

# EBULKSMS

www.ebulksms.com

*(Customized Text Messaging System)*

## API Specification Doc

Version	Date	Author	Description
1.0	01-Aug-2013	Dr Fox	Initial draft
1.1	14-Jul-2017	Dr Fox	Get API Key
1.2	21-Nov-2019	Dr Fox	SSL Support
1.3	22-Mar-2021	Dr Fox	Reduce SMS Pages
1.4	20-Oct-2022	Dr Fox	HTTPS switch
1.5	17-Nov-2023	Dr Fox	Send WhatsApp
1.6	01-Apr-2024	Dr Fox	API Ports

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## PREAMBLES

- In order to send SMS using the [EbulkSMS](#) API, you need to [create an account](#) first.
- Any curly braces shown in the URLs below **should be removed** from your final URL parameters as we included them only to show the parameters more clearly.

## 1. JSON

Use the format below to send a POST request in JSON format.

### Request

Method	URL
POST	https://api.ebulksms.com/sendsms.json

```
{
  "SMS": {
    "auth": {
      "username": "your_username_is_your_email_address",
      "apikey": "your_api_key"
    },
    "message": {
      "sender": "Sender Name",
      "messagetext": "Your message goes here",
      "flash": "0"
    },
    "recipients":
    {
      "gsm": [
        {
          "msidn": "23480...",
          "msgid": "uniqueid1..."
        },
        {
          "msidn": "23480...",
          "msgid": "uniqueid2..."
        }
      ]
    },
    "dndsender": 1
  }
}
```



### Parameters

Name	Description
username	Your login username on eBulkSMS (same as your email address)
apikey	Generate your API key <a href="#">here</a> .
sender	Your chosen sender name Alphanumeric sender name: Maximum of 11 characters Numeric sender name: Maximum of 14 characters
messagetext	The text message you wish to send Single page message is 160 characters Maximum of 4 pages with 612 characters
flash	0 - for normal SMS. 1 - for flash text (Only displays on the screen and will not be saved to the recipients' phone)
recipients	Recipient's mobile number in full international format For messages which require delivery reports be sure include your unique message id for each GSM phone number in the JSON data: <code>{"gsm": {"msidn": "23480...", "msgid": "unique_message_id..."}}</code>
dndsender	1 – enable delivery to MTN DND numbers at (2 units each by default) 0 – to disable delivery to MTN DND numbers (1 unit)

**IMPORTANT!!!** Be sure to include the “application/json” or “text/json” Content-Type header in your request. If you do not send this header your request might be misinterpreted.

## Response

The following responses will indicate if your message was received - success, or if there was an error in your request - failure.

Importantly, you must be aware that errors that have to do with recipient numbers are permanent and such messages should not be resent.

For errors relating to the message format and actual message you could modify the message and resend it.

The same applies to the sender name. As much as possible avoid using special characters in the sender name.

## Format

### Response Format

```
{
  "response": {
    "status": "STATUS_STRING",
    "totalsent": "<number of recipients>",
    "cost": "<units charged>"
  }
}
```

## Status Description

Status	Response
INVALID_JSON	The JSON format is not valid.
MISSING_USERNAME	Username field is empty
MISSING_APIKEY	API Key field is empty
AUTH_FAILURE	The username and API key combination is not correct.
MISSING_SENDER	Sender name is empty
MISSING_MESSAGE	Empty message content
MISSING_RECIPIENT	No mobile phone number was found
INVALID_RECIPIENT	An invalid mobile phone number was found
INVALID_MESSAGE	Message is either too long or contains characters that cannot be sent.
INVALID_SENDER	The sender name entered is not valid or is missing.
INSUFFICIENT_CREDIT	Your account balance is too low to send the message.
UNKNOWN_CONTENTTYPE	Check you post method to ensure you have included a content-type header of "application/json" or "text/json".
UNKNOWN_ERROR	Rarely used - Errors in data specification / headers
SUCCESS	Your message was received successfully.

## Sample Code

```
<?php
$json_url = "https://api.ebulksms.com/sendsms.json";
$username = '';
$apikey = '';

if (isset($_POST['button'])) {
    $username = $_POST['username'];
    $apikey = $_POST['apikey'];
    $sendername = substr($_POST['sender_name'], 0, 11);
    $recipients = $_POST['telephone'];
    $message = $_POST['message'];
    $flash = 0;
    if (get_magic_quotes_gpc()) {
        $message = stripslashes($_POST['message']);
    }
    $message = substr($_POST['message'], 0, 160);
    $result = useJSON($json_url, $username, $apikey, $flash, $sendername,
$message, $recipients);
}

function useJSON($url, $username, $apikey, $flash, $sendername, $messagetext,
$recipients) {
    $gsm = array();
    $country_code = '234';
    $arr_recipient = explode(',', $recipients);
    foreach ($arr_recipient as $recipient) {
        $mobilenumber = trim($recipient);
        if (substr($mobilenumber, 0, 1) == '0'){
            $mobilenumber = $country_code . substr($mobilenumber, 1);
        }
        elseif (substr($mobilenumber, 0, 1) == '+'){
            $mobilenumber = substr($mobilenumber, 1);
        }
        $generated_id = uniqid('int_', false);
        $generated_id = substr($generated_id, 0, 30);
        $gsm['gsm'][] = array('msidn' => $mobilenumber, 'msgid' =>
$generated_id);
    }
    $message = array(
        'sender' => $sendername,
        'messagetext' => $messagetext,
        'flash' => "{$flash}",
    );

    $request = array('SMS' => array(
        'auth' => array(
            'username' => $username,
            'apikey' => $apikey
        ),
        'message' => $message,
```

```

        'recipients' => $gsm
    ));
    $json_data = json_encode($request);
    if ($json_data) {
        $response = doPostRequest($url, $json_data, array('Content-Type:
application/json'));
        $result = json_decode($response);
        return $result->response->status;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}

//Function to connect to SMS sending server using HTTP POST
function doPostRequest($url, $data, $headers = array()) {
    $response = array('code' => '', 'body' => '');
    $final_url_data = $arr_params;
    if (is_array($arr_params)) {
        $final_url_data = http_build_query($arr_params, '', '&');
    }
    $ch = curl_init();
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_URL, $url);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_POSTFIELDS, $final_url_data);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_HTTPHEADER, $headers);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER, true);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_POST, 1);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_NOSIGNAL, 1);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_VERBOSE, 1);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_TIMEOUT, 30);
    try{
        $response['body'] = curl_exec($ch);
        $response['code'] = curl_getinfo($ch, CURLINFO_HTTP_CODE);
        if ($response['code'] != '200') {
            throw new Exception("Problem reading data from $url");
        }
        curl_close($ch);
    } catch(Exception $e){
        echo 'cURL error: ' . $e->getMessage();
    }
    return $response['body'];
}

```

## 2. XML

Use the format below to send a POST request in XML format.

### Request

Method	URL
POST	https://api.ebulksms.com/sendsms.xml

```
<SMS>
  <auth>
    <username>your_username_is_your_email_address</username>
    <apikey>your_api_key</apikey>
  </auth>
  <message>
    <sender>Sender_Name</sender>
    <messagetext>Your_message</messagetext>
    <flash>0</flash>
  </message>
  <recipients>
    <gsm><msidn>23480...</msidn><msgid>uniqueid1...</msgid></gsm>
    <gsm><msidn>...
  </recipients>
</SMS>
```

### Parameters

Name	Description
username	Your login username on EbulksSMS (same as your email address)
apikey	Generate your API key <a href="#">here</a> .
sender	Your chosen sender name Alphanumeric sender name: Maximum of 11 characters Numeric sender name: Maximum of 14 characters

messagetext	<p>The text message you wish to send</p> <p>Single page message is 160 characters Maximum of 6 pages with 918 characters</p>
flash	<p>0 - for normal SMS. 1 - for flash text (Only displays on the screen and will not be saved to the recipient's phone)</p>
recipients	<p>Recipient's mobile number in full international format msidn - the mobile phone number msgid - a unique id if you need to request delivery reports. For messages which require delivery reports please use this format: &lt;gsm&gt;&lt;msidn&gt;23480...&lt;/msidn&gt;&lt;msgid&gt;unique_msg_id&lt;/msgid&gt;&lt;/gsm&gt; ... You can repeat this for multiple recipients in a single request.</p>

**IMPORTANT!!!** Be sure to include the “application/xml” or “text/xml” Content-Type header in your request. If you do not send this header your request might be misinterpreted.

## Response

The following responses will indicate if your message was received - success, or if there was an error in your request - failure.

Importantly, you must be aware that errors that have to do with recipient numbers are permanent and such messages should not be resent.

For errors relating to the message format and actual message you could modify the message and resend it.

The same applies to the sender name. As much as possible avoid using special characters in the sender name.

## Format

### Response Format

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<response>
  <status>STATUS_STRING</status>
  <totalsent>number of valid recipients</totalsent>
  <cost>{number of units used}</cost>
</response>
```

## Status Description

Status	Response
INVALID_XML	The XML format is not valid.
MISSING_USERNAME	Username field is empty
MISSING_APIKEY	API Key field is empty
AUTH_FAILURE	The username and API key combination is not correct.
MISSING_SENDER	Sender name is empty
MISSING_MESSAGE	Empty message content
MISSING_RECIPIENT	No valid mobile phone number was found
INVALID_MESSAGE	Message is either too long or contains characters that cannot be sent.
INVALID_SENDER	The sender name entered is not valid or is missing.
INSUFFICIENT_CREDIT	Your account balance is too low to send the message.
UNKNOWN_CONTENTTYPE	Check you post method to ensure there you added a content-type header of "application/xml" or "text/xml".
UNKNOWN_ERROR	Rarely used - Errors in data specification / headers
SUCCESS	Your message was received successfully.

## Sample Code

```
<?php
$xml_url = "https://api.ebulksms.com/sendsms.xml";
$username = '';
$apikey = '';

if (isset($_POST['button'])) {
    $username = $_POST['username'];
    $apikey = $_POST['apikey'];
    $sendername = substr($_POST['sender_name'], 0, 11);
    $recipients = $_POST['telephone'];
    $message = $_POST['message'];
    $flash = 0;
    if (get_magic_quotes_gpc()) {
        $message = stripslashes($_POST['message']);
    }
    $message = substr($_POST['message'], 0, 160);
    $result = useXML($xml_url, $username, $apikey, $flash, $sendername,
$message, $recipients);
}

function useXML($url, $username, $apikey, $flash, $sendername,
$message, $recipients) {
    $country_code = '234';
    $arr_recipient = explode(',', $recipients);
    $count = count($arr_recipient);
    $msg_ids = array();
    $recipients = '';

    $xml = new SimpleXMLElement('<SMS></SMS>');
    $auth = $xml->addChild('auth');
    $auth->addChild('username', $username);
    $auth->addChild('apikey', $apikey);

    $msg = $xml->addChild('message');
    $msg->addChild('sender', $sendername);
    $msg->addChild('messagetext', $messagetext);
    $msg->addChild('flash', $flash);

    $rcpt = $xml->addChild('recipients');
    for ($i = 0; $i < $count; $i++) {
        $generated_id = uniqid('int_', false);
        $generated_id = substr($generated_id, 0, 30);
        $mobilenumber = trim($arr_recipient[$i]);
        if (substr($mobilenumber, 0, 1) == '0') {
```

```

        $mobilenumber = $country_code . substr($mobilenumber, 1);
    } elseif (substr($mobilenumber, 0, 1) == '+') {
        $mobilenumber = substr($mobilenumber, 1);
    }
    $gsm = $rcpt->addChild('gsm');
    $gsm->addchild('msidn', $mobilenumber);
    $gsm->addchild('msgid', $generated_id);
}
$xmlrequest = $xml->asXML();

if ($xmlrequest) {
    $result = doPostRequest($url, $xmlrequest, array('Content-Type:
application/xml'));
    $xmlresponse = new SimpleXMLElement($result);
    return $xmlresponse->status;
}
return false;
}

//Function to connect to SMS sending server using HTTP POST
function doPostRequest($url, $data, $headers = array()) {
    $response = array('code' => '', 'body' => '');
    $final_url_data = $arr_params;
    if (is_array($arr_params)) {
        $final_url_data = http_build_query($arr_params, '', '&');
    }
    $ch = curl_init();
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_URL, $url);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_POSTFIELDS, $final_url_data);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_HTTPHEADER, $headers);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER, true);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_POST, 1);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_NO SIGNAL, 1);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_VERBOSE, 1);
    curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_TIMEOUT, 30);
    try{
        $response['body'] = curl_exec($ch);
        $response['code'] = curl_getinfo($ch, CURLINFO_HTTP_CODE);
        if ($response['code'] != '200') {
            throw new Exception("Problem reading data from $url");
        }
        curl_close($ch);
    } catch(Exception $e){
        echo 'cURL error: ' . $e->getMessage();
    }
    return $response['body'];
}
}

```

### 3. HTTP GET

With our HTTP GET API you only need to send a message using simple URL parameters. This is excellent if you want to integrate into mobile apps, games, and legacy applications.

#### Request

Method	URL
GET	https://api.ebulksms.com/sendsms

```
https://api.ebulksms.com/sendsms?username={your_email_address}&apikey={your_api_key}&sender={your_sender_name}&messagetext={your_message_here}&flash=0&recipients=23480...,23470...
```

You need to replace the parameters with the curly braces {} using your own details.

The easiest way to test this method is by copying pasting your generated URL in the address bar of your browser to see the response.

#### Parameters

Name	Description
------	-------------

username	Your login username on EbulSMS (same as your email address)
apikey	You can generate your API key <a href="#">here</a> .
sender	Your chosen sender name  Alphanumeric sender name: Maximum of 11 characters Numeric sender name: Maximum of 14 characters
messagetext	The text message you wish to send  Single page message is 160 characters Maximum of 6 pages with 918 characters
flash	0 - for normal SMS. 1 - for flash text (Only displays on the screen and will not be saved to the recipient's phone)
recipients	Recipient's mobile number in full international format You can send to multiple numbers in a single request by separating them with a comma (,) only. E.g. <code>https://api.ebul.../sendsms?...recipients=234802...,234703...,234...</code>

## Response

The following responses will indicate if your message was received - success, or if there was an error in your request - failure.

Importantly, you must be aware that errors that have to do with recipient numbers are permanent and such messages should not be resent.

For errors relating to the message format and actual message you could modify the message and resend it.

The same applies to the sender name.

## Format

Response Format
<pre>//When there's an error you only get a status string. STATUS_STRING  //for successful requests you will receive: STATUS_STRING totalsent:{total number of valid recipients} cost:{number of units used}</pre>

## Status Description

Status	Response
INVALID_XML	The XML format is not valid.
MISSING_USERNAME	Username field is empty
MISSING_APIKEY	API Key field is empty
AUTH_FAILURE	The username and API key combination is not correct.
MISSING_SENDER	Sender name is empty
MISSING_MESSAGE	Empty message content
MISSING_RECIPIENT	No valid mobile phone number was found
INVALID_MESSAGE	Message is either too long or contains characters that cannot be sent.
INVALID_SENDER	The sender name entered is not valid or is missing.
INSUFFICIENT_CREDIT	Your account balance is too low to send the message.
UNKNOWN_ERROR	Rarely used - Errors in data specification / headers
SUCCESS	Your message was received successfully.



# DELIVERY REPORTS

## 4. JSON DLR

Use the format below to make a GET request for delivery reports in JSON format.

### Request

Method	URL
GET	<code>https://api.ebulksms.com/getdlr.json?username={username}&amp;apikey={apikey} &amp;uniqueid={unique_id}</code>

### Parameters

Name	Description
username	Your login username on EbulkSMS (same as your email address)
apikey	Your API key which you can generate <a href="#">here</a> .
uniqueid (optional)	You can specify a message id which you included earlier with each number in sending a message. This is useful if want to get the status for that specific message.

\* Important! Please ensure you save your delivery reports immediately you receive them. Once you have received a delivery report for a given set of numbers it will not be resent to you.

The delivery reports are sent in groups of a maximum of 1,000 numbers for each request you make.

## Response

There are three possible results from this request – authentication error, success with delivery report, or success but no delivery report found (if you specified a unique message id).

In the event of an error, you will only receive an error status string in plain text.

For example:

```
AUTH_FAILURE
```

Here is an example of a successful DLR response in JSON.

```
{
  "dlr": [
    {
      "mobilenumber": "number",
      "sendtime": "date time",
      "id": "unique_message_id",
      "status": "DELIVERY_STATUS_STRING"
    },
    {
      "mobilenumber": "number",
      "sendtime": "date time",
      "id": "unique_message_id",
      "status": "DELIVERY_STATUS_STRING"
    },
    ...
  ]
}
```

## 5. XML DLR

Use the format below to make a GET request for delivery reports in XML format.

### Request

Method	URL
GET	https://api.ebulksms.com/getdlr.xml?username=username&apikey=apikey&uniqueid=unique_id

### Parameters

Name	Description
username	Your login username on EbulksSMS (same as your email address)
apikey	Your API key which you can quickly generate <a href="#">here</a> .
uniqueid (optional)	You can specify a message id which you included earlier with each number in sending a message. This is useful if want to get the status for that specific message.

\* Important! Please ensure you save your delivery reports immediately you receive them. Once you have received a delivery report for a given set of numbers it will not be resent to you.

The delivery reports are sent in groups of a maximum of 1,000 numbers for each request you make.

## Response

There are three possible results from this request – authentication error, success with delivery report, or success but no delivery report found (if you specified a unique message id).

In the event of an error, you will only receive an error status string in plain text.

For example:

```
AUTH_FAILURE
```

Here is an example of a successful DLR response in XML.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<response>
  <dlr>
    <mobilenumber>{number}</mobilenumber>
    <sendtime>{date time}</sendtime>
    <id>{unique_message_id}</id>
    <status>{DELIVERY_STATUS_STRING}</status>
  </dlr>
  <dlr>
    <mobilenumber>phone number</mobilenumber>
    <sendtime>date time</sendtime>
    <id>unique_message_id</id>
    <status>DELIVERY_STATUS_STRING</status>
  </dlr>
  ...
</response>
```



## ACCOUNT BALANCE

### 6. GET BALANCE

You can check your account balance at any time by making a simple GET request to the API.

#### Request

Method	URL
GET	https://api.ebulksms.com/balance/{username}/{apikey}

You need to replace the parameters in the curly braces {} with your own details.

The easiest way to test this method is by copying pasting your generated URL in the address bar of your browser to see the response.

#### Parameters

Name	Description
username	Your login username on EbulkSMS (same as your email address)
apikey	You can generate your API key <a href="#">here</a> .

## Response

A successful response would return your account balance as a number in plain text.

The only errors you may encounter with this request is either from your username and API key.

### Format

Response Format
//If there's an error you only get a status string. STATUS_STRING
//for successful requests you will receive the number of units in your account {account balance}

### Format

Status	Response
MISSING_USERNAME	Username field is empty
MISSING_APIKEY	API Key field is empty
AUTH_FAILURE	The username and API key combination is not correct.

# GET API KEY

## 7. GET API KEY

You can make a request for your account API key at any time by making an HTTP POST request to the API.

### Request

Method	URL
POST	https://api.ebulksms.com/getapikey.json

You need to add the application/json header and send the following parameters in your POST request.

### Parameters

Name	Description
username	Your login username on EbulkSMS (same as your email address)
password	Your EbulkSMS password.

### Request Format

```
{
  "auth": {
    "username": "your email address",
    "password": "your EbulkSMS account password"
  }
}
```

## Response

A successful response would return a success response with your API.

The only errors that you could run into with this request come from your username and API key.

## Format

Response Format
<pre>//If there's an error you will receive a JSON sting in the format below {   "response": {     "status": "AUTHORIZATION_ERROR"   } }</pre>

## Format

Status	Response
<b>MISSING_USERNAME</b>	Username field is empty
<b>MISSING_PASSWORD</b>	Password field is empty
<b>AUTH_FAILURE</b>	The username and password combination is not correct
<b>AUTHORIZATION_ERROR</b>	Access to this method for your account has been locked for 24 hours.

# WHATSAPP MESSAGING

## 7. SEND TEXT

Use this endpoint to send text messages of up to 4000 characters to one or more WhatsApp numbers.

### Request

Method	URL
POST	<a href="https://api.ebulksms.com/sendwhatsapp.json">https://api.ebulksms.com/sendwhatsapp.json</a>

You need to add the application/json header and send the following json data in your POST request.

### Parameters

Name	Description
username	Your login username on EbulkSMS.com (same as your email address)
apikey	Your API key from EbulkSMS.com.
subject	A subject or title for your message (not shown to recipient)
messagetext	Your actual message text (Up to 4,000 characters)
recipients	The phone number(s) of the people you are sending your message to.

## Request Format

```
{
  "WA": {
    "auth": {
      "username": "your.email@example.com",
      "apikey": "your API key goes here"
    },
    "message": {
      "subject": "A title for your message",
      "messagetext": "Your actual message goes here."
    },
    "recipients": [
      "2348012345678",
      ...
    ]
  }
}
```

## Response

A successful call to this endpoint would return a 200 success code and message after your API request.

Some of the possible responses after calling this API endpoint are listed below.

### Format

Status	Response
MISSING_USERNAME	Username field is missing or empty
MISSING_APIKEY	API key field is missing or empty
AUTH_FAILURE	The username and password combination is not correct
MISSING_SUBJECT	You not include a subject for your message
MISSING_MESSAGE	You did not include the message field / content
MISSING_RECIPIENT	You have not entered a valid WhatsApp phone number
NOT_SUBSCRIBED	You have not connected your number on <a href="https://www.ebulksms.com">EbulkSMS.com</a>
INSUFFICIENT_CREDIT	Your account credit is too low to send this message
UNKNOWN_ERROR	An unspecified error occurred
SUCCESS	Your message was processed successfully.