

App Portal Developer's Journey

Overview

The App Portal helps industry-leading application developers connect to Bloomberg Terminal® users by developing apps that integrate seamlessly with the Bloomberg Terminal and enhance users' workflows.

Third-party developers can benefit from working with Bloomberg to develop, test and market their app to the more than 350,000 Bloomberg users worldwide. Bloomberg Terminal users can search through a wide range of application-based solutions, powered by Bloomberg data and analytics, that can help give the edge needed to stay ahead of the competition.

Technology Supported

There are two technologies supported for App Portal, a .NET Desktop application built using Microsoft's Windows Presentation Foundation (WPF), or an HTML5-compliant web-based application.

To start you would download the appropriate SDK for the technology that you are looking to build your application in. The App Portal SDKs are available from either the Bloomberg Terminal via SDK <GO> or via Bloomberg's Customer Service portal via the Terminal by running CSC <GO>, or by navigating to <https://service.blpprofessional.com> in your browser.

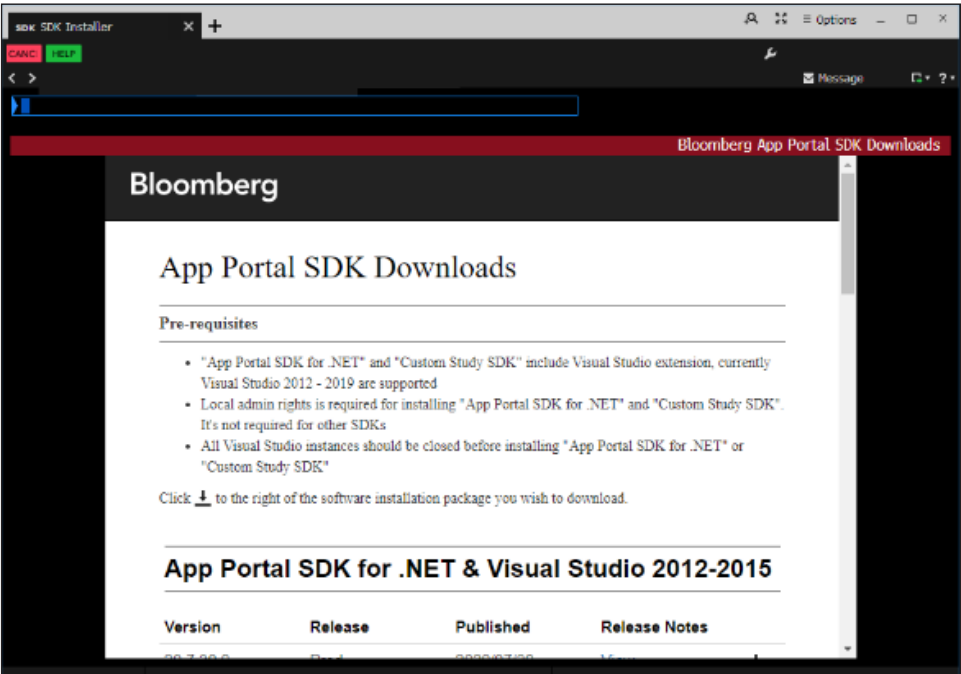
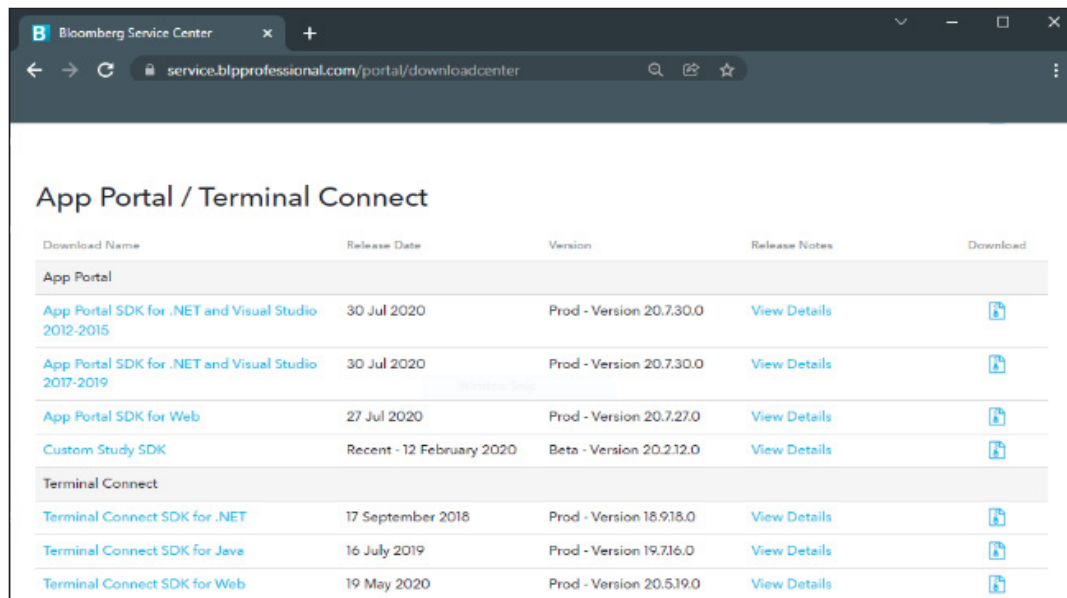


Figure 1 – App Portal SDK <GO>

For CSC, simply navigate to the Download menu option and scroll down to the App Portal section.



Download Name	Release Date	Version	Release Notes	Download
App Portal				
App Portal SDK for .NET and Visual Studio 2012-2015	30 Jul 2020	Prod - Version 20.7.30.0	View Details	
App Portal SDK for .NET and Visual Studio 2017-2019	30 Jul 2020	Prod - Version 20.7.30.0	View Details	
App Portal SDK for Web	27 Jul 2020	Prod - Version 20.7.27.0	View Details	
Custom Study SDK	Recent - 12 February 2020	Beta - Version 20.2.12.0	View Details	
Terminal Connect				
Terminal Connect SDK for .NET	17 September 2018	Prod - Version 18.9.18.0	View Details	
Terminal Connect SDK for Java	16 July 2019	Prod - Version 19.7.16.0	View Details	
Terminal Connect SDK for Web	19 May 2020	Prod - Version 20.5.19.0	View Details	

Figure 2 – Bloomberg’s Customer Service Center, CSC <GO>

Select the SDK for the technology you will utilize to build your app.

.NET Desktop application

As noted above, if you wish to leverage Microsoft’s .NET technology to build your application and publish to the App Portal Platform, you will build your application using Microsoft’s Visual Studio (VS). First, install the desired version of the App Portal .NET SDK as noted in section 3.0 above. This will install a Bloomberg toolbar into the selected version of Visual Studio and create a folder on your local machine that will include sample code, the various Bloomberg libraries for App Portal, and help documentation. The folder this is created in is typically “C:\Program Files (x86)\Bloomberg\ App Portal SDK.” Review the various help and API documents under the help subfolder of the SDK installation directory.

Also, as part of the SDK install are the various Bloomberg templates for Visual Studio to assist in starting your project. In Visual Studio, when creating a new Project, you can select the Bloomberg template by typing Bloomberg into the filter and selecting the desired template, and begin building your App Portal application. You can leverage the Bloomberg toolbar installed into Visual Studio to Run, Debug and eventually publish your application into the App Portal Platform.

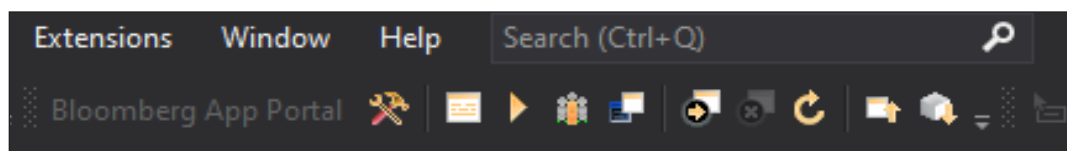


Figure 3 – Bloomberg Toolbar in Visual Studio

HTML5 Web applications

If you will be developing a web application for the Bloomberg App Portal, select the App Portal SDK for Web found in either location, SDK or CSC, as noted in section 3.0 above. The installer will create a folder on your local machine containing the API documentation, the JavaScript (JS) and Typescript (TS) libraries to use in your web application. The install directory is normally C:\b\lp\AppData\Local\Bloomberg\Bloomberg SDK\Bloomberg SDK\Web, where C:\b\lp is the installation directory of the Bloomberg Terminal software.

When running an App Portal Web application, your application will be launched in an extended chromium web browser, WebView, which is what provides the hooks for the App Portal Web APIs. For development, running, testing and eventual publishing of your application to the App Portal you will use the Bloomberg App Portal Web Application Manager, APPS WEBAPPMGR <GO>.

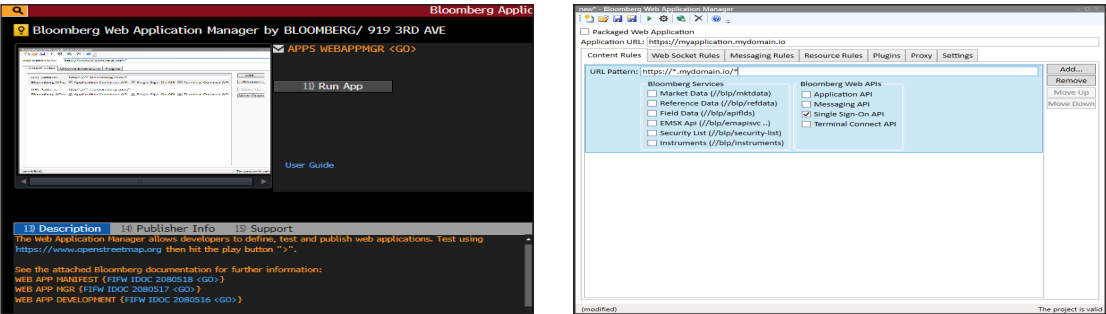


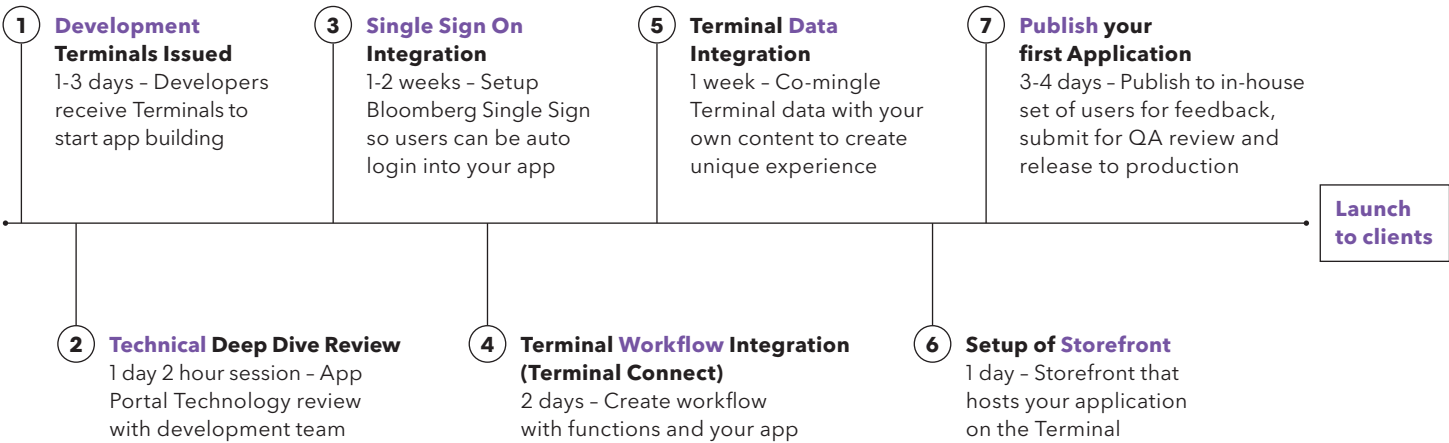
Figure 4 – APPS Web Application Manager

You will need a Bloomberg Terminal and user ID to run this tool as well as to run and test your application. This is for several reasons, the most important of which is that your application is hosted within Bloomberg’s WebView component, which is a separate process that runs with the Terminal. Closing or logging off of the Bloomberg Terminal would close all instances of these child WebView components.

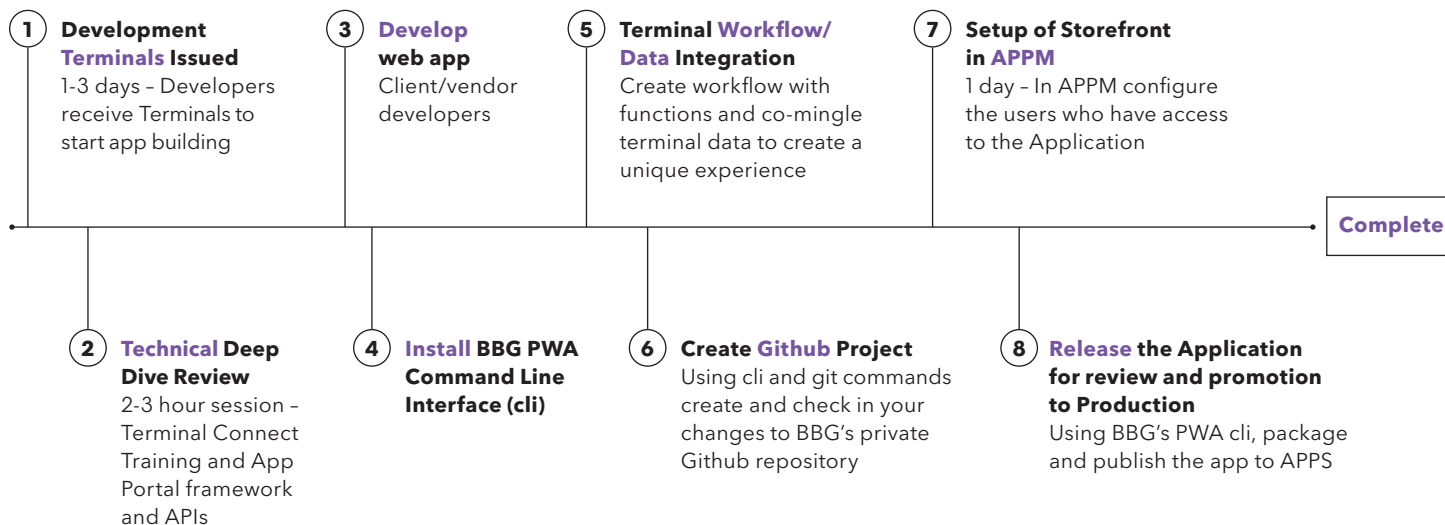
Lastly, please be aware that Bloomberg App Portal Web API are client-side APIs; these JS and TS libraries will not work from the server side.

Developer Workflow

App Portal Web Development



App Portal Desktop and Packaged Web (PWA) Application Development



The only difference in the workflow between a .NET Desktop application and a PWA is the need to install the Bloomberg Command Line Interface (CLI) or Create a GitHub project in steps 3 and 4. Neither is required to build and publish your .NET Desktop application for App Portal.

Reference Links and Documents

Name/Link	Description
APPS <GO>	Bloomberg's App Portal
APPS WEBAPPMGR <GO>	Bloomberg's Web Application Manager
BDEV <GO>	Bloomberg's Development Portal. Terminal Connect API documentation is found here
https://service.blpprofessional.com	Customer Service Center - App Portal SDK - Web Based
CSC <GO>	Customer Service Center - App Portal SDK - Terminal Based
SDK <GO>	App Portal Software Developer Kit (SDK) - Terminal Based

Take the next step.

For additional information, press the <HELP> key twice on the Bloomberg Terminal®.

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