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Sending SMS through the API: key, permissions, Sandbox and your first request

WhatsApp & APIs

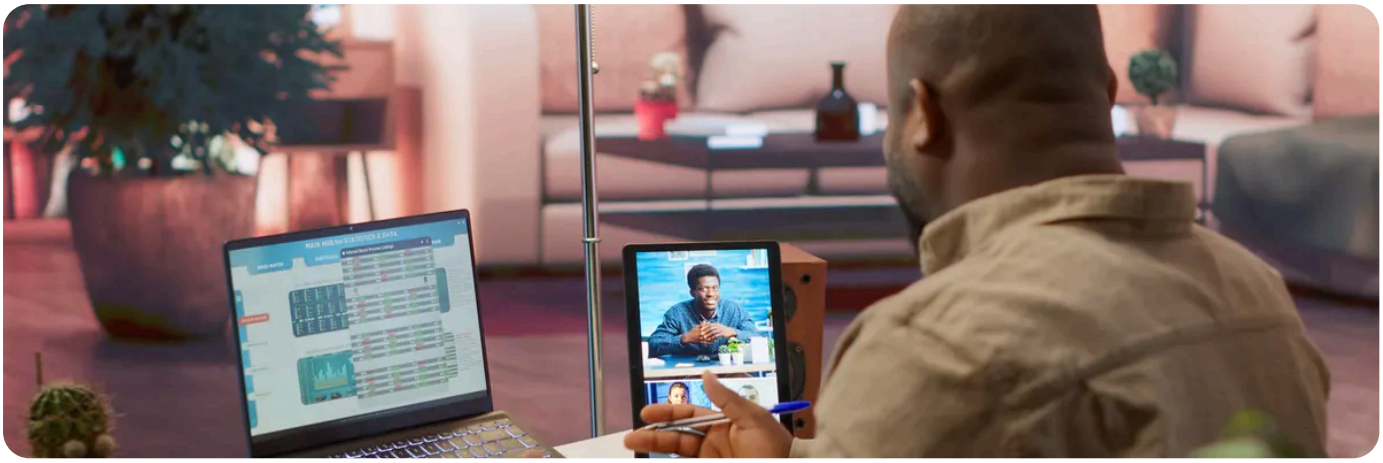
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Sending SMS through the API: key, permissions, Sandbox and your first request

WhatsApp & APIs Created on **November 10, 2026** 4 min read



The short answer: the API is REST, speaks JSON and works over HTTPS only, at `https://api.mozout.com/v1`. Create a key on the API page in My MozOut with the `sms:write` permission, test in the **Sandbox** (nothing is sent or charged) and, once it works, switch to a **Production** key: the address and the operations stay the same.

The API in one minute

There is one API for your whole account, with 147 operations across 12 areas; SMS is one of them. Every request carries the key in the `Authorization: Bearer <key>` header. If APIs are new to you, start with **what an API is, in plain words**.

Creating the key

1. **In My MozOut, open the API page and create a key.** You can have up to 20 per account, for example one per application.
2. **Pick permissions per area**, with read and write kept apart. For SMS: `sms:read` to look things up (balance, messages, senders) and `sms:write` to send. Grant only what the application needs.
3. **Pick an expiry**: 30, 90 or 365 days, or none. You can add a **spending limit** and a list of allowed IPs.
4. **Confirm** with your password and the 6-digit code we send by e-mail. The key is shown **only once**: copy it straight away to a safe place on your server.

> **Has the key been exposed**
> in a public repository, an e-mail or a web page? Follow **what to do when an API key leaks**, in the right order.

Sandbox and Production

	Sandbox	Production
Key starts with	`sandbox_`	`prod_`
Address and operations	The same	The same
The SMS	Validated, but not sent	Sent
Credits	Not charged	Taken from your SMS balance
In the response	`"status": "simulated"` and `X-API-Simulated: true`	The message's real status

Your first request

```
curl https://api.mozout.com/v1/sms/messages \
-H "Authorization: Bearer sandbox_..." \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-H "Idempotency-Key: 7d4f2b1e-9c3a-4e8f-b6d2-1a5c3e9f0b7d" \
-d '{"number": "+258841234567", "text": "Your order is ready."}'
```

If all is well, you get a **201** with these fields:

Field	What it tells you
`id`	The message ID, so you can look it up later
`status`	The message status (in the Sandbox, `simulated`)
`parts`	How many parts the message was split into
`encoding`	The character set used: the standard one, or Unicode if the text has characters outside it
`credits`	The credits used (1 per part)

The `sender` field is optional: without it, the SMS goes out from the free NETMSG sender; with it, use an approved name, as explained in **what a Sender ID is**. Numbers are written with or without the country code, because the system can tell the country from the first digit: **841234567** goes to Mozambique and **923456789** to Angola. So **+258 84 123 4567** and **258841234567** are the same number as **841234567**.

The SMS operations

Operation	What it is for
`POST /v1/sms/messages`	Send an SMS (`number` , `text` and, optionally, `sender`)
`GET /v1/sms/messages/{id}`	See one message and its status
`GET /v1/sms/messages`	List your messages
`GET /v1/sms/balance`	Credit balance, `daily_limit` and `sent_today`
`GET /v1/sms/senders`	Your senders: the free one first, then yours, with their status (`approved` , `pending` , `in_review` , `rejected`)
`POST /v1/sms/senders`	Request a sender
`GET` and `POST /v1/sms/templates`	List and create templates
`GET /v1/sms/stats`	Sending statistics
`GET` and `POST /v1/sms/opt-outs`	Your account's list of numbers that must not receive SMS

Useful headers and parameters

Name	What it is for
`Idempotency-Key`	Repeat a request safely: the same key with the same body returns the same response; with a different body, you get a 409
`X-RateLimit-Limit` , `X-RateLimit-Remaining`	The limit of 300 requests per minute per account, and how many are left
`Accept-Language`	API messages in Portuguese or English
`X-Correlation-ID`	Sent with every response; quote it when you ask support for help
`page` , `per_page`	Paging through lists, up to 100 per page

Next steps:
What to do about each error is in **SMS API errors and message statuses**; to send sign-in codes, see **verification codes by SMS**.

RECOMMENDED

Ready to connect your system to SMS? See the API page and create your first Sandbox key.

See the API page →

SEE ALSO

- Verification codes by SMS through our API: a practical guide for your site or app
- SMS API errors and message statuses: what each one means and what to do
- What an API is, in plain words: requests, answers and a REST example
- An API key or token has leaked: what to do, in the right order
- What a Sender ID is: SMS that arrive with your company name instead of a number
- Synchronous or asynchronous: why a payment or SMS confirmation arrives later

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