

Exercise 0: Creating an AWS account

As a pre-requisite for the class, we will complete the following steps:

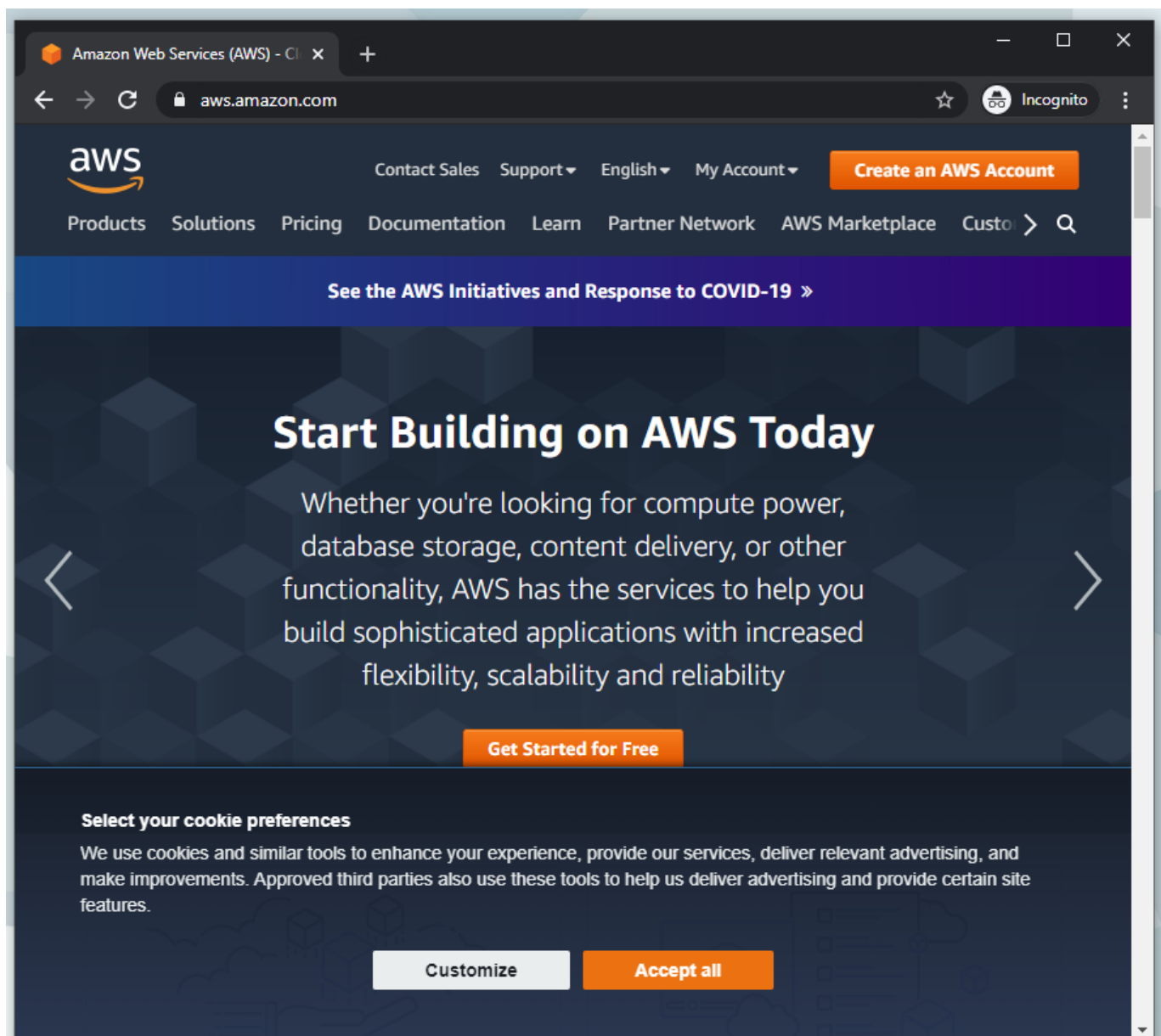
- Create an AWS account to use during the class
- Download the SEC699 VM

Objective 1: Creating an AWS account

During this objective we will create an Amazon account. To do this, you have to have the following prerequisites ready:

- A valid e-mail address to register your AWS account;
- A valid credit card to link to your AWS account.

1. Go to aws.amazon.com, you will be presented with the following view:



2. Click on create an AWS Account and follow the sign up steps.

Browser tabs: AWS Console - Signup

Address bar: portal.aws.amazon.com/billing/signup?nc2=h_ct&src=default&redirect_url=https...

Language: English

Create an AWS account

AWS Accounts Include 12 Months of Free Tier Access

Including use of Amazon EC2, Amazon S3, and Amazon DynamoDB

Visit aws.amazon.com/free for full offer terms

Email address

Password

Confirm password

** The passwords are not equal.*

AWS account name ⓘ

[Continue](#)

[Sign in to an existing AWS account](#)




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3. When having to select a support plan, select the **Basic Plan**.

aws English ▾

Select a Support Plan

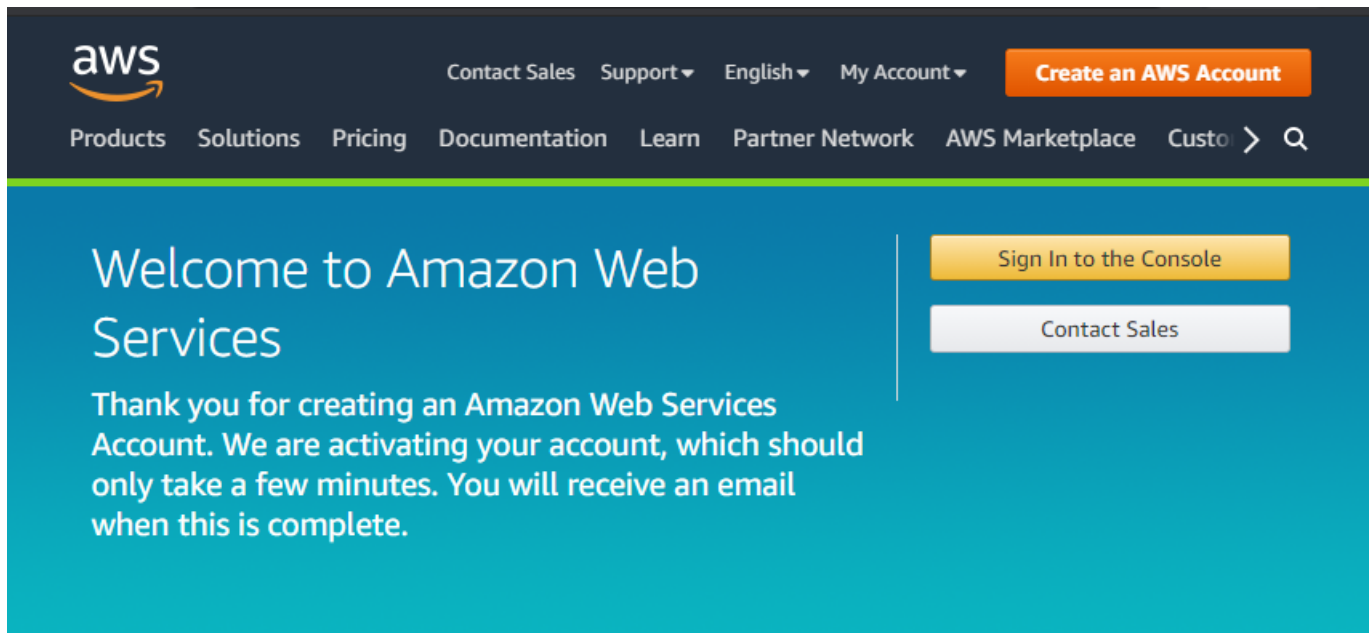
We offer a varied selection of plans to meet your needs. Please select a Support plan that best aligns with your AWS usage. To learn more about plan comparisons and pricing samples, [click here](#). You can change the Support plan anytime from the Console.

		
Basic Plan <i>Recommended for new users just getting started with AWS</i>	Developer Plan <i>Recommended for developers experimenting with AWS</i>	Business Plan <i>Recommended for running production workloads on AWS</i>
Free	From \$29/month	From \$100/month
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 24x7 self-service access to AWS resources• For account and billing issues only• Access to Personal Health Dashboard & Trusted Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Email access to AWS Support during business hours• 12 (business)-hour response times	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 24x7 tech support via email, phone, and chat• 1-hour response times• Full set of Trusted Advisor best-practice recommendations

 **Need Enterprise level support?**
From \$15,000 a month you will receive 15-minute response times and concierge-style experience with an assigned Technical Account Manager. [Learn more »](#)

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4. You will be redirected back to the main AWS screen after signing up. Click on **Sign in to the Console**.



The screenshot shows the AWS console interface. At the top, there is a dark navigation bar with the AWS logo on the left. To the right of the logo are links for 'Contact Sales', 'Support', 'English', and 'My Account'. A prominent orange button labeled 'Create an AWS Account' is positioned on the far right of this bar. Below the navigation bar is a teal banner with the text 'Welcome to Amazon Web Services' and a message: 'Thank you for creating an Amazon Web Services Account. We are activating your account, which should only take a few minutes. You will receive an email when this is complete.' To the right of this text are two buttons: a yellow 'Sign In to the Console' button and a white 'Contact Sales' button. Below the teal banner, the page has a white background with the heading 'Personalize Your Experience' and a sub-heading 'Fill in the blanks below to receive recommendations catered to your role and interests.' A dropdown menu is shown with the text 'My role is: select role'.

Personalize Your Experience

Fill in the blanks below to receive recommendations catered to your role and interests.

My role is: *select role* ▼

5. When logging in select **Root user** and provide your configured credentials.



Sign in

Root user

Account owner that performs tasks requiring unrestricted access. [Learn more](#)

IAM user

User within an account that performs daily tasks. [Learn more](#)

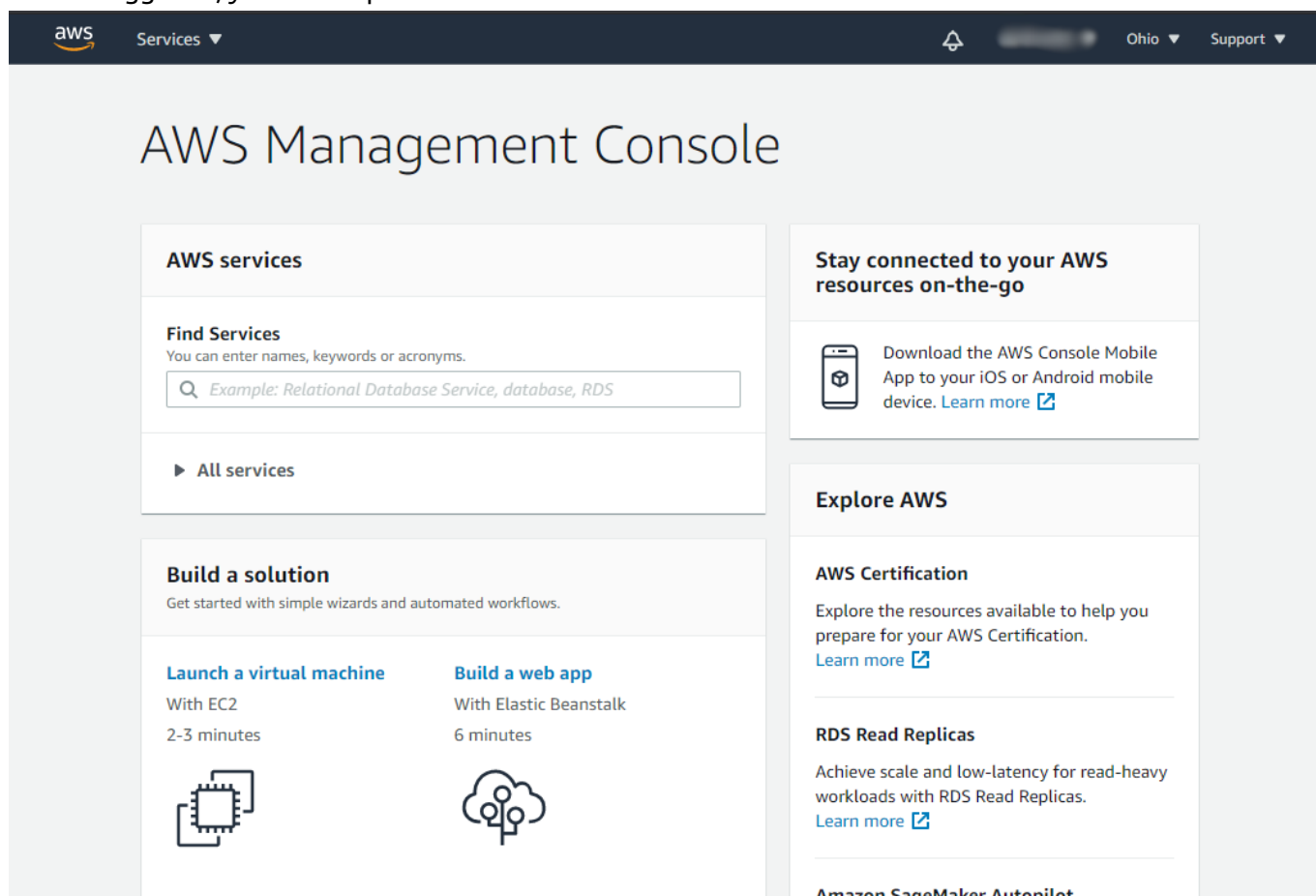
Root user email address

Next

————— New to AWS? —————

Create a new AWS account

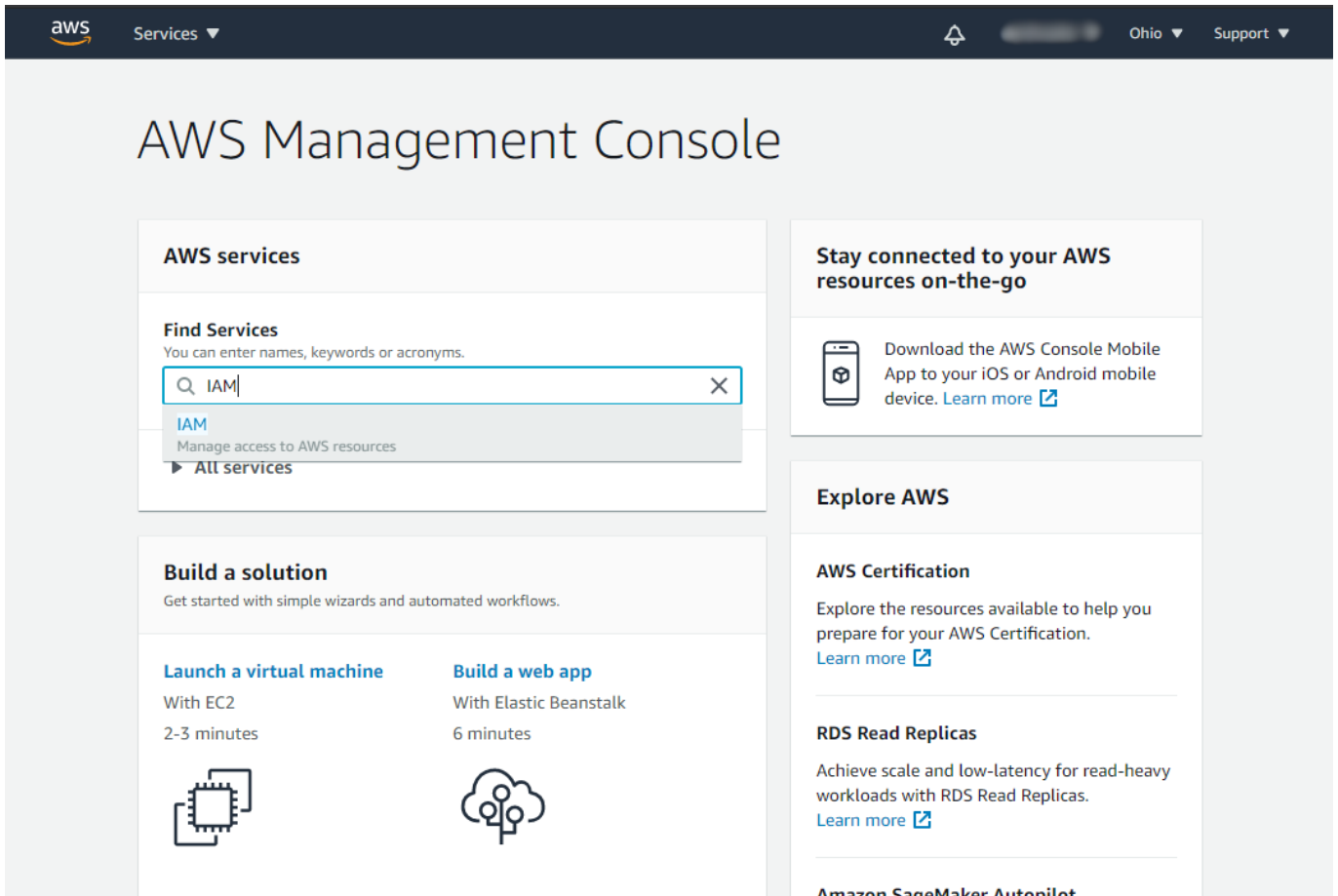
6. Once logged in, you will be presented with the AWS Overview console.



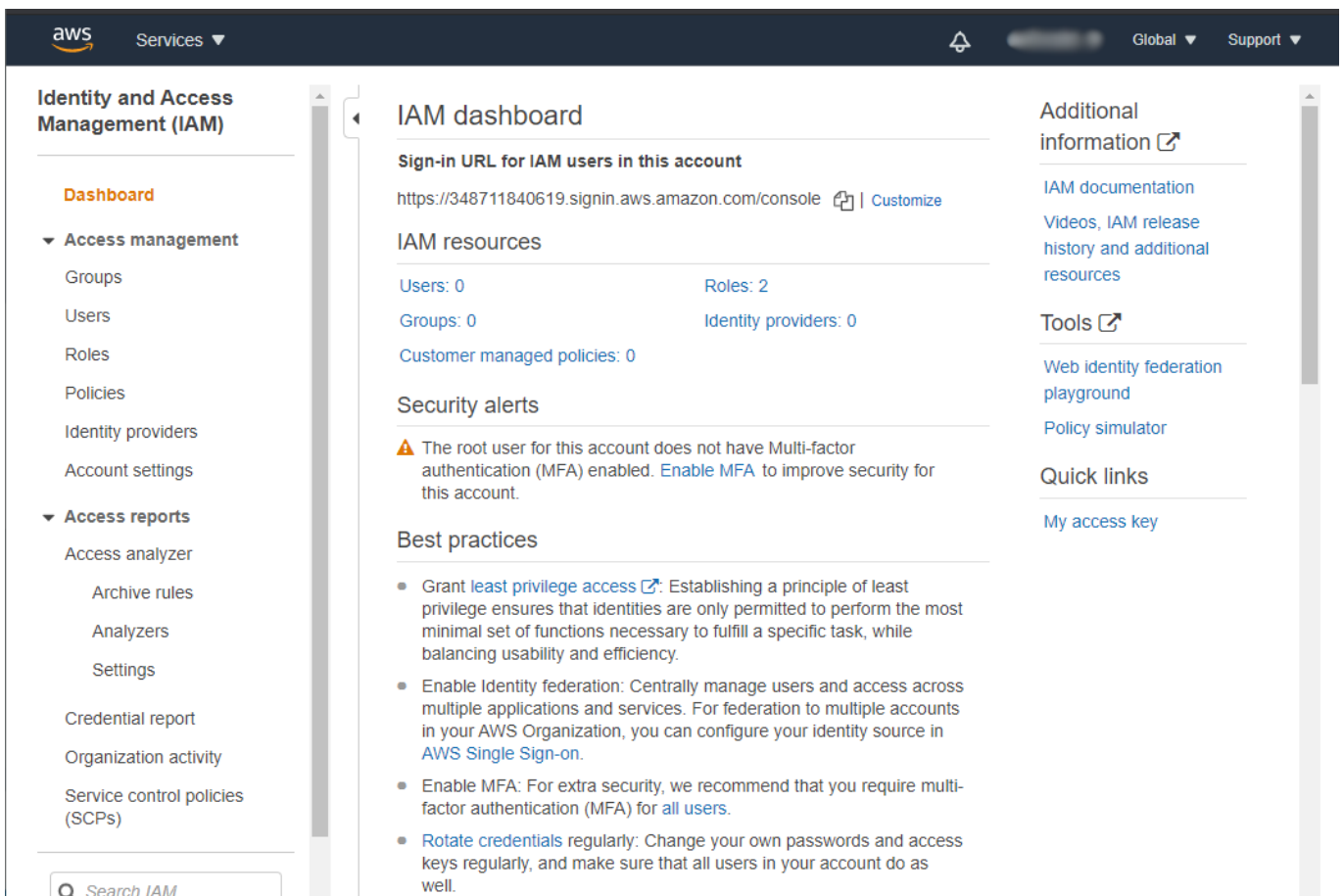
Objective 2: Creating an AWS API key

In the previous objective, we have created an AWS account. In this step, we will create a programmatic EC2 user to sign up.

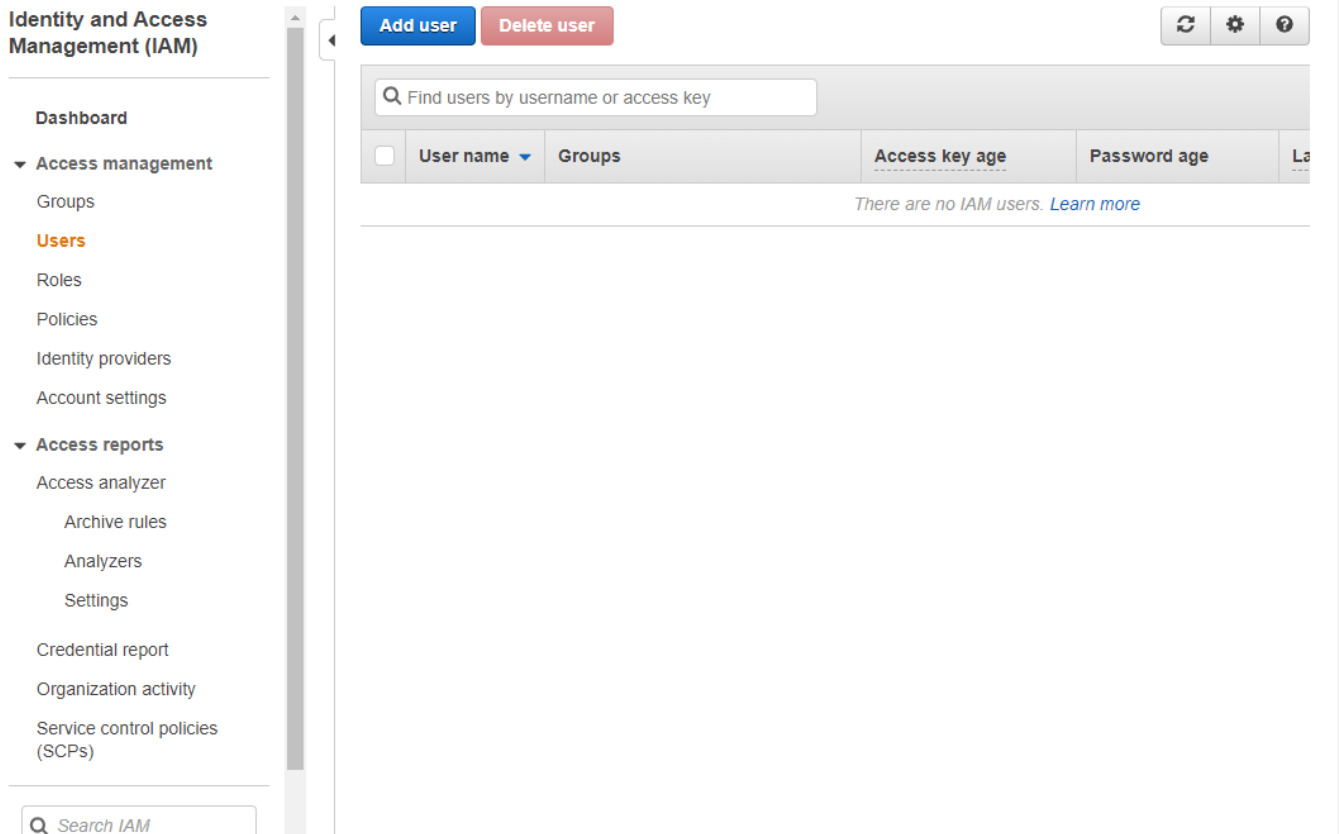
1. In the AWS Find Services, search for **IAM** and click the item in the dropdown list.



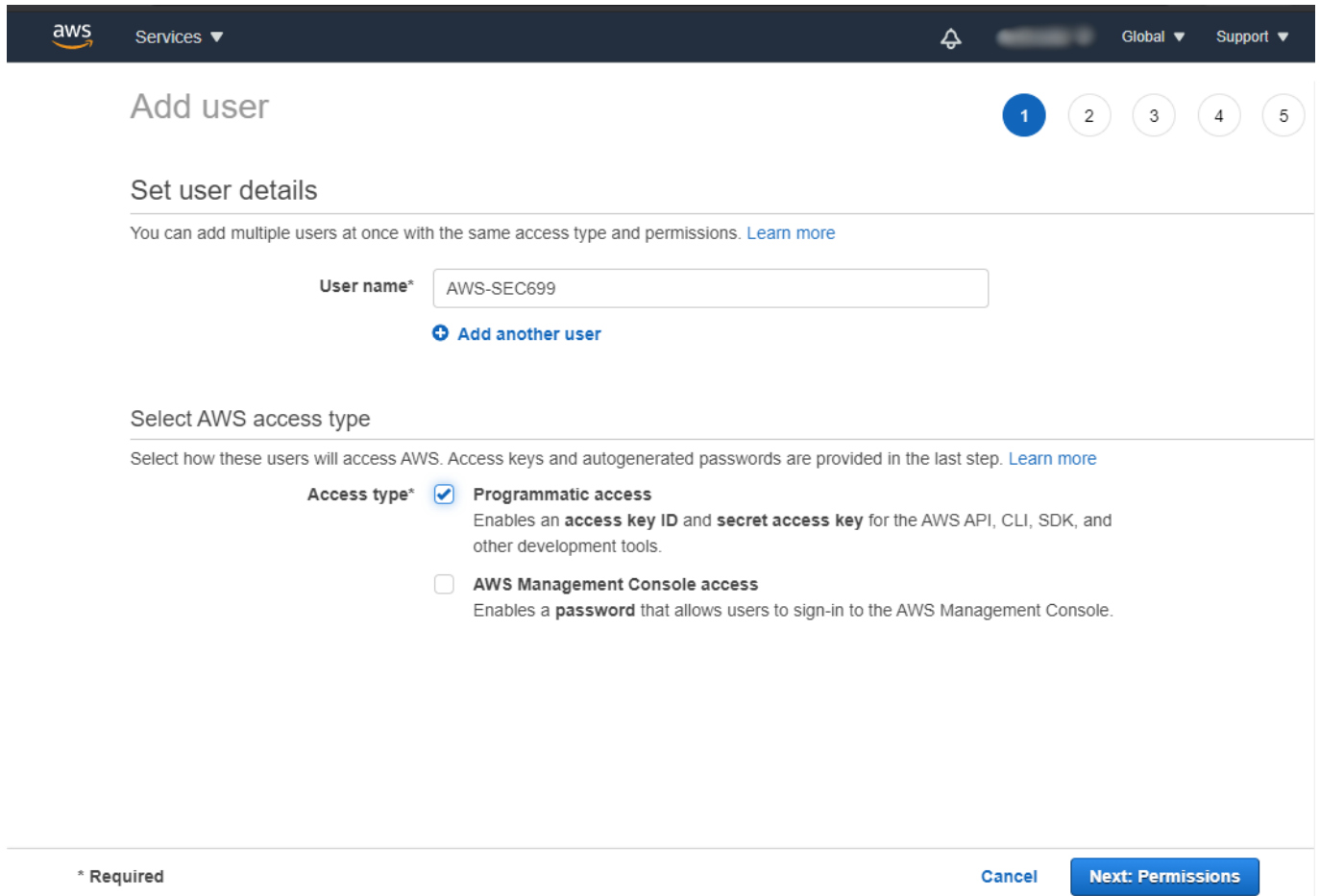
2. Once clicked, you will be presented with the IAM overview dashboard.



3. Click the **Users** option in the sidepanel. Click **Add user** to open the create user wizard.



4. Add a programmatic user by selecting the AWS Access type **Programmatic access**. This will instruct AWS to create a user linked to an API key. Then click **Next: Permissions**



5. Add the right permissions to your programmatic user. Search for and select **AmazonEC2FullAccess**. Click next on the tag creation window.

The screenshot shows the AWS IAM console 'Add user' page. The top navigation bar includes the AWS logo, 'Services', a notification bell, a user profile, 'Global', and 'Support'. The main heading is 'Add user' with a progress indicator showing steps 1 through 5, with step 2 highlighted. Under the 'Set permissions' section, three options are available: 'Add user to group', 'Copy permissions from existing user', and 'Attach existing policies directly'. The 'Attach existing policies directly' option is selected and highlighted with a blue border. Below this, there is a 'Create policy' button and a refresh icon. A table titled 'Filter policies' shows a search for 'ec2full' resulting in one entry: 'AmazonEC2FullAccess' (AWS managed, Used as None). At the bottom right, there are 'Cancel', 'Previous', and 'Next: Tags' buttons.

6. You are now ready to confirm the creation of your user. Click **Create user** to create the programmatic user.

Add user 1 2 3 4 5

Review

Review your choices. After you create the user, you can view and download the autogenerated password and access key.

User details

User name	AWS-SEC699
AWS access type	Programmatic access - with an access key
Permissions boundary	Permissions boundary is not set

Permissions summary

The following policies will be attached to the user shown above.

Type	Name
Managed policy	AmazonEC2FullAccess

Tags

No tags were added.

[Cancel](#) [Previous](#) [Create user](#)

7. You will now be presented with your API access credentials. **Make sure to copy these over as they will only be showed once. We will use these in a next exercise.**

Add user 1 2 3 4 5

Success

You successfully created the users shown below. You can view and download user security credentials. You can also email users instructions for signing in to the AWS Management Console. This is the last time these credentials will be available to download. However, you can create new credentials at any time.

Users with AWS Management Console access can sign-in at: <https://348711840619.signin.aws.amazon.com/console>

[Download .csv](#)

User	Access key ID	Secret access key
AWS-SEC699	AKIAVCMGYNNV7XTWI7O5	

[Close](#)

8. Your programmatic user has been created. You are now ready to continue with the next steps.

Objective 2: Downloading the course VM

To ease deployment of the lab environment, we created a VM which contains all the tools required to spin up the lab environment.

You can download it using the following link: https://sans-sec699-vm.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/VM_v0.0.4.zip

You will require this VM in the next steps.