AutoSSL in WHM: Free, Auto-Renewing SSL for Every Site, and Why Issuance Fails

WHM/cPanel · https://www.hyyat.com/en/knowledgebase/enable-autossl-whm/

What matters first Open **SSL/TLS, then Manage AutoSSL**, choose a provider on the **Providers** tab (such as Let’s Encrypt), accept its terms and save, then click **Run AutoSSL For All Users**. From then on the server checks certificates regularly and renews any that are close to expiry without you.

Embedded media: https://www.hyyat.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/11/hyyat-whm-autossl-en.mp4?_=1

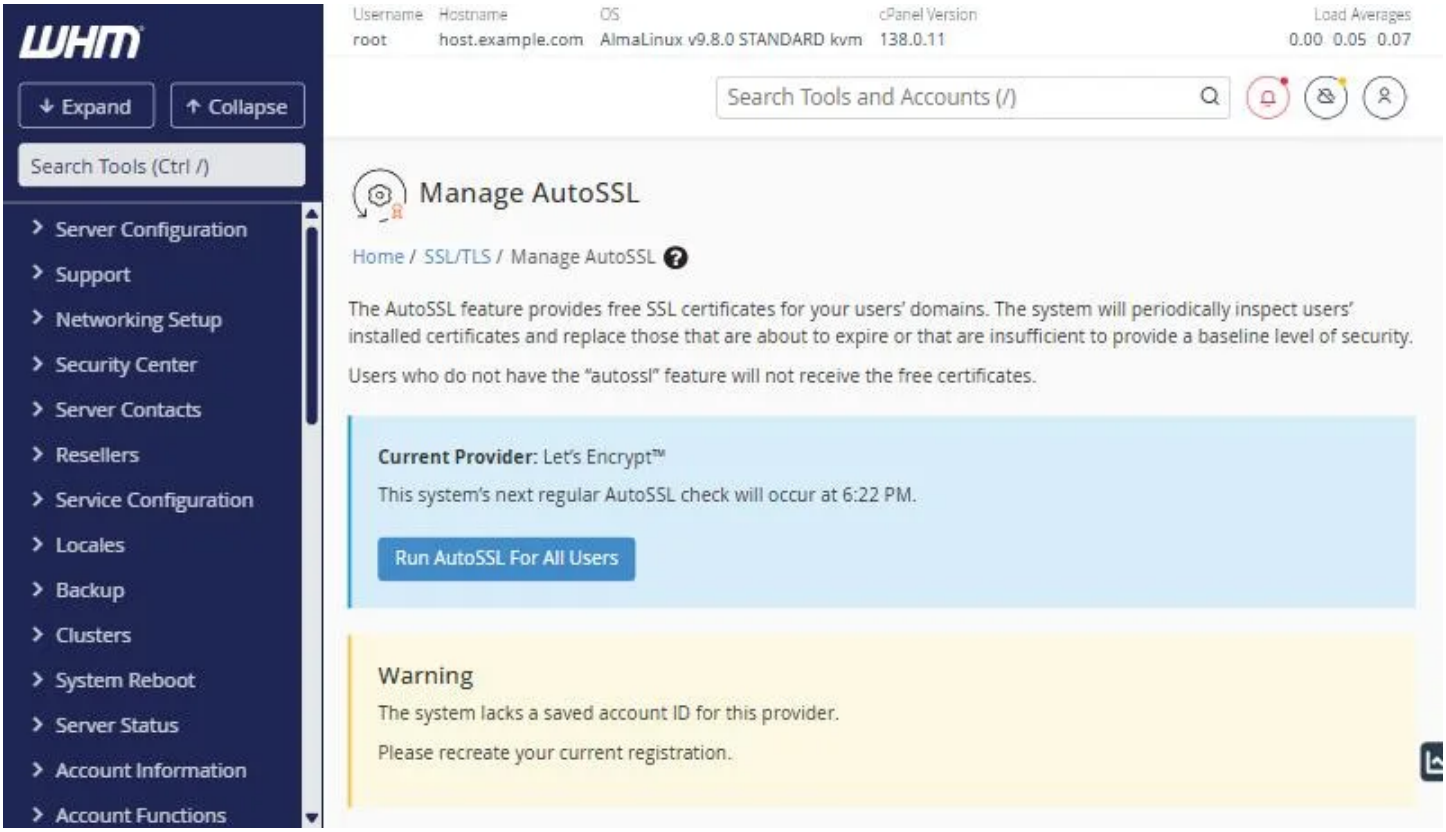
There is no longer any reason for a site to run without HTTPS. AutoSSL in cPanel issues a free certificate for every domain on the server, renews it before it expires and replaces any certificate that is expired or too weak. Your job as server administrator is to switch it on once, then know how to read its log when one domain fails.

Before you start

- Access to WHM as **root** at `https://your-server-hostname:2087` (or the server IP on port 2087). Avoid the old port 2086: it is not encrypted.
- Domains that actually point to the server IP. AutoSSL cannot validate a domain that points elsewhere.
- The **autossl** feature enabled in the accounts’ feature list (on by default).

The tool

`WHM › SSL/TLS › Manage AutoSSL`



At the top: **Current Provider**, the time of the next regular check, and **Run AutoSSL For All Users**. Below it are four tabs.

Tab	What is in it
Providers	The provider: Disabled, Let's Encrypt or others available on your server, and accepting its terms
Options	Notification settings and when to replace an existing certificate
Logs	A log of each check: which domains succeeded, which failed and why
Manage Users	Turning AutoSSL on or off for particular accounts

Free tool from Hyyat Host

SSL certificate checker

Make sure the certificate is trusted, see when it expires and whether it covers www.

Open the tool

Turning it on step by step

1. **Choose the provider** on the Providers tab. Let’s Encrypt is the most widely used.
2. **Accept the terms** by ticking **I agree to these terms of service**. When the provider updates its terms, WHM asks you to accept again and may show a warning until you do.
3. **Save** with **Save**.
4. **Run the first check** with **Run AutoSSL For All Users**, or for one account from Manage Users.
5. **Review the result** on the Logs tab a few minutes later.

If the page warns that the system lacks a saved account ID for the provider, choose the option to recreate your registration on the Providers tab and save. That does not remove existing certificates.

Why did a certificate fail for one domain?

AutoSSL proves domain ownership (DCV) by placing a file on the site and fetching it over the internet, or with a DNS record. If it cannot reach it, validation fails. These are the causes we see most in the log:

In the log	Cause	Fix
The domain points to another IP	The A record for the domain or www is not on this server	Point it here, or remove the unused subdomain
HTTP validation failed	Cloudflare proxying or a redirect in .htaccess blocks the validation file	Exclude `/.well-known/` from redirects, or use DNS validation
Automatic subdomains fail, such as cpanel, webmail and mail	They have no DNS records at the external DNS provider	Add the records, or ignore the failure if you do not use them
Provider rate limit reached	Too many repeated attempts for the same domain	Wait before retrying and do not run AutoSSL back to back

In the log	Cause	Fix
The user lacks the autossl feature	It is disabled in Feature Manager for their package	Enable it in the feature list

What the site owner sees

In the account’s cPanel, **SSL/TLS Status** lists each domain with its certificate state and a **Run AutoSSL** button for that account only. If customers know where it is, it saves a lot of tickets. For the background on certificates, see what an SSL certificate is and free versus paid certificates.

Check afterwards

- A provider is selected and its terms accepted.
- The latest log has no failures for domains actually in use.
- The site opens over https without a warning.

AutoSSL questions

Are AutoSSL certificates as secure as paid ones?
The encryption is the same strength. The difference is in validation type, warranty and domain coverage; see the guide on free versus paid certificates.

When does AutoSSL renew a certificate?
It checks regularly and renews certificates nearing expiry, with nothing for you to do.

Can I use a paid certificate on one domain and AutoSSL for the rest?
Yes. Install the paid certificate on that domain; AutoSSL does not replace a valid certificate from a trusted authority.

Does AutoSSL work with Cloudflare?
Usually, yes. If HTTP validation fails, exclude the validation path or pause the proxy temporarily.

Related guides

- What Is an SSL Certificate and How Does It Work?
- The difference between free and paid SSL certificates
- Creating a New cPanel Account in WHM: Every Field in Create a New Account Explained

- cPanel and WHM on a VPS — The Complete 2026 Guide: What They Are, Licensing, and When to Choose Them

All WHM guides →

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