script

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Notes:

- Replace `accesshashhere` in line 7 with the contents of the `/root/.accesshash` file. You **must** supply the access hash as a single line with no breaks.
- This script requires the `LWP::Protocol:https` module. If you attempt to run this script, you **must** first run the `/scripts/perlinstaller LWP::Protocol:https` command to install the module.
- This script calls WHM API 1's `listaccts` function. Make **ce**rtain that you update this code for the correct API version, port, and other function-specific call information.

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
use strict;
use LWP::UserAgent;
use LWP::Protocol::https;
use MIME::Base64;

my $hash = "accesshashhere";

$hash =~ s/\n//g;

my $auth = "WHM root:" . $hash;

my $ua = LWP::UserAgent->new(
    ssl_opts => { verify_hostname => 0,
    SSL_verify_mode => 'SSL_VERIFY_NONE',
    SSL_use_cert => 0 },
    );
my $request = HTTP::Request->new(GET
=>
"https://127.0.0.1:2087/json-api/list
accts?api.version=1");
$request->header( Authorization =>
$auth );
my $response =
$ua->request($request);
print $response->content;
```

- In line 7, the script declares the `$hash` variable and assigns the access hash to it as a value.
- In line 11, the script declares the `$auth` variable, and assigns it a value of `WHM root: $hash`.
- Line 15 declares the `$request` variable, which stores information about the call. To set its value, the `HTTP::Request` module's `new()` method creates a function to the WHM API 1 `listaccts` function.
 - This call uses the GET method.
 - When you construct URLs to use this method, use the same methods as for a browser-based call.
- Line 16 uses the `header()` method to use the `$auth` value as the call's authentication information.
- Line 17 uses the `LWP::UserAgent` module to run the function.
- Line 18 prints the function's output.

Example PHP script

[Click to view...](#)

Notes:

- Replace `accesshashhere` with the contents of the `/root/.accesshash` file. You **must** supply the access hash as a single line with no breaks.
- This script calls WHM API 1's `listaccts` function. Make **cert**ain that you update this code for the correct API version, port, and other function-specific call information.

```

<?
$whmusername = "root";

# The contents of /root/.accesshash
$hash = "accesshashhere";

$query =
"https://127.0.0.1:2087/json-api/list
accts?api.version=1";

$curl = curl_init();
curl_setopt($curl,
CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST,0);
curl_setopt($curl,
CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYPEER,0);
curl_setopt($curl,
CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER,1);

$header[0] = "Authorization: WHM
$whmusername:" .
preg_replace("'(\r|\n)'" , "", $hash);
curl_setopt($curl,CURLOPT_HTTPHEADER,
$header);
curl_setopt($curl, CURLOPT_URL,
$query);

$result = curl_exec($curl);
if ($result == false) {
    error_log("curl_exec threw error
\" . curl_error($curl) . "\" for
$query");
}
curl_close($curl);

print $result;
?>

```

- Line 2 sets the `$whmusername` value as the `root` user.
- Line 5 sets the `$hash` value as the contents of the appropriate access hash.
- Line 7 assigns a WHM API 1 `listaccts` function to the `$query` value
 - This call uses the GET method.
 - When you construct URLs to use this method, use the same methods as for a browser-based call.
- Line 14 assigns the `$header[0]` variable a value of `WHM $whmusername: $hash`.
 - The `$whmusername` variable contains the account's username, which **must** be `root` for this authentication method.
 - The `$hash` variable contains the account's access hash.
- Line 15 uses the `$header` hash to properly configure the HTTP header for the function.
- Line 16 uses the `$query` variable to pass in the function itself.
- Lines 18 through 22 execute the function.
- Line 24 prints the function's output.

