

# Authentication

Because unencrypted credentials are passed over the network, HTTPS / TLS should be used when requesting a bearer token.

1. Request a bearer token.

For example, given the "userid" user and the "pwd" password, type the following in a bash shell:

```
export BearerToken=`curl -u userid:pwd -X GET https://atscale.example.com:10500/default/auth`
```



**Note:** If the user name or the password contain special characters - for example, at sign (@) - you should escape them when running the command above. Or, you could put the value of the '-u' curl option in quotes.

2. Save the token for use with subsequent API requests.