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SMS verification API: we generate, send and check the code, and your system keeps only the id

WhatsApp & APIs

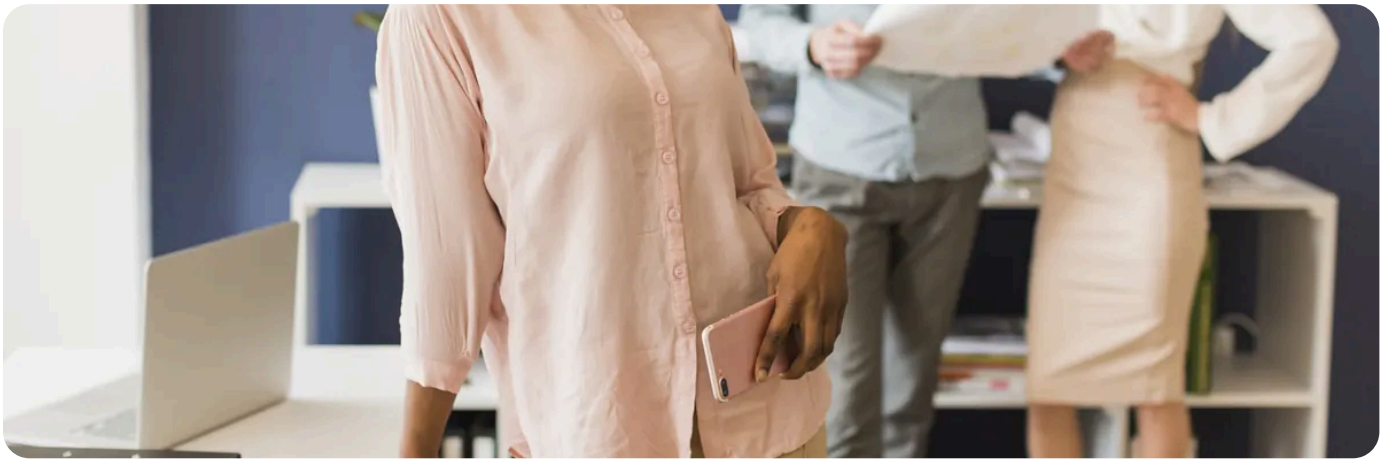
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Interweb Mozambique
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SMS verification API: we generate, send and check the code, and your system keeps only the id

WhatsApp & APIs Created on **November 13, 2026** 3 min read



The short answer: with our verification API, your system does not have to create, store or compare codes. It sends one `POST /v1/sms/otp` request with the customer's number; we create a random code, send it by SMS straight away and keep only its hash. When the customer types the code, your system calls `POST /v1/sms/otp/{id}/verify` and gets `valid`: yes or no. All you keep is the code's `id`, which starts with `otp_`.

Two requests are enough

1. **The customer asks for a code.** On sign-up, login or payment, your system sends the number. Every other field is optional.

2. **We create it and send it.** The code goes out by SMS at once, ahead of your account's other messages. The response gives you the `id`, the `pending` status, the masked number and the time the code expires.

3. **The customer types the code** on your website or in your app. They never reply to the SMS: named senders cannot receive replies.

4. **We check it.** Your system sends what was typed and gets back `valid`, the status and the attempts left.

```
curl https://api.interweb.co.mz/v1/sms/otp \
-H "Authorization: Bearer sandbox_..." \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-H "Idempotency-Key: signup-7f3a9c" \
-d '{"number": "841234567"}'
```

The operations, one by one

Operation	What it does	Permission
`POST /v1/sms/otp`	Create and send a code	`sms:write`
`POST /v1/sms/otp/{id}/verify`	Check the code the customer typed	`sms:write`
`POST /v1/sms/otp/{id}/resend`	Send a new code under the same `id`	`sms:write`
`POST /v1/sms/otp/{id}/cancel`	Make a pending code stop working	`sms:write`
`GET /v1/sms/otp/{id}`	See the status (never the code)	`sms:read`
`GET /v1/sms/otp-settings`	See your account's sending rules	`sms:read`
`PUT /v1/sms/otp-settings`	Change those rules	`sms:write`

What is already done, and what is still yours

Done by the API	Still up to your system
A random code of 4 to 8 digits (6 by default)	Linking the `id` to the customer and to what they are doing (the session, the transaction)
Validity from 1 to 60 minutes (5 by default)	Deciding what happens when `valid` is `true`
Counted attempts, 1 to 10 (5 by default)	Protecting your form from bots (see **fraud through your code form**)
Only the hash is stored, checked in constant time	A clear, honest code entry screen
A new code for the same number cancels the previous one	Keeping the API key on your server, never in a web page or a mobile app

Start in the Sandbox.
With a `sandbox_` key, no SMS is sent and nothing is charged, and the send response includes the code itself so you can test the check. See **testing verification in the Sandbox**.

Before the first request, SMS must be active on your account

and have credits. Otherwise the API answers `403` with `sms_reseller_required`. Activate the service and buy credits on the SMS page in Meu Interweb. Each code uses the credits for its SMS, usually one; checking it costs nothing.

RECOMMENDED

Want to confirm numbers and logins without creating or storing codes? See how Verification SMS works.

See Verification SMS →

SEE ALSO

- Your own codes or our verification API: which way to send SMS codes from your system
- Testing SMS verification in the Sandbox: the code comes back in the response
- Code length, validity and attempts: choosing length, expires_in and max_attempts
- Adding SMS verification to your site: PHP, Node.js and Python examples
- Sending SMS through the API: key, permissions, Sandbox and your first request
- Sending one-time codes (OTP) by SMS safely: expiry, attempt limits and logs

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