Getting Started

Related pages:
- Release Upgrade Checklist
- Ask the AppDynamics Community
- Help and Support
- AppDynamics University

This page provides an overview of the options for creating an account and how to get started using your AppDynamics online Account Management Portal and Application Performance Monitoring (APM) Platform.

As part of your deployment, the AppDynamics APM provides:

- A Controller for data collection.
- A Controller UI for data analysis.
- An online Account Management Portal to manage your account, users, subscriptions, license usage, and role functionality.

As a best practice, we recommend that you follow the Deployment Planning Guide and create a deployment plan for your environment and needs.

Create an Account

Your first step to working with AppDynamics is to create an account. AppDynamics provides both SaaS and on-premises deployment options to fit your data security needs, application workflow, and business environment. Reviewing the Deployment Planning Guide will help you determine if the type of data you will be monitoring requires a SaaS, on-premises, or hybrid solution.

Choose an account type and deployment option.

Gain System Access

After you complete registration and create an account, you will have access to your Account Management Portal for online account administration and, if you opted for a SaaS deployment, access to your hosted Controller platform.

Online Account Administration

The Account Management Portal provides a secure online area where administrators can:

- Manage the company account and personal profile separately.
- See a company overview of account details, subscription information, open support tickets, and active resource projects.
- Launch available AppDynamics Controllers.
- Add, edit, and delete users, as well as administer user groups, subscriptions, and roles.
- Download agents, platforms, and product updates.

Your account type will determine the services available in the Account Management Portal.

1. Access the Welcome email sent to the address you used to create your account.
2. Click Get Started.
3. Follow the instructions.

Controller UI

An AppDynamics Controller is fundamental to every deployment. Integrated agents collect data from a monitored environment and send it to the Controller. The Controller UI is where you can view, understand, and analyze that data.

How you access your controller depends on your deployment. Your account will include a subscription license for each product you purchased during registration. A subscription can have one or more modules and you can have multiple subscriptions, each one having a distinct lifecycle.

Choose your deployment configuration.

Install Application Agents

An AppDynamics deployment consists of multiple application agents to monitor different components in your environment. For installing most types of agents, you can use the Getting Started Wizard in the Controller UI.

Log in to the Controller UI and navigate to Applications > Create an Application > Create an Application using the Getting Started Wizard. Follow the instructions in the Wizard to install agents in your application environment.

Review the Install App Server Agents documentation for instructions and guidance. AppDynamics provides an Agent Installer that simplifies the agent installation process and streamlines the deployment of the Java and Machine Agents.
Connect Agents to the Controller

The Getting Started Wizard automatically configures settings for connecting agents to the Controller. If you manually download agents, you must configure the Controller connections. You may need to adjust the configuration of network components, such as firewalls or proxies, to permit traffic from the agent to the Controller. The connection is unidirectional, meaning that agents always initiate the connections to the Controller.

The following graphic shows the connections agents use to reach the platform. The actual connections vary between on-premises and SaaS platforms.

Continue with Your AppDynamics Deployment

Best Practice

We recommend that you follow the Deployment Planning Guide and create a deployment plan for your environment and needs.

You can start using AppDynamics immediately without instrumentation and configuration. Then, at a later date, you can optimize the configuration to make the best use of AppDynamics for your environment and requirements. After you install agents and restart your applications, AppDynamics automatically builds an environment of your application. You can see the model in the dashboards and flow maps view of the Controller UI. The Controller monitors your application workload, uses machine learning to determine what is normal for your environment, and applies sensible defaults for detecting abnormal activity and application errors.

The timeline in the Deployment Planning Guide outlines a typical start to your AppDynamics journey.

Tutorials

Learn more about specific areas of the AppDynamics APM Platform by following one of these tutorials:

- Platform Installation Quick Start (on-premises installations only)
- Install the Java Agent
- Install the .NET Agent for Windows
- Manual Injection of the JavaScript Agent
- Instrument iOS Applications
- Instrument Android Applications
- Instrument Xamarin Applications
- Instrument Applications with the IoT C/C++ SDK
- Instrument Applications with the IoT Java SDK