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Product information

LOWTIDE docs

LOWTIDE is an OpenAI-compatible inference endpoint for open-weight models served from bonded GPU hosts, priced by the hour and by live load, and settled in USDG on Robinhood Chain. These docs describe the service as designed. The public endpoint opens in phase P1. See the roadmap for what is live today.

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Getting started

Today

1. **Read the whitepaper** at /whitepaper/ and the **roadmap** at /roadmap/.
2. **Check $TIDE status and official links** on the holder one-pager.
3. **Follow Coming soon** for launch news.

At launch (P1)

1. **Point an OpenAI-style client at LOWTIDE.** Swap the base URL and use an LOWTIDE API key (`Authorization: Bearer op_live_…`).

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2. **Fund a prepaid balance.** Deposit USDG on Robinhood Chain (chain id 4663) into the LOWTIDE vault from the dashboard. During the beta, deposits are capped at 500 USDG per buyer.
3. **Set a cap.** Send `X-Lowtide-Max-Price: in=…,out=…` (USD per 1M tokens, including the fee). Requests over your cap fail with `429` instead of charging more.
4. **Keep the record.** Every response ends with a signed usage envelope (`event: lowtide.usage` when streaming). Verify it with the SDK, and fetch its on-chain proof once the hour settles.

```
POST /v1/chat/completions
Authorization: Bearer op_live_…
X-Lowtide-Max-Price: in=…,out=…
X-Lowtide-Flex: 2026-11-02T06:00:00Z   # optional: run as a night job before thi

GET /v1/models    GET /v1/prices    GET /v1/usage/:id    GET /v1/status
```

Agents can skip the API key. An unpaid request gets `402 Payment Required` listing a payment channel first, then x402 `upto`.

Core features

FEATURE	WHAT IT DOES	PHASE
OpenAI-compatible API	Chat (streaming, tools, JSON mode), embeddings, batches, models	P1
Off-peak pricing	168-hour host price sheets × router-measured load (0.4×–1.2×), floor ≤ 0.6× lowest base	P1

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FEATURE	WHAT IT DOES	PHASE
Price caps	`X-Lowtide-Max-Price`. Over-cap interactive calls return `429 price_above_cap`	P1
Night jobs	`X-Lowtide-Flex` or `/v1/batches`. Price locked up front, runs in a cheap hour before your deadline	P2
Prepaid vault	USDG balance you can withdraw (balance minus reserve). Withdraw-all within 2 h	P1
Agent payments	Payment channels (2 h challenge period), x402 `upto` and `exact`	P2
Signed usage records	Router and host signatures, prompt and output hashes, hourly Merkle roots	P1
Disputes	Dispute any request within 7 days. Token recount and signature checks	P1
Host bonds and audits	≥ 2,000 USDG bond, 72 h probation, statistical swap audits, human panel for 100% slash	P1
Windows	ERC-1155 capacity reservations: cancel before start for 95% back, unused tokens 50% back after the end, resale fee 1% + 10% of markup	P3
Sealed tier	TDX and GPU attestation, client-side HPKE encryption	P3
MCP tools	`lowtide_complete`, `lowtide_prices`, `lowtide_schedule_job`, `lowtide_usage`	P2

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Honest limits

- Open-weight models only. Open models trail frontier models on the hardest tasks.
- Prices move. The live price at the start of a request is what you pay.
- Discounts depend on host supply and idle time. With few hosts, discounts are smaller.
- Open hosts and LOWTIDE's router can read prompts unless you use the sealed tier.
- Audit sampling stores request bodies for up to 72 hours, and only if you opt in. Opt-in buyers get 1% off.
- Audits are statistical. They catch sustained model swaps, not every response.
- Withdrawing the reserved part of a balance can take up to 2 hours.
- USDG can be frozen by its issuer. Permit2 is a shared dependency.
- Holding $TIDE alone earns nothing. Token hooks switch on only after legal review.

Pricing and billing

- **Live price** = the host's posted base price for this hour of the week × a router-measured load factor between 0.4× and 1.2×. A host's floor can't exceed 0.6× its lowest hourly base price.
- **Buyer price** = live price + a 4% LOWTIDE fee. Opting in to audit sampling takes 1% off the total.
- **Hold, then capture.** Before serving, the router holds the request's maximum cost against your on-chain reserve. After serving, it captures only the measured usage.
- **Balance states.** *Balance* is your USDG in the vault. *Reserve* is the amount set aside for usage that is still settling. *Withdrawable now* is balance minus reserve.

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- **Caps.** Set hourly and daily spending caps. A lower cap applies after the next settled hour.
- **Money is integers.** Amounts are integer micro-USDG. Floating-point money math is never used.

FAQ

Is LOWTIDE live? The website is live, and the $TIDE token is launching soon. The endpoint and protocol contracts launch in P1, after an external contract audit.

Which models? Open-weight models only. The launch models have not been chosen. Model names describe compatibility only.

What do I pay? The host's live price plus a 4% LOWTIDE fee, in USDG. You set a maximum, and the price at request start is final.

Can I get my money out? Yes, by design. You can withdraw any balance that isn't reserved, and withdraw-all completes within 2 hours.

Do I need $TIDE? No. Inference is paid in USDG. $TIDE adds fee tiers, early Window access and host bond weight once its hooks switch on after legal review.

What is the $TIDE contract address? `TBA at launch`, launching soon. Copy it from the holders page and trust only the official links below.

What does a usage record prove? That the router and host signed the counts and price, and, once settled, that the record is in an on-chain hourly root. It doesn't prove that the answer is correct.

Is it private? Prompts aren't logged or stored, except opt-in audit samples. Hosts and the router can read prompts unless you use the

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sealed tier (P3). On-chain transfers are public.

How to get help

- **Website:** lowtide-ai.vercel.app (planned public address)
- **X:** Coming soon
- **Telegram:** Coming soon
- **Email:** Coming soon

There is no public status page or support portal yet. LOWTIDE will never ask for your private key or seed phrase.

Roadmap

Live now: the website. The $TIDE token launches soon. **Next (P1):** the endpoint, off-peak pricing, withdrawable balances, usage roots, bonded hosts and mainnet protocol contracts under a beta cap. **Later:** agent payments, night jobs and MCP tools (P2), then Windows, sealed hosts and audits at scale (P3), with $TIDE hooks after legal review. See the full roadmap.

Pilot acceptance gates (v1.0 build brief)

The October 12, 2026 build brief defines twelve acceptance gates. **Built** means the code exists and passes its tests on a local chain or a fork. Nothing here is live yet, and nothing has run on real GPUs or mainnet.

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GATE	NAME	STATE
PH-00	Operating contract	Built
PH-01	Scaffold and staging baseline	In progress
PH-02	Wallet identity and signing	Built
PH-03	Ledger and reservations	Built
PH-04	Real GPU and quote engine	In progress
PH-05	Finalized deposits	Built
PH-06	Paid inference loop	In progress
PH-07	Withdrawals	Built
PH-08	Receipt registry and verifier	Built
PH-09	Customer console and agent client	Built
PH-10	Operations and hardening	In progress
PH-11	Capped deployment and pilot	Planned

Third-party names describe compatibility only; no affiliation.

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