



About the user types:

- A **User** is anyone who has an account with Nebula.
- A **Developer** is a **User** who has opted into the Developer Portal in Nebula Platform.
- A **Project Leader** is a **Developer** who can create, destroy, and assign **Advanced API Keys** for a particular project via their Developer Portal. **Project Leaders** are appointed by **Platform Admins**.
- A **Platform Admin** is a **Project Leader** for Nebula Platform who is appointed by another **Platform Admin** and who can create, destroy, and assign **Advanced API Keys** across all of Nebula's services. The Nebula account associated with the Head of Engineering is always a **Platform Admin**, satisfying the requirement that there be at least one **Platform Admin** at all times.

About the instance types:

- A **Production** instance of an API service is an instance that has been deployed to production. It is **Private** if it responds to endpoint calls from production deployments of other services. It is **Public** if it is not **Private**.
- A **Staging** instance of an API service is an instance that is operational but has not been deployed to production. The sole purpose of **Staging** instances is to facilitate the testing of Nebula's API services.

About the API keys:

- Exactly one **Basic API Key** is automatically assigned to every **Developer**. **Basic API Keys** exist for as long as their assignees remain **Developers**. **Basic API Keys** are always **Public Production** keys, always grant access to the same set of endpoints, and always have the same quotas.
- **Advanced API Keys** can be for **Public Production** instances, **Private Production** instances, or **Staging** instances. They can offer reduced rate limiting and access to specific/additional endpoints. All of these properties will be visible in the assignee's Developer Portal.
- Both **Basic** and **Advanced API Keys** can be regenerated, without affecting properties such as quota remaining, by their assignees. **Advanced API Key** properties, including quota remaining, can be changed at any time by the assigning **Project Leader** or by a **Platform Admin**.