Code42 API authentication methods

Who is this article for?

√ Ø Code42 for Enterprise
See product plans and features (https://support.code42.com/Terms_and_conditions/Code42_customer_support_resources/Code42_product_plans)

√ Ø CrashPlan for Small Business
CrashPlan for Small Business, no.
Code42 for Enterprise, yes.
Link: Product plans and features.

This article applies to versions 6 and 7.

Other available versions:


Overview

Most requests to the Code42 API must be authenticated. This article describes the available Code42 API authentication methods and provides examples of their use.

The examples in this article use curl (http://curl.haxx.se/), but the concepts apply to other tools that can be used to interact with the Code42 API (https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Tools_for_interacting_with_the_Code42_API).
Considerations

The Code42 API documentation viewers ([https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Code42_API_Documentation_Viewer](https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Code42_API_Documentation_Viewer)) are publicly available. You can see them in a browser without signing in. But the API resources themselves only work for you under these conditions:

- You have a [product plan](https://support.code42.com/Terms_and_conditions/Code42_customer_support_resources/Code42_product_plans) that includes access to the Code42 API.
- Your credentials rely on local authentication. [SSO or authentication](https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Configuring/Identity_management/Introduction_to_single_sign-on) through any third-party provider will not work.
- Your [role provides permission](https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Manage_user_roles) to access the data necessary to a given API resource. For example, if you do not have permission to change device settings in the administration console, then you don't have permission to change device settings with the API.

If your API calls fail because you do not have permission to use them, you will see reply messages like these:

- HTTP 401 Unauthorized
- HTTP 401 Could not authenticate user
- Your Code42 product plan does not permit use of the Code42 API.

Comparison of Code42 API authentication methods

The Code42 API offers the following authentication methods:

- **Basic**: You provide your username and password to authenticate each API request.
- **Token**: You obtain a temporary authentication token that is good for 30 minutes and use it to authenticate API requests.

The following table describes the advantages and disadvantages of each authentication method:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authentication method</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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</table>
| Basic                 | Simple to use.      | • Passwords may be saved in the history of your tool.  
                          |                     | • Not allowed for version 3 resources, except for the resource that provides a token. |

[https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Code42_API_authentica...](https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Code42_API_authentication_methods)
### Authentication method

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| Token | - Better performance.  
   - More secure  
     (tokens expire in 30 minutes). | More complex to use. |

### More authentication alternatives:
For other alternatives, see the [curl documentation](https://curl.haxx.se/docs/) or use some tool ([https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and/managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Tools_for_interacting_with_the_Code42_API](https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Tools_for_interacting_with_the_Code42_API)) other than curl.

### Use basic authentication

Use basic authentication for any version 1 or 4 resource, and version 3’s /auth/jwt resource. To use basic authentication, include your Code42 username in the API request and supply your password when prompted.

```
curl -u "username" https://authority-server.example.com:4285/api/Computer
```

### Use token authentication

Use the same /v3/auth/jwt token to request any API resource of any version.

All version 3 resources require token authentication, except the /v3/auth/jwt resource.

#### Step 1: Get the token

1. Include your Code42 username in a GET request to /auth/jwt and supply your password when prompted.

   ```
curl -u "username" https://authority-server.example.com:4285/c42api/v3/auth/jwt?useBody=true
```

2. From the reply, copy the value of the v3_user_token. In the example below, it is eyJjdHki...txd546Eg

   ```
   {"data":{"v3_user_token":"eyJjdHki...txd546Eg"},"error":null,"warnings":null}
   ```

#### Step 2: Use the token in API requests

Include that token in API requests. For example:
curl --header 'Authorization: v3_user_token '$tkn https://authority-server.example.com:4285/api/User
curl --header 'Authorization: v3_user_token '$tkn https://authority-server.example.com:4285/c42api/v3/organizationID/user

External resources

- Project page for curl (http://curl.haxx.se/)
- Man page for curl (http://curl.haxx.se/docs/manpage.html)
- Documentation for curl (http://curl.haxx.se/docs/)

Related topics

- Introduction to the Code42 API (https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API)
- Code42 API Documentation Viewer (https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Code42_API_Documentation_Viewer)
- Code42 API syntax and usage (https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Code42_API_syntax_and_usage)
- Tools for interacting with the Code42 API (https://support.code42.com/Administrator/6/Monitoring_and_managing/Introduction_to_the_Code42_API/Tools_for_interacting_with_the_Code42_API)