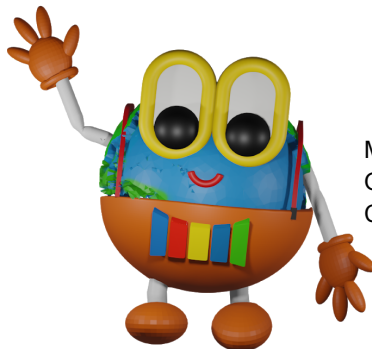


HOW TO GET GOOGLE MAPS API KEY WITHOUT ANY BILLING ADDRESS



Made with the help of wanna-be contributor of GSOC 23: Prayag Biswas
And mentor: Yash Raj Bharti

This guide covers all the steps required to generate a Google Maps SDK API key without any billing address from scratch. This guide also applies to complete beginners to Google Cloud. Those who have intermediate experience with Google Cloud Console can skip to [Step 3](#).



Mr. Worldwide,
Official Mascot of Liquid Galaxy,
Created by Google Code 2019-20 student Kahy

Official Website: <https://www.liquidgalaxy.eu/>
Official Email: liquidgalaxylab@gmail.com

Liquid Galaxy:

The Liquid Galaxy system is an awesome panoramic display of a cluster of computers, usually three or more. Liquid Galaxies have been installed around the world, particularly in use at museums or universities. The Liquid Galaxy system is based off Google Earth, and started as an open source Google 20% project. Now, it's working on multiple projects all revolving around the Liquid Galaxy system, such as LGxEDU and WikiMedia. Use cases for the Liquid Galaxy include education about geography, visualizing tours and points of interest around the world as a virtual tourist, displaying information about cities, and exploring the globe in general! For example, museums can use the Liquid Galaxy to visualize data about certain cities and placemarks around the world, and teachers can bring their students right into a country's history from their classroom.

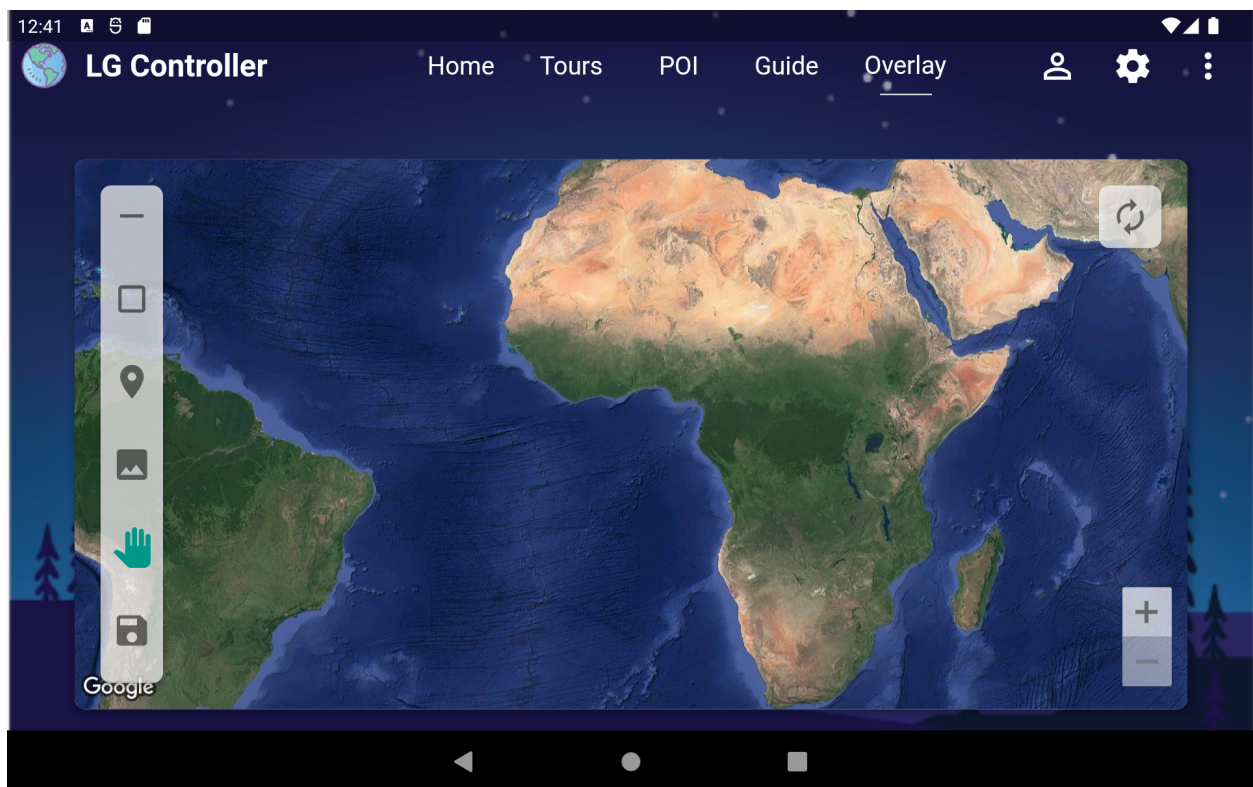


Want a cool app with embedded Google Maps which can interact with Liquid Galaxy seamlessly? Stick with this tutorial to find out how you can access all the features of Google Maps SDK for Android. And all these are completely FREE!

Why we need the API Key:

An API key or Application Programming Interface key is a code that gets passed in by computer applications. The program or application then calls the API to identify its user, developer or calling program to a website. Similarly Google Maps SDK API key associates the request with a Google Cloud project for billing and quota purposes.

You will need the API key to allow your apps access to the Google Maps integration features. For example, [LG Controller](#), a cool project of Gsoc 19 by Shreyas Ravichandran, has Google Maps embedded in it.



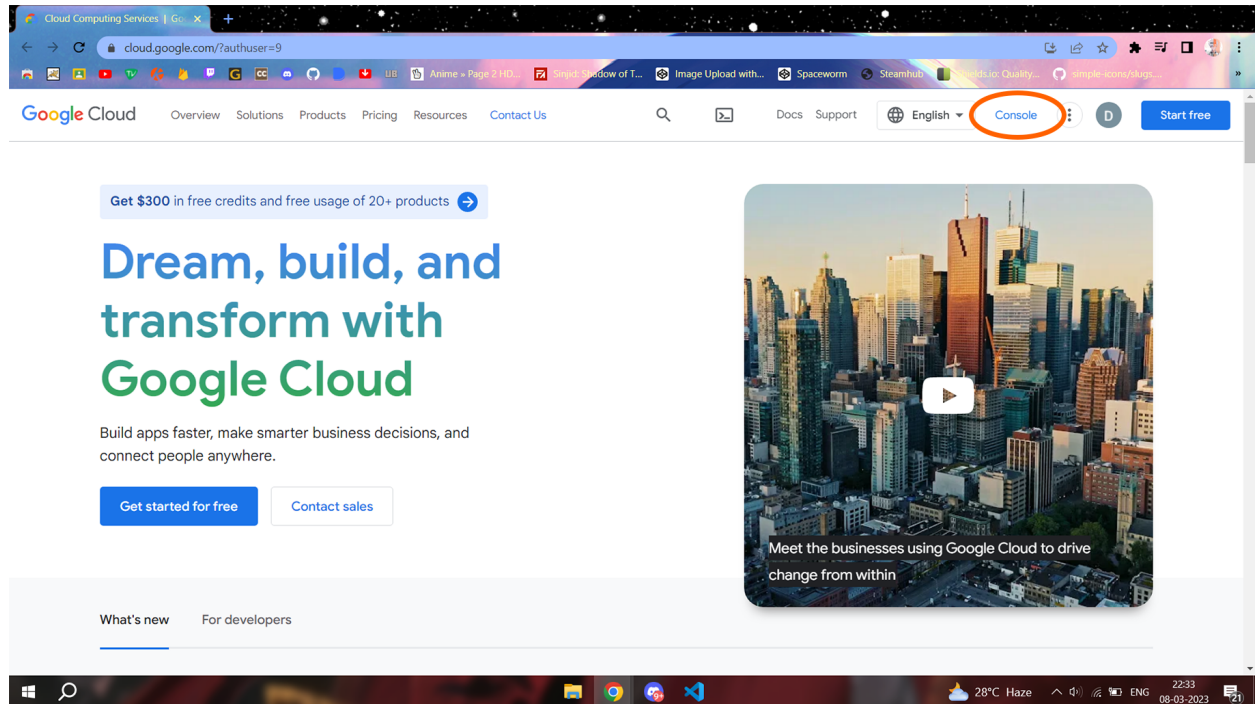
In Flutter, if you want to embed Google Maps in your app, you will need the [Google Maps for Flutter](#) package. To enable it, you will need to paste your API key in:

[android/app/src/main/AndroidManifest.xml](#)

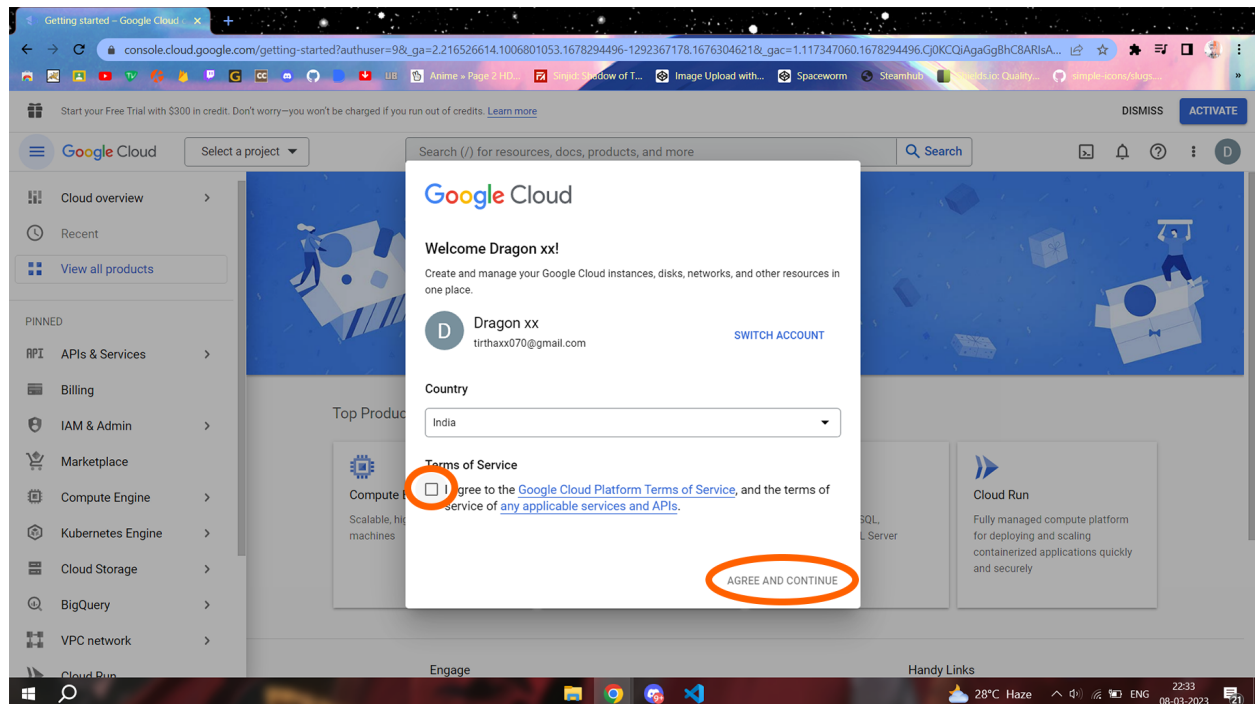
```
<manifest ...  
  <application ...  
    <meta-data android:name="com.google.android.geo.API_KEY"  
      android:value="Aeifjsu5go4slhguoihjs32fsdfg"/>
```

STEP 1: Creating an account in Google Cloud

Go to [Google Cloud](https://cloud.google.com) and login with your preferred account. Then click on [Console](#)

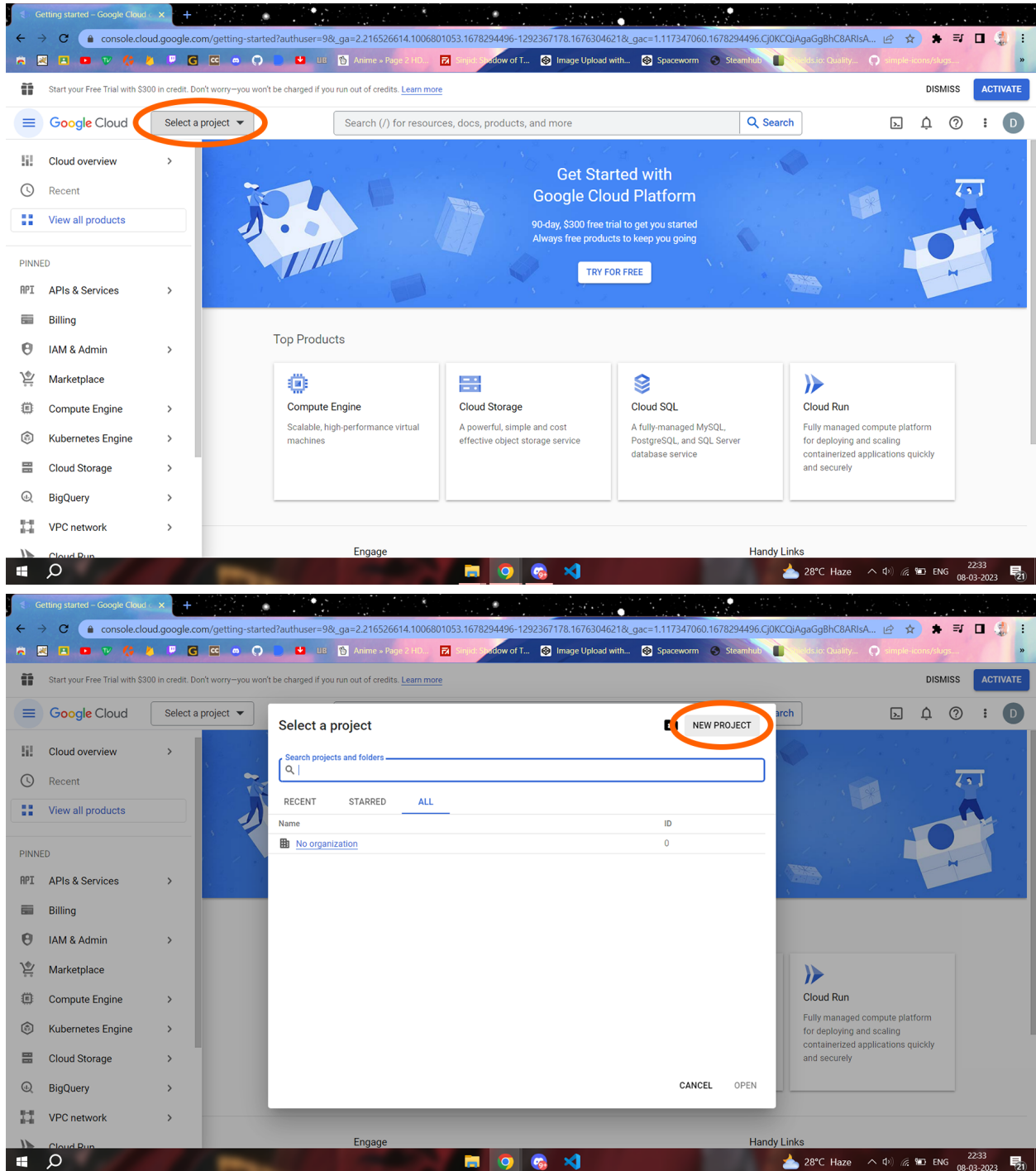


Agree to the terms and click on [AGREE AND CONTINUE](#)



STEP 2: Creating a new project

After creating the account, we have to create a new project which you are going to use for creating your Flutter apps. For this first click on **Select a project** then **NEW PROJECT**.



Choose your desired project name and click **CREATE**

Start your Free Trial with \$300 in credit. Don't worry—you won't be charged if you run out of credits. [Learn more](#)

DISMISS **ACTIVATE**

Google Cloud Search (/) for resources, docs, products, and more

New Project

You have 12 projects remaining in your quota. Request an increase or delete projects. [Learn more](#)
[MANAGE QUOTAS](#)

Project name *
google-api-free

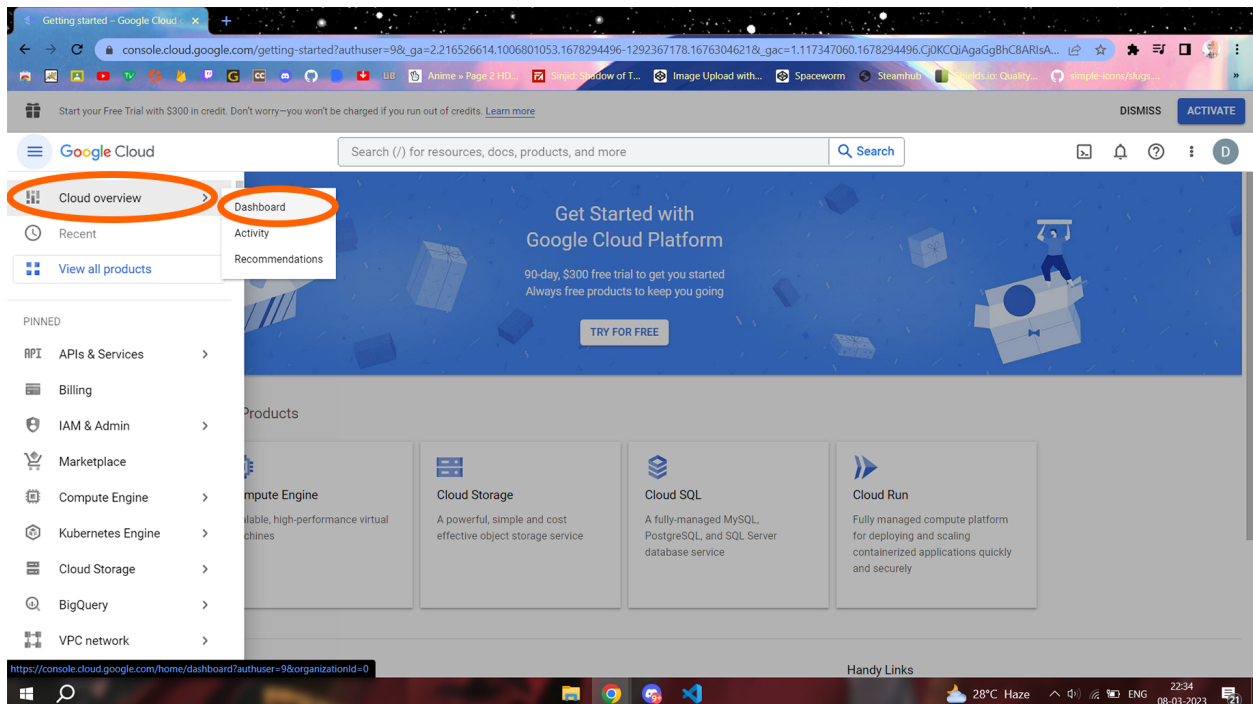
Project ID: caramel-aria-380017. It cannot be changed later. [EDIT](#)

Location *
No organization [BROWSE](#)

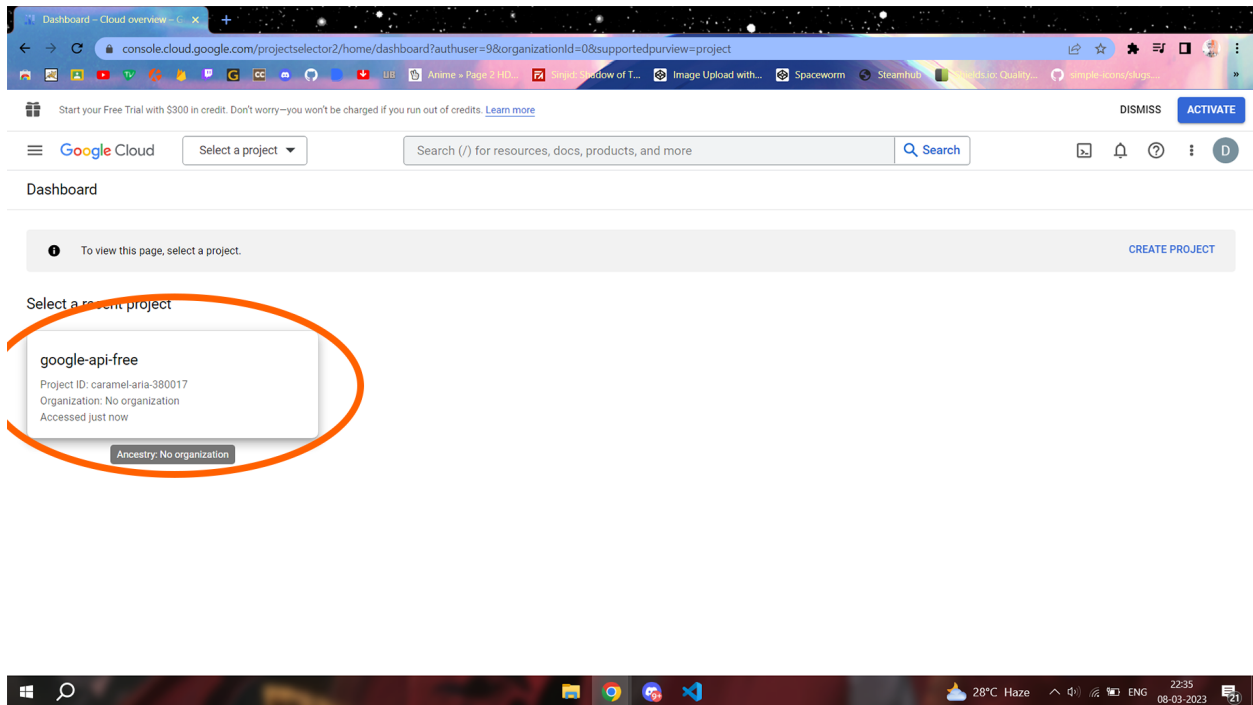
Parent organization or folder

CREATE CANCEL

Now we have to select the new project you have created. For this, click on the sidebar **Cloud overview** > **Dashboard**



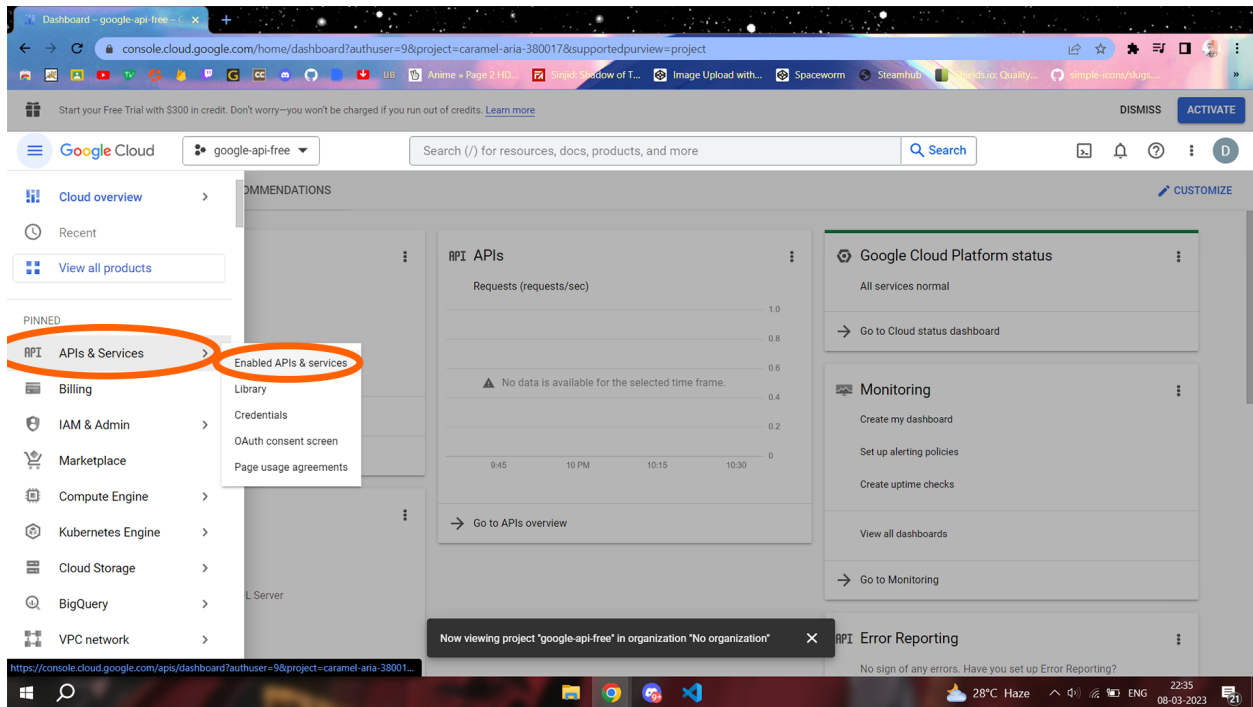
Then select your newly created project.



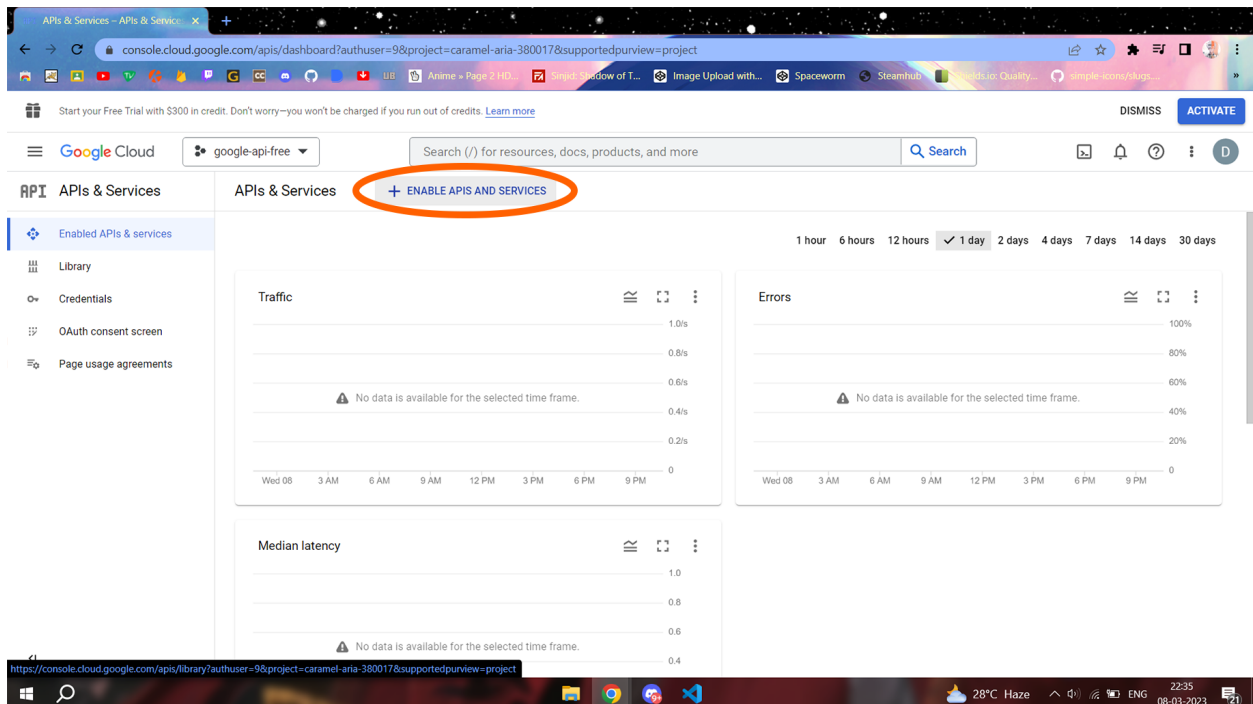
STEP 3: Enabling Google Maps API

Now we come to the main thing, i.e., enabling Google Maps API without creating any billing address.

Click on **APIs & Services** > **Enabled APIs & services**



Now click on **ENABLE APIS AND SERVICES**



Search for “Maps SDK for Android”. And **ENABLE** it.

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud API Library search results for "maps sdk". The search bar at the top contains "maps sdk". Below the search bar, there are 3 results listed. The first result is "Maps SDK for iOS", the second is "Maps SDK for Android" (highlighted with an orange oval), and the third is "Places API". The "Maps SDK for Android" result is circled in orange. The "Places API" result is also visible below it.

API Library

maps sdk

API Library > "maps sdk"

Filter Type to filter

3 results

Visibility Public (3)

Category Maps (3) Google Enterprise APIs (1)

Maps SDK for iOS
Google
Add maps based on Google Maps data to your iOS application with the Maps SDK for iOS. The SDK automatically handles access to the Google Maps servers, map display and response to user gestures such as clicks and drags.

Maps SDK for Android
Google
Add maps based on Google Maps data to your Android application with the Maps SDK for Android. The SDK automatically handles access to Google Maps servers, map display and response to user gestures such as clicks and drags.

Places API
Google Enterprise API
Get data from the same database used by Google Maps. Places features over 100 million businesses and points of interest that are updated frequently through owner-verified listings and user-moderated contributions. Place search Return a list of places based on a user's location or search string. Place details Return detailed information about a specific place, including user reviews. Place autocomplete can be used to...

The screenshot shows the product details for "Maps SDK for Android". The "ENABLE" button is highlighted with an orange oval. Below the button, there is a link "Click to enable this API". The page also includes tabs for "OVERVIEW", "DOCUMENTATION", and "SUPPORT". The "Overview" tab is selected, showing a description of the SDK and additional details like "Type: SaaS & APIs", "Last updated: 9/28/22", "Category: Maps", and "Service name: maps-android-backend.googleapis.com".

Maps SDK for Android

Google

Maps for your native Android app.

ENABLE

Click to enable this API

OVERVIEW DOCUMENTATION SUPPORT

Overview

Add maps based on Google Maps data to your Android application with the Maps SDK for Android. The SDK automatically handles access to Google Maps servers, map display and response to user gestures such as clicks and drags.

About Google

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful. Through products and platforms like Search, Maps, Gmail, Android, Google Play, Chrome and YouTube, Google

Additional details

Type: [SaaS & APIs](#)

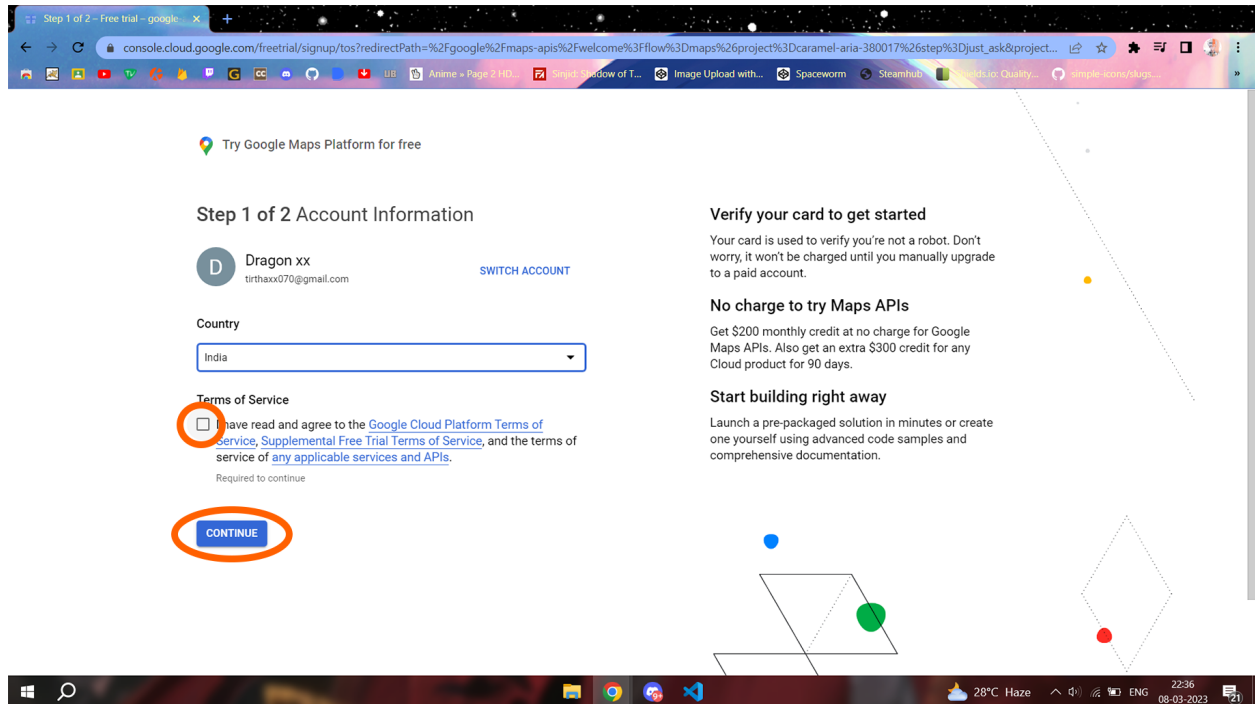
Last updated: 9/28/22

Category: [Maps](#)

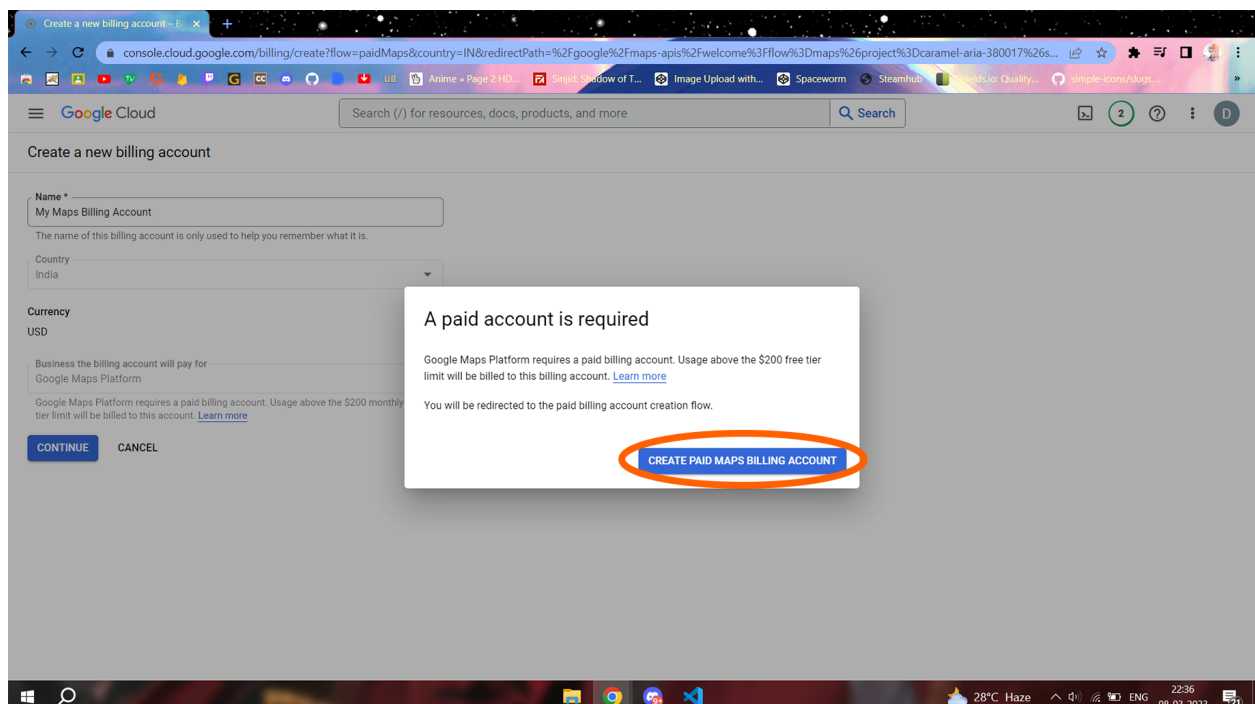
Service name: maps-android-backend.googleapis.com

Now comes the main problem, i.e., it will prompt for the billing address. But here's how to skip it.

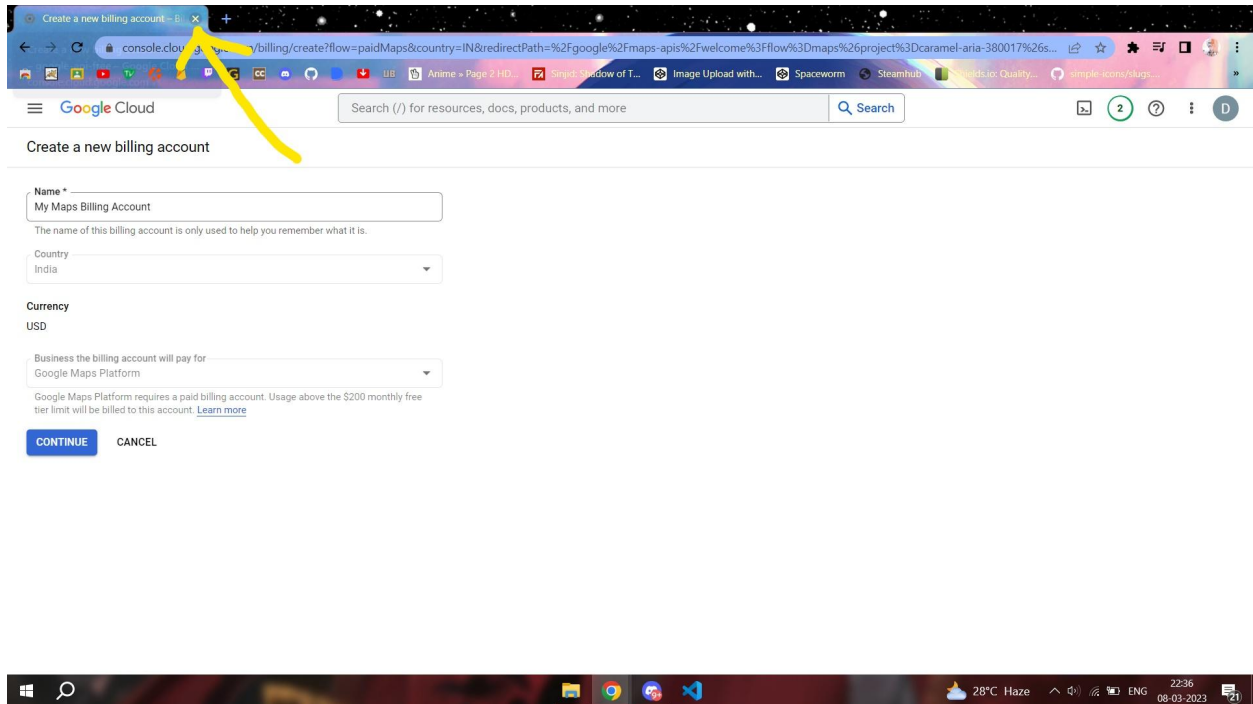
CONTINUE after accepting the terms.



Now click on **CREATE PAID MAPS BILLING ACCOUNT**



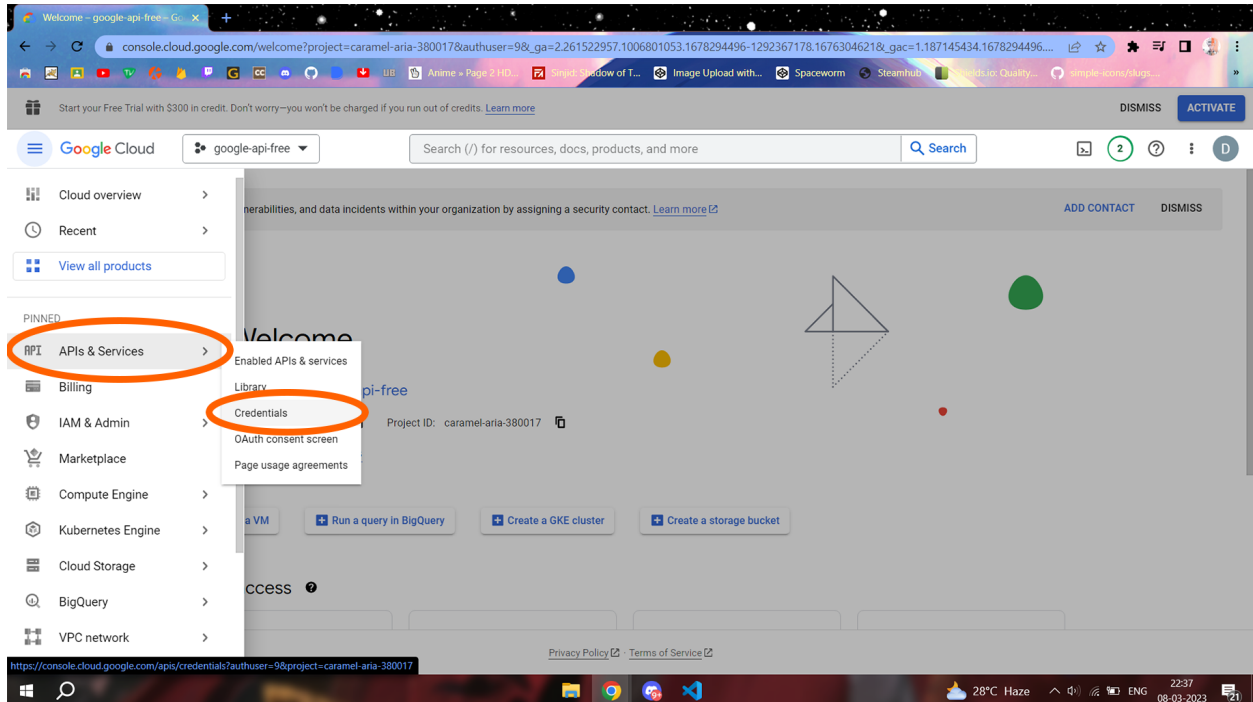
After this just close the tab. Your API is Enabled now 😊. Wasn't it very simple??



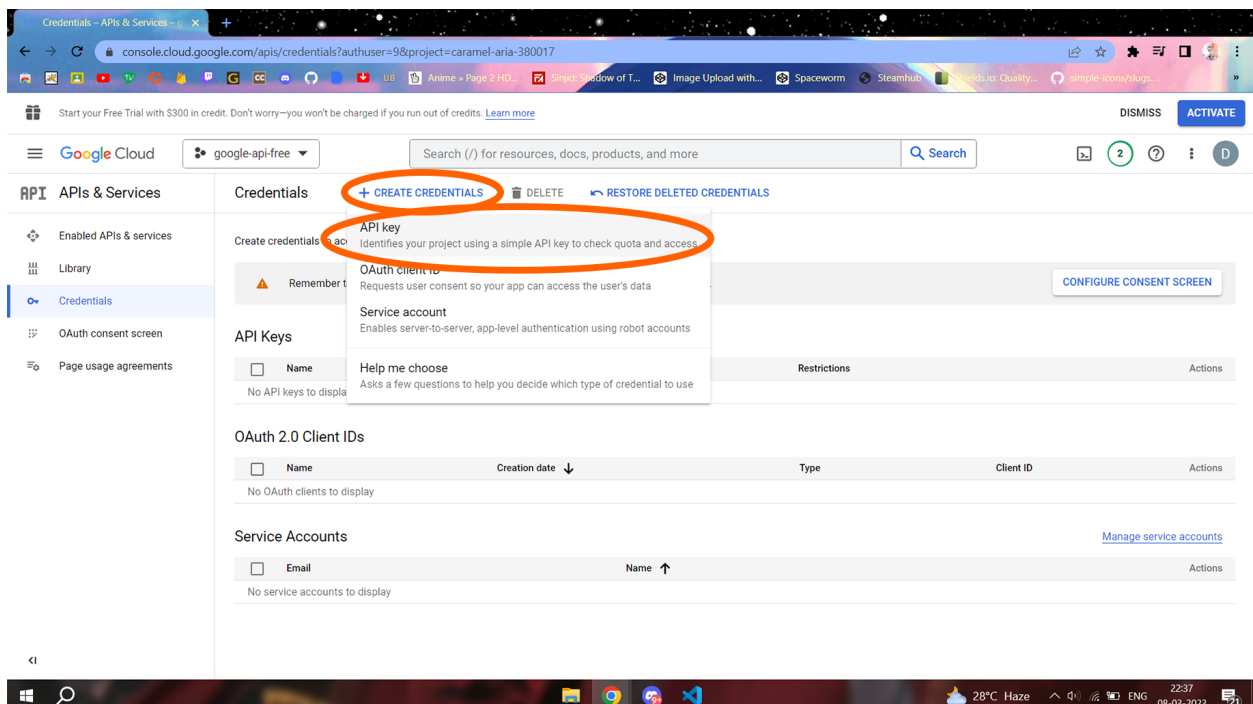
You can confirm that it is enabled by repeating [this](#) step. After you go search and goto the Maps SDK API settings, you will see it is already enabled.

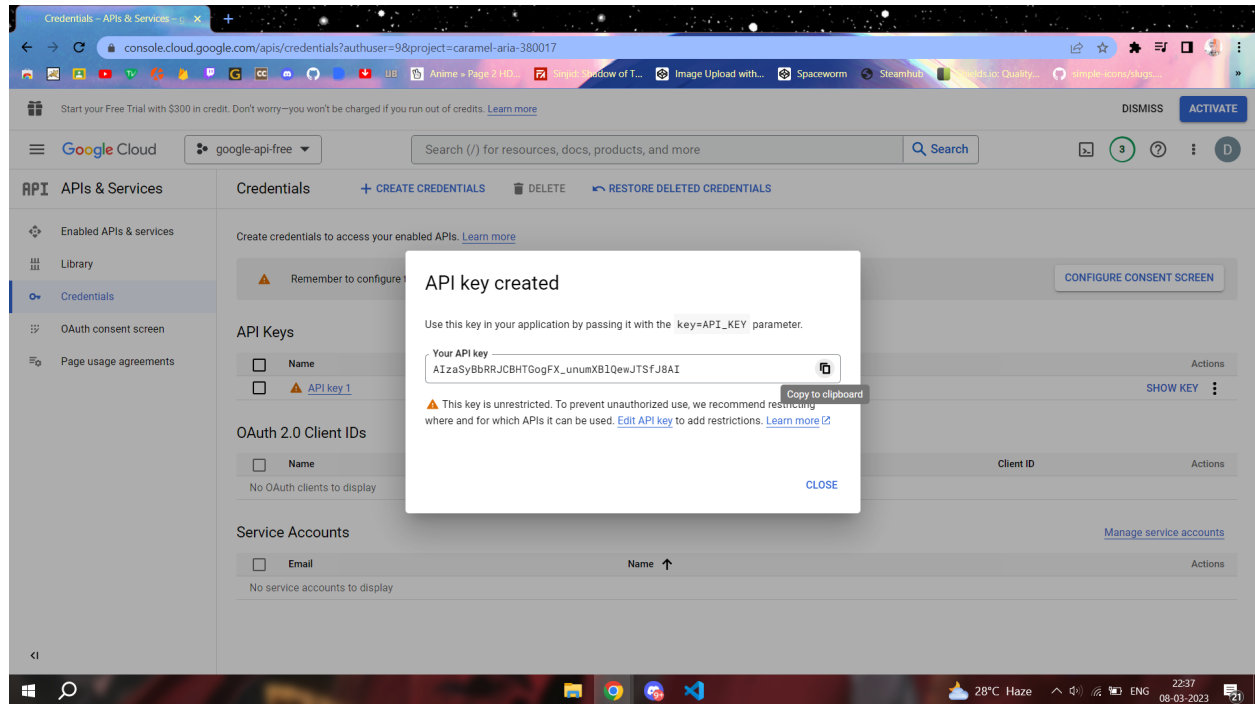
STEP 4: Generating the API key

Now all you need to do is to generate an API key for your use. Go to your cloud console. And then [APIs & Services](#) > [Credentials](#)



Here, click on [CREATE CREDENTIALS](#) > [API key](#)





Finally! You have successfully created Google Maps API key without any billing address.