Optical Character Recognition Service

Billing Description

Issue 01

Date 2024-12-18

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Contents

1 Billing Overview

In this document, you will learn about the main billing information for Optical Character Recognition (OCR), including billing modes, billed items, renewals, and arrears.

- **Billing Modes**

  OCR provides two billing modes, pay-per-use and package, to meet the needs in different scenarios. Pay-per-use: It is a postpaid mode where payment is made after usage, and billing is based on the number of successful API calls. Package: It is a prepaid model where payment is made before usage, and settlement is based on the purchase period of the order. So, you must ensure that your account balance is sufficient before making a purchase. For more information on the two billing modes, see **Overview**.

  After purchasing the OCR service, if the current billing mode does not meet your service requirements, you can change it. For details, see **Billing Mode Changes**.

- **Billed Items**

  OCR is charged based on the number of API calls. For billing details, see **Price Calculator**.

  Only successful API calls are counted, where a $2xx$ status code indicates a successful call, and failed calls are not charged.

  For examples of billing scenarios and the cost calculation process for different billed items under different billing modes, refer to **Billing Examples**.

- **Renewing Subscriptions**

  After a package expires, the system will automatically switch to pay-per-use billing. If you want to continue using a package, you need to renew the service. Renewals can be done manually or automatically, depending on your needs. For more information on renewals, see **Overview**.

- **Viewing Bills**

  You can choose **Billing & Costs** > **Bills** to check the OCR transactions and bills. For details, see **Bills**.

- **Arrears**

  If there is not a sufficient account balance to pay for your bill and there is no other payment method configured, your account will go into arrears. After arrears, it may affect the normal operation of cloud service resources, and timely recharge is required. For details, see **Arrears**.

- **Stopping Billing**

  When cloud service resources are no longer in use, they can be disabled to avoid further charges. For details, see **Billing Termination**.

- **Managing Costs**

  You can manage costs from four dimensions: cost composition, cost allocation, cost analysis, and cost optimization. For more details, refer to **Cost Management**.

2 Billing Modes

2.1 Overview

OCR provides two billing modes, package and pay-per-use, to meet the needs in different scenarios.

- Package: a prepaid mode where payment is made in advance and billed according to the subscription term. The larger the package specifications, the greater the discount. This mode is generally suitable for mature businesses with long-term stable needs.

- Pay-per-use: It is a postpaid mode where payment is made after usage, and billing is based on the actual number of successful API calls. The pay-per-use mode allows you to flexibly adjust resource usage based on actual business needs, without the need to pre-set resources, thereby reducing the risk of over or under provisioning. This mode is typically suitable for scenarios with unstable needs.

Table 2-1 compares the two billing modes.

Table 2-1 Differences between billing modes

Billing Mode	Package	Pay-per-Use
Payment	Prepaid	Postpaid
Billing Method	Billed by the subscription term you purchase The package has a validity period of one year and will not be automatically extended upon expiration. Please use it within the validity period.	You are billed based on the number of API calls.

Changing the Billing Mode	Package can be changed to pay-per-use. If you do not renew or purchase a new package in a timely manner after the package expires or is used up, the system will automatically switch to pay-per-use billing. **Package to Pay-per-Use**	Pay-per-use can be changed to package. **Pay-per-Use to Package**
Application Scenarios	For scenarios where resource usage can be predicted, this pricing mode is more cost-effective than pay-per-use. This mode is recommended for long-term users.	This mode is suitable for scenarios where there are fluctuations in the demand for compute resources. The service can be subscribed to and unsubscribed from at any time.
Other	Compared to pay-per-use, package offers a greater discount. The package fee is a one-time payment, and this mode can take effect immediately. Packages can be used together. If you purchase multiple packages, the deduction rules are as follows: ● Fees are deducted according to the source type of the package, with the priority from high to low being: package -> pay-per-use. ● Fees are deducted based on the creation, activation, and expiration time of the package. – For multiple packages created at the same time, the first effective package will be prioritized for deduction. – For multiple packages with the same activation time, the first expired package will be prioritized for deduction. – For multiple packages with the same expiration time, the first created package will be prioritized for deduction.	Default billing mode

📖 **NOTE**

- OCR can operate properly even if it is not deployed in the region where it is called. Generally, you are advised to choose a region close to you or your target users to reduce network latency and improve access speed.

- OCR is billed on a pay-per-use basis by default. After purchasing a package, the package fee will be deducted first. If the usage exceeds the purchased package quota, the excess will be automatically billed on a pay-per-use basis.

- When using pay-per-use billing, the calling region must be consistent with the region where the service is subscribed to. Otherwise, an error message **ModelArts.4204 Service is not enabled.** will be prompted. For example, if you subscribe to Passport OCR in the AP-Bangkok region, you should call the service in the region where you subscribe to it.

- When using package billing, the region where you call the API must be the same as the region where you purchase the package. Packages do not support cross-region API calls, otherwise additional charges or arrears may occur.

2.2 Package Billing

Package is a billing mode where users pay in advance for usage and is suitable for those who have stable resource demands and want to reduce costs. By choosing the package billing mode, you can purchase cloud service resources in advance and receive a certain degree of price discount. This section describes the billing rules for OCR resources included in a package.

Application Scenarios

The package billing mode requires users to pay for a certain number of API calls in advance and is suitable for long-term, stable business needs. Here are some business scenarios that are suitable for this mode:

- For businesses with long-term and relatively stable resource demands, the package billing mode can provide higher cost-effectiveness.

- For long-term projects, package billing can ensure stable resource usage throughout the entire project cycle.

- If business peak periods can be predicted, purchasing a package in advance can meet the demand during peak periods and avoid resource shortages.

- For businesses with high data security requirements, package billing can ensure continuous resource usage and reduce data security risks caused by resource arrears.

Billed Items

- OCR is charged based on the number of API calls. For billing details, see **Price Calculator**.

- Only successful API calls are counted and charged, where a 2xx status code indicates a successful call, and failed calls are not counted or charged.

Billed Usage Period

The billing cycle for OCR resources included in a package is determined based on the duration you purchase (UTC+08:00). The start of a billing cycle is the time you

enable or renew the resource (accurate to the second), and the end is 23:59:59 on the expiration date.

For example, if you purchase a one-year package for Passport OCR at 14:25:10 on April 19, 2023, the billing cycle will be from 14:25:10 on April 19, 2023 to 23:59:59 April 19, 2024.

Billing Examples

Suppose you purchase a Passport OCR package that contains 100,000 API calls at 15:50:04 on March 8, 2023. The subscription term is one year, and you manually renew it for one year before expiration. Then:

- The first billing cycle runs from March 08, 2023, at 15:50:04 to March 08, 2024, at 23:59:59.

- The second billing cycle runs from March 08, 2024, at 23:59:59 to March 08, 2025, at 23:59:59.

You need to prepay for each billing cycle.

Impact of Expiration

Figure 2-1 shows the statuses an OCR resource included in a package can go through throughout its lifecycle. After purchasing an OCR service, it will run normally during the billing cycle, which is the validity period. If the service expires and is not renewed, it will gradually enter the grace period and retention period.

Figure 2-1 Lifecycle of an OCR resource included in a package
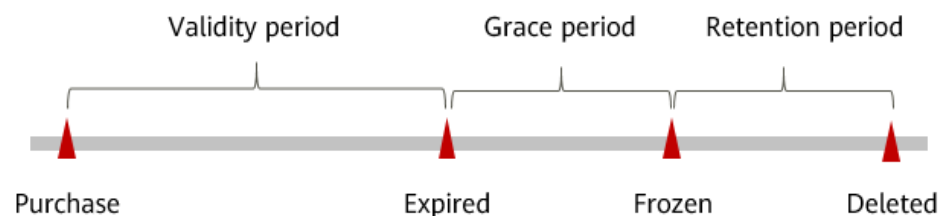
Expiration Reminder

For OCR APIs included in a package, the system will send an expiration warning message to the user seven days before the expiration date via email, SMS, or in-app message to the creator of the Huawei Cloud account.

Impact of Expiration

When your OCR API included in a package expires and is not renewed, it will first enter the grace period, and the resource status will change to **Expired**. During the grace period, you can still access and use cloud services, but the following operations will be restricted:

- APIs that do not allow package reset, such as "100,000-API-call Web Image OCR package", cannot be purchased or renewed if there is a remaining balance after the package is in arrears.

- Services cannot be subscribed to.

To avoid affecting normal service use, please top up your account promptly on the Huawei Cloud console's **Billing Center** after receiving the arrears notice.

If you still do not renew your OCR API during the grace period, it will enter a retention period and the resource status will become **Frozen**. You will not be able to perform any operations on the API in the retention period.

After the retention period expires and the OCR API is still not renewed, the data stored in the API will be deleted, the API will be released, and pay-per-use resources will be deleted. The data cannot be recovered.

◯ NOTE

- Huawei Cloud defines different grace periods and retention periods for different tiers of customers. You can check your tier by logging in to the **management console** and choosing **Basic Information** under your username in the upper right corner.
- For details about renewals, see **Overview**.

2.3 Pay-per-Use Billing

Pay-per-use is a billing mode where users are billed only for what they use, without the need for any upfront payment or long-term commitment. This section describes the billing rules for pay-per-use OCR resources.

Application Scenarios

Pay-per-use is suitable for applications or services that require uninterrupted, short-term, sudden spikes, or unpredictable usage.

Billed Items

- OCR is charged based on the number of API calls. For billing details, see **Price Calculator**.
- Only successful API calls are counted, where a 2*xx* status code indicates a successful call, and failed calls are not charged.

Billed Usage Period

Pay-per-use OCR resources are charged based on the number of successful calls, with fees settled every hour on the hour (UTC+08:00).

For example, if you subscribe to the pay-per-use Passport OCR at 08:45:30 and make 50 successful calls before unsubscribing from it at 08:55:30, the billing cycle will be from 08:00:00 to 09:00:00. Fees will be charged for the period between 08:45:30 and 08:55:30, with a total of 50 charges for the billing cycle.

Billing Examples

Suppose you subscribed to Passport OCR based on pay-per-use billing at 09:59:30 on April 18, 2023, and unsubscribed from it at 10:45:46 on the same day. During this period, you successfully called the API for 100 times.

- The first billing cycle is from 09:00:00 to 10:00:00, and the billing duration within the cycle is from 09:59:30 to 10:00:00, during which the API is successfully called for 5 times.

- The second billing cycle is from 10:00:00 to 11:00:00, and the billing duration within the cycle is from 10:00:00 to 10:45:46, during which the API is successfully called for 95 times.

The fee is settled on the hour (UTC+08:00). You need to pay for each billing cycle.

Impact of Arrears

Figure 2-2 shows the statuses a pay-per-use OCR API can have throughout its lifecycle. During the billing cycle, resources operate normally, which is the validity period after purchase. If your account goes into arrears due to automatic deduction of pay-per-use OCR resources, your account will enter an arrears state, and resources will gradually enter a grace period and retention period.

Figure 2-2 Lifecycle of a pay-per-use OCR API
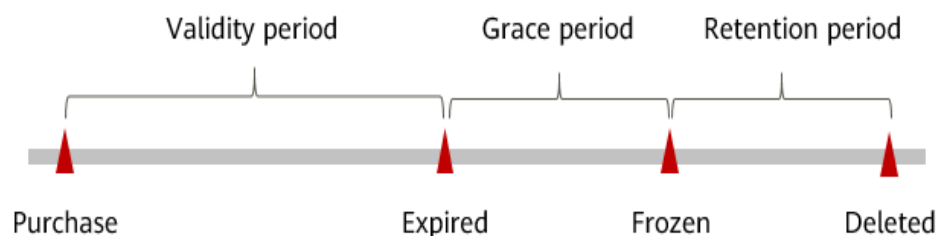
Arrears Reminder

The system will deduct fees from pay-per-use resources after each billing cycle. When your account goes into arrears, we will notify the creator of the Huawei Cloud account via email, SMS, or internal message.

Impacts of Arrears

If your account is insufficient to pay your amount due, your account goes into arrears and your resource enters the grace period. After arrears, pay-per-use resources will not immediately stop operating, but will enter a grace period. You need to pay for the costs incurred during the grace period, which can be viewed under **Billing Center** > **Overview**. Huawei Cloud will automatically deduct the arrears amount when you top up your account.

If you still have not paid the arrears during the grace period, you will enter the retention period, and the resource status will change to **Frozen**. You will not be able to perform any operations on pay-per-use resources in the retention period.

If you do not bring your account balance current before the retention period ends, data stored in OCR will be deleted or released and cannot be recovered.

📖 NOTE

- Huawei Cloud defines different grace periods and retention periods for different tiers of customers. You can check your tier by logging in to the **management console** and choosing **Basic Information** under your username in the upper right corner.
- For details about top-up, see **Topping Up an Account**.

3 Billing Items

Billing

- OCR is charged based on the number of API calls. For billing details, see **Price Calculator**.

- Only successful API calls are counted, where a 2*xx* status code indicates a successful call, and failed calls are not charged.

- For details about how to purchase an OCR service, see **How Do I Purchase an API That Best Suits My Needs?**

- For examples of billing scenarios and the cost calculation process for different billed items under different billing modes, refer to **Billing Examples**.

4 Billing Examples

Billing Scenario

At 15:30:00 on March 18, 2023, a user subscribed to the General Text OCR API in the CN-Hong Kong region.

After successfully calling it 5,000 times, the user found that the service met their business needs and decided to continue using it long-term. At 10:30:00 on March 20, 2023, the user switched to pay-per-use billing for General Text OCR (120 USD for 100,000 API calls) for a duration of one year. Within that year, the user can make up to 100,000 successful calls. How much will the service cost between March 18, 2023 at 15:30:00 and March 20, 2024 at 23:59:59?

Billing Analysis

The usage of General Text OCR can be divided into two billing periods: pay-per-use billing from March 18, 2023 at 15:30 to March 20, 2023 at 10:30, and package billing from March 20, 2023 at 10:30 to March 20, 2024 at 23:59:59.

Figure 4-1 Pricing details

Pay-per-use

From 15:30:00 on March 18, 2023 to 10:30:00 March 20, 2023, the user was charged 5,000 times. The fee is calculated as follows:

5,000 x 0.0015 = 7.5 USD

Package

From 10:30:00 on March 20, 2023 to 23:59:59 on March 20, 2024, the user was charged for 100,000 successful API calls on a package basis. The fee is 120 USD.

Therefore, the total cost of the service between 15:30:00 on March 18, 2023 to 23:59:59 on March 20, 2024 is 127.5 (7.5+120) USD.

5 Billing Mode Changes

5.1 Pay-per-Use to Package

If you plan to use the current pay-per-use OCR service for an extended period, you can switch to package billing to save costs. Changing from pay-per-use to package will generate a new order, and once you pay for the order, the package resources will take effect immediately.

Suppose a user subscribes to a pay-per-use OCR service at 15:29:16 on April 18, 2023. Due to business needs, they execute a pay-per-use to package switch operation at 16:30:30 on the same day. After you pay the order, the OCR service included in the package takes effect immediately. The **Billing Center** > **Billing** page will display the following three detailed bills:

● Pay-per-use: April 18, 2023, at 15:00:00 to April 18, 2023, at 16:00:00, incurred costs between 15:29:16 and 16:00:00

● Pay-per-use: April 18, 2023, at 16:00:00 to April 18, 2023, at 17:00:00, incurred costs between 16:00:00 and 16:30:30

● Package: April 18, 2023, at 16:30:30

Procedure

Step 1 Log in to the **management console**.

Step 2 Click ☰ in the navigation pane on the left and choose EI Enterprise Intelligence > **Optical Character Recognition**.

Step 3 On the OCR console, select a region and your desired service, and click **Buy Package** in the **Operation** column.

Step 4 On the **Buy OCR Package** page, specify **Service Type**, **Package Specifications**, and **Quantity**.

Step 5 Click **Next**. The **Details** page is displayed.

Step 6 Click **Submit**, select a payment method, and make your payment. Once the order is paid, the switching is complete.

----End

5.2 Package to Pay-per-Use

If you do not purchase a new package after your current one is used up or expires, the system will automatically switch to pay-per-use billing.

5.3 What Is Fee Deduction Order for Pay-per-Use and Package?

What Is Fee Deduction Order for Pay-per-Use and Package?

If you have both pay-per-use and package enabled for the same API in a region, fees will be deducted from the package first.

What Is Fee Deduction Order for Multiple Packages?

The package fee is a one-time payment, and this mode can take effect immediately.

Packages can be used together. If you purchase multiple packages, the deduction rules are as follows:

- Fees are deducted according to the source type of the package, with the priority from high to low being: package -> pay-per-use.
- Fees are deducted based on the creation, activation, and expiration time of the package.
  - For multiple packages created at the same time, the first effective package will be prioritized for deduction.
  - For multiple packages with the same activation time, the first expired package will be prioritized for deduction.
  - For multiple packages with the same expiration time, the first created package will be prioritized for deduction.

6 Renewing Subscriptions

6.1 Overview

When to Renew Subscriptions

OCR included in a package cannot operate properly after it expires. To continue using it, you need to renew the OCR service within the specified time. Otherwise, resources will be automatically released, data will be lost, and cannot be recovered.

Renewal only applies to OCR services included in packages. Pay-per-use OCR services do not require renewal, only ensuring that your account balance is sufficient.

If you successfully renew the OCR service before it expires, all resources will be retained, and the operation of the service will not be affected. For information on the status of OCR after it expires, refer to **Impact After Expiration**.

How to Renew Subscriptions

Table 6-1 lists the OCR renewal methods.

Table 6-1 Renewal methods

Method	Description
Manually Renewing an OCR Service	You can renew your OCR service at any time before the package expires by accessing the OCR console.
Auto-renewing an OCR Service	Enabling auto-renewal ensures that your OCR service is automatically renewed before each expiration date, preventing resources from being automatically deleted/released due to forgotten manual renewal.

At different stages of the OCR's lifecycle, you can choose a renewal method according to your needs.

Figure 6-1 OCR lifecycle
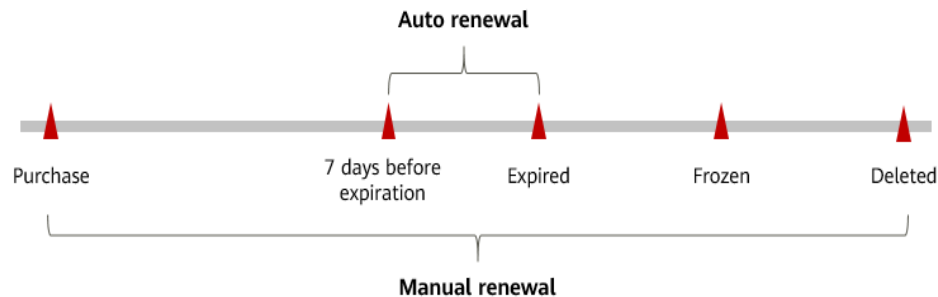
- During the period from purchase to expiration, the resource status is **Available**.

- After expiration, the resource status changes to **Expired**.

- If you do not renew before expiration, the OCR service will first enter a grace period. If you still do not renew after the grace period expires, the resource status changes to **Frozen**.

- If you still do not renew during the retention period, the resource will be automatically deleted/released.

☐ NOTE

> Huawei Cloud defines different grace periods and retention periods for different tiers of customers. You can check your level by logging in to the **management console**, clicking **Basic Information** under your username in the upper right corner, and viewing your account level.

You can enable auto-renewal at any time before the OCR service expires. The system will attempt to automatically renew the service for the first time at 03:00:00, 7 days before expiration. If the payment fails, the system will attempt to renew the service at 03:00:00 every day until the service is renewed or expires. The default configuration for automatic renewal is 7 days before expiration, but you can modify this date as needed.

6.2 Manually Renewing an OCR Service

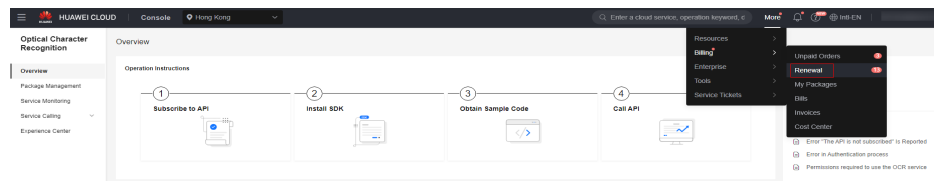You can renew your OCR service at any time before the package expires by accessing the OCR console.

Renewing a Subscription in Billing Center

Step 1 Log in to the **management console**.

Step 2 Hover over **Billing** in the upper part of the console and choose **Renewal** from the drop-down list.
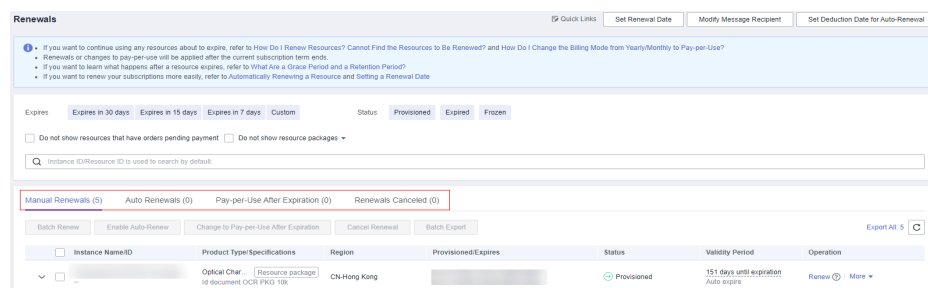
The **Renewals** page is displayed.

Figure 6-2 Renewals

Step 3 Set the search criteria.

You can view all resources to be renewed on the **Manual Renewals**, **Auto Renewals**, **Pay-per-Use After Expiration**, and **Renewals Canceled** pages, and manually renew the resources.
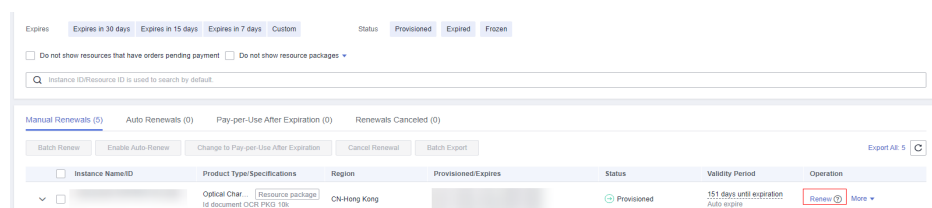
Figure 6-3 Renewals

All resources that need to be manually renewed can be placed on the **Manual Renewals** tab page. For details, see **Restoring to Manual Renewal**.

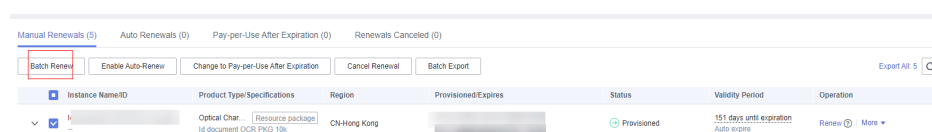**Step 4** Manually renew resources.

- Individual renewal: Click **Renew** in the **Operation** column for the desired resource.

Figure 6-4 Individual renewal

- Batch renewal: Check the boxes for the desired resources, and click **Batch Renew** in the upper left corner.

Figure 6-5 Batch renewal

Step 5 Select a renewal duration and optionally select **Renew on the standard renewal date**. For details, see **Setting the Same Renewal Day for Package Resources**. Confirm the price and click **Pay**.

Figure 6-6 Confirming renewal
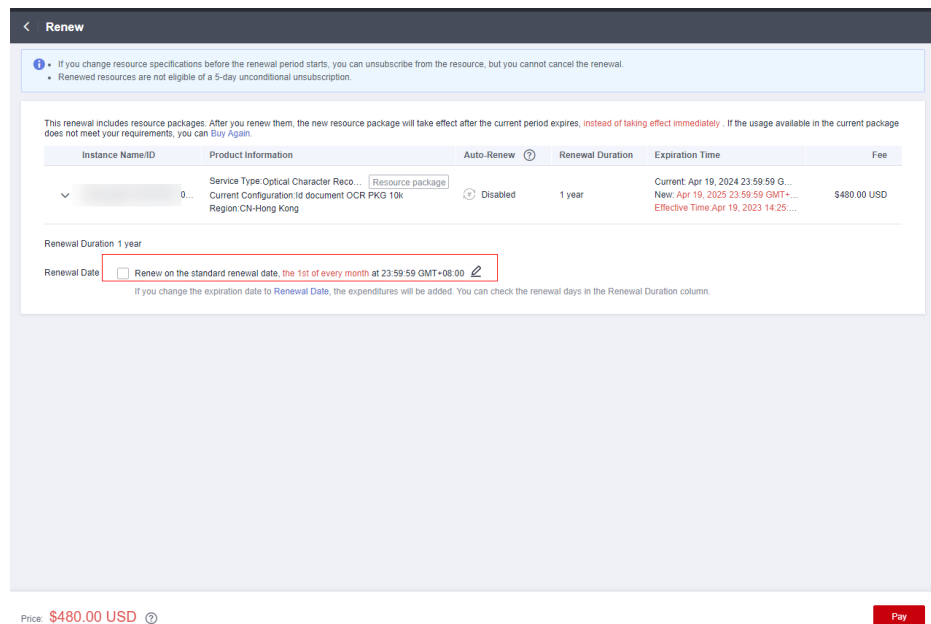
Step 6 Select a payment method and make your payment. Once the order is paid for, the renewal is complete.

----End

Setting the Same Renewal Day for Package Resources

If you have multiple OCR services with different expiration dates, you can set a fixed expiration date to facilitate routine management and renewal.

For details, see **Setting a Renewal Date**.

6.3 Auto-renewing an OCR Service

Auto-renewal can prevent OCR services from being automatically deleted if you forget to manually renew them. The auto-renewal rules are as follows:

- The auto-renewal period of an OCR service varies depending on how you enable auto-renewal.

- You can enable auto-renewal at any time before the OCR service expires. The system will attempt to automatically renew the service for the first time at 03:00:00, 7 days before expiration. If the payment fails, the system will attempt to renew the service at 03:00:00 every day until the service is renewed or expires.

- Once you have enabled auto-renewal, you can also renew the OCR service manually. The auto-renewal will still be in effect after manual renewal, and payment will be deducted starting from 7 days before the new expiration date.

- The automatic deduction 7 days before the expiration date is a default setting of the system, but you can modify it according to your needs, such as changing it to 6 days or 5 days before the expiration date.

Learn about **Auto-Renewal Rules** before enabling auto-renewal.

Prerequisites

Make sure that the OCR service included in your package has not yet expired.

Enabling Auto-Renewal on the Renewals Page

Step 1 Log in to the **management console**.

Step 2 Hover over **BillingBilling & Costs** in the upper right part of the console and choose **Renewal** from the drop-down list.

The **Renewals** page is displayed.

Step 3 Set the search criteria.

- You can view the resources for which auto-renewal has been enabled on the **Auto Renewals** page.
- On the **Manual Renewals**, **Pay-per-Use After Expiration**, and **Renewals Canceled** pages, you can enable auto-renewal for resources.
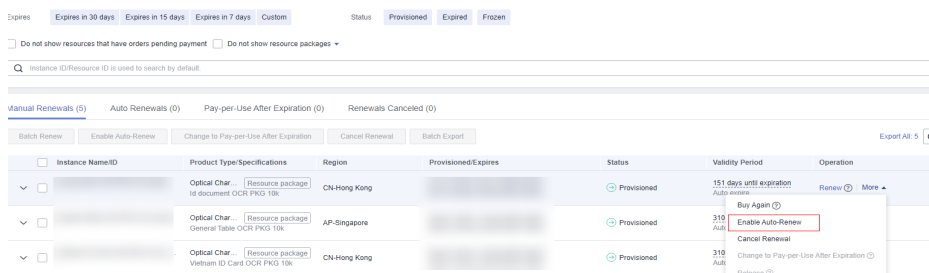
Figure 6-7 Renewals
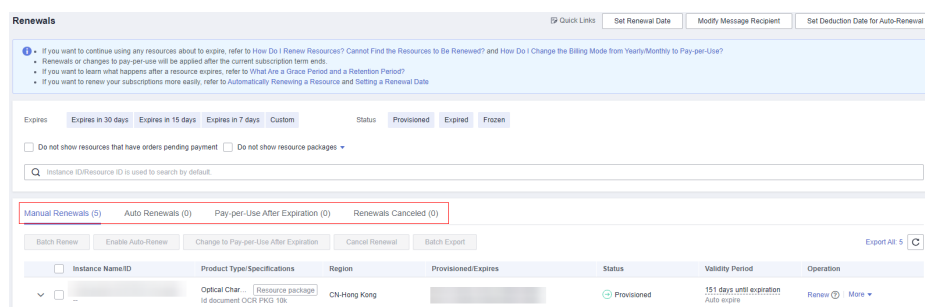
Step 4 Enable auto-renew for package subscriptions.

- Enabling auto-renewal for a single resource: Select the package for which you want to enable auto-renewal and click **Enable Auto-Renew** in the **Operation** column.

Figure 6-8 Enabling auto-renew for a single resource

- Enabling auto-renewal for multiple packages at a time: Select the packages for which you want to enable auto-renewal and click **Enable Auto-Renew** above the list.

Figure 6-9 Enabling auto-renew for multiple resources
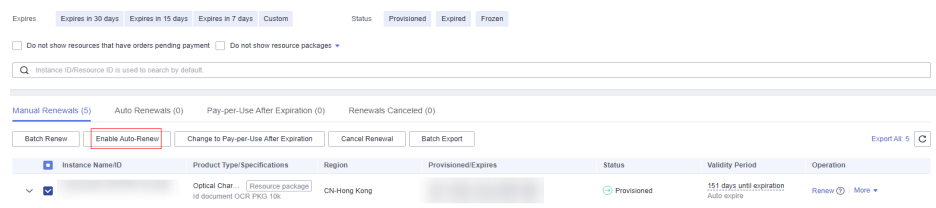
Step 5 Set the number of auto-renewals as required and click **OK**.

If auto-renewal is enabled on the **Renewals** page, the auto-renewal period is subject to the selected number of auto-renewals. For example, if you choose to renew for unlimited times, the system automatically renews the subscription for one year before each expiration (the renewal duration is the same as that in the original order).

Figure 6-10 Enabling auto-renewal
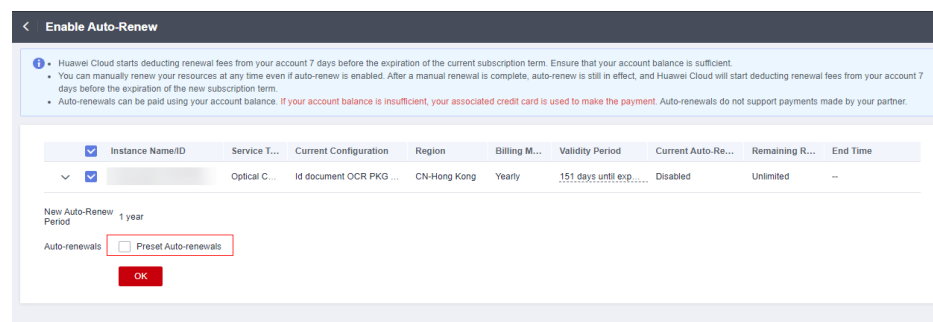
----End

<div style="text-align: right">

7 Bills

</div>

You can view the resource usage and bills for different billing cycles on the **Bills** page in the Billing Center.

Billing Generation

Once the package resources are paid for, a real-time bill will be sent to the billing system for settlement.

In the pay-per-use billing mode, resource usage is reported to the billing system for settlement on a fixed cycle. Depending on the type of usage, pay-per-use resources are settled on an hourly, daily, or monthly basis. For details about billing rules, see **Periodic Settlement of Pay-per-Use Products**. Pay-per-use OCR services are settled on an hourly basis.

The charging time for pay-per-use resources may lag behind the settlement cycle. For example, if an OCR service is disabled at 08:30:00 and incurs fees between 08:00:00 and 09:00:00, the charges are usually deducted around 10:00:00. On the **Billing Center** > **Billing** > **Transactions and Detailed Bills** > **Transaction Bills** page, **Expenditure Time** indicates the time when a pay-per-use product is used.

Viewing Bills of a Specific Resource

[Example: Use the product name to search for a bill.]

Step 1 Log in to **management console** and choose **Billing & Costs** to switch to the Billing Center.

Step 2 Choose **Billing** > **Expenditure Details** to access the detailed bill list. Choose **Resource Type** > **OCR Application Programming Interface** from the filter criteria drop-down list box.

Figure 7-1 Choosing Resource Type
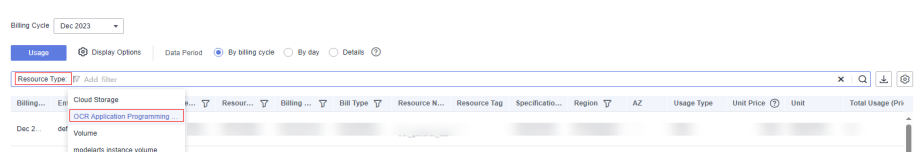
Figure 7-2 Searching for a bill

By default, the bill details are displayed by usage and billing cycle. You can choose other display options as required. For details, see **Bill Details**.

----End

8 Arrears

If there is not a sufficient account balance to pay for your bill and there is no other payment method configured, your account will go into arrears. This may affect the normal operation of cloud service resources, so please top up your account in a timely manner.

Arrears Reason

- The region where the user purchased the service package is different from the actual calling region.
- The free trial region is different from the actual calling region.
- The purchased service is different from the actual service used.
- If you do not purchase a new package after your current one expires, the system will automatically switch to pay-per-use billing.
- You have not purchased a package but have enabled pay-per-use billing.

Arrears Impact

- Package

  For OCR resources in the service package, you have prepaid for the resources, so existing OCR resources in the service package can still be used normally even if the account is in arrears. However, for operations involving fees, such as purchasing new OCR services, renewing orders, you will not be able to proceed normally.

- Pay-per-use

  If your account is insufficient to pay your amount due, your account goes into arrears and your resource enters the grace period. After arrears, pay-per-use resources will not immediately stop operating, but will enter a grace period. After you top up your account, Huawei Cloud will bill you for expenditures generated by the OCR services during the grace period. You can view the expenditures on the **Overview** page of the Billing Center.

  If you still have not paid the arrears during the grace period, you will enter the retention period, and the resource status will change to **Frozen**. You will not be able to perform any operations on pay-per-use resources in the retention period.

  After the retention period expires, if you still have not paid the account arrears, the resources will be released and the data cannot be recovered.

Figure 8-1 Lifecycle of a pay-per-use OCR API
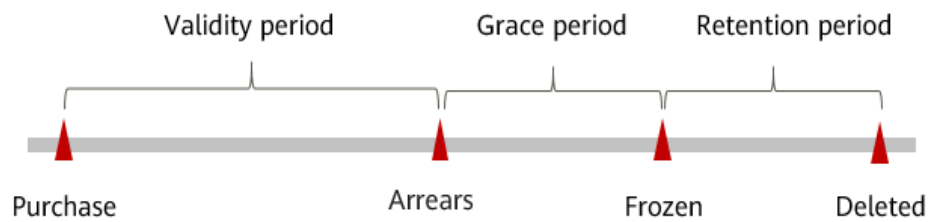
📖 **NOTE**

> Huawei Cloud defines different grace periods and retention periods for different tiers of customers.
>
> You can check your level by logging in to the **management console**, clicking **Basic Information** under your username in the upper right corner, and viewing your account level.

Avoiding and Handling Arrears

If your account is in arrears, top it up promptly. For details, see **Topping Up an Account**.

If you are no longer using a service, you can disable it to avoid further charges.

To help make sure your account never falls into arrears, you can configure the **Balance Alert** on the **Overview** page of the Billing Center. Then, any time an expenditure quota drops to below the threshold you specify, Huawei Cloud automatically notifies you by SMS or email.

After arrears occur, top up your account in a timely manner to ensure that your available credit is greater than zero. If your resource needs are relatively stable, you can choose to purchase a package to save on usage costs.

9 Billing Termination

Package Resources

For services included in packages, such as OCR service in a package, you will pay a one-time fee when purchasing, and the resources included in the package will automatically stop being used after they expire.

- If you do not purchase a new package after your current one expires, the system will automatically switch to pay-per-use billing.
- Service packages cannot be refunded after purchase, so please choose the appropriate package when purchasing.
- If you have enabled Auto-renewal, to avoid incurring further charges, disable auto-renewal before the auto-renewal deduction date (default is 7 days before expiration).

Pay-per-Use Resources

For pay-per-use resources, such as pay-per-use OCR services, if you no longer need to use these resources and want to stop billing, disable the corresponding resources.

Searching for Resources from Bills and Stopping Billing

To ensure that all billing resources can be found and deleted, you can obtain the names of billing resources in the billing statement, find the specific resources by these names, and then disable them one by one. The specific steps are as follows:

[Example: Use the resource name in the bill to search for the resource.]

Step 1 Log in to the **management console**. On the top menu bar, choose **Billing & Costs** to access the Billing Center.

Step 2 Choose **Billing** > **Expenditure Details** to access the detailed bill list. Select **Resource Type** > **OCR Application Programming Interface** from the filter criteria drop-down list box. Then, obtain the resource name and region.

Figure 9-1 Resource name and region

Step 3 Click in the navigation pane on the left and choose EI Enterprise Intelligence > **Optical Character Recognition**.

The **Overview** page is displayed.

Step 4 Select the region where the resource is located and click the corresponding category. The product list is displayed.

Step 5 Click **Subscription Management** in the **Operation** column of the target service. In the **Operation** column of your account, click **Unsubscribe**.

Figure 9-2 Unsubscribing from a service
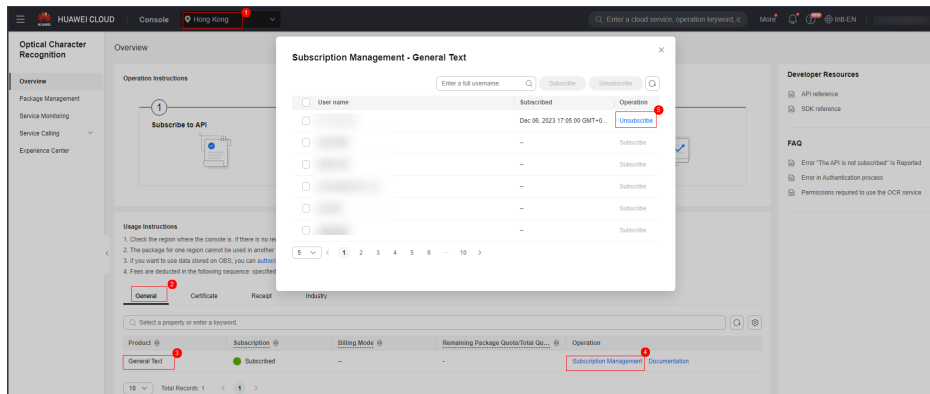
☐ **NOTE**

You are billed one hour after the resource usage is calculated, so a bill may still be generated after the pay-per-use resource is unsubscribed from. For example, if you unsubscribe from pay-per-use Web Image OCR at 08:30:00, the fees generated from 08:00:00 to 09:00:00 are usually deducted at around 10:00:00.

----End

10 Cost Management

As more and more businesses move to the cloud, they are increasingly concerned about the cost of using cloud services. When using OCR services, how can businesses manage costs and reduce the burden on their operations? This section will introduce cost management from four dimensions: cost composition, cost allocation, cost analysis, and cost optimization. It will help you save costs through cost management while ensuring rapid business development and maximizing cost benefits.

Cost Composition

When using OCR services, costs mainly include two aspects:

- Resource costs: the cost of various resources and resource packages, which depends on the billed items of OCR services. For more details, see **Billing Items**.

While Huawei Cloud **Cost Center** can help you manage resource costs more efficiently, you need to identify, manage, and optimize operation and maintenance costs on your own.

Cost Allocation

The foundation of cost management is to establish a cost responsibility system, allowing each department, business team, and owner to participate and take responsibility for the costs incurred by their consumption of cloud services. Businesses can allocate cloud costs by grouping them and assigning them to specific teams or project businesses, enabling each responsible organization to understand their cost situation in a timely manner.

Huawei Cloud**Cost Center** supports cost allocation and redistribution through the following method:

- **By linked account**

  An enterprise master account can use associated accounts to collect the costs of member accounts and manage their finances. For details, see **Viewing Costs by Linked Account**.

Cost Analysis

To control and optimize costs, you need to understand which aspects of the organization generate costs. **Cost Center** supports the visualization of raw and amortized costs through the summary and filtering mechanism of cost analysis, enabling cost and usage trends and driving factors to be analyzed from various perspectives and scopes.

You can also use **Cost Anomaly Detection** provided by **Cost Center** to detect unplanned expenses in a timely manner, achieving cost visibility, analysis, and traceability.

For details, see **Performing Cost Analysis to Explore Costs and Usage** and**Performing Cost Analysis to Explore Costs and Usage**.

Cost Optimization

- **Cost control**

  You can create finely-grained budgets on the **Budgets** page of the Cost Center to manage costs and usage. When actual or forecasted costs exceed the budget threshold, notifications are automatically sent to designated recipients. You can also create budget reports to periodically notify designated recipients of budget progress.

  For example, if you need to create a monthly cost budget for OCR with a monthly budget of 2,000 CNY and send a budget alert when the forecasted amount exceeds 80% of the budget amount, the budget created would be as follows:

  Figure 10-1 Basic budget information

Figure 10-2 Budget scope

Figure 10-3 Budget alerts

For details, see **Enabling Forecasting and Creating Budgets to Track Cost and Usage**.

- **Resource rightsizing**

Cost Center can provide you with suggestions for optimizing and utilizing idle resources for OCR services based on historical consumption and CPU usage monitoring, thereby identifying cost-saving opportunities. Additionally, you can identify resources with high costs during the **cost analysis** phase, monitor their usage through cloud monitoring services, determine the reasons for high costs, and take targeted optimization measures.

- **Billing mode selection**

  Different types of businesses have different requirements for resource usage cycles. Therefore, it is essential to determine the appropriate billing mode for each business type and flexibly combine them to achieve optimal results.

  – For long-term stable mature businesses, package billing mode is suitable.

  – Pay-per-use billing is suitable for short-term, unpredictable, or non-interruptible businesses.

- **O&M automation**

  Huawei Cloud provides various O&M products to help you improve operational efficiency and reduce labor costs. For example:

  – **Auto Scaling**: continuously maintains instance clusters across billing modes, AZs, and instance specifications, making it suitable for businesses with fluctuating workloads.

  – **Auto Launch Group**: allows for the deployment of stable computing power across billing modes, AZs, and instance specifications with the use of spot instances to reduce costs.

  – **Resource Formation Service**: enables the deployment and maintenance of resource stacks containing multiple cloud resources and dependencies, making it suitable for delivering entire systems and cloning environments.

  – **O&M automation**: defines a set of O&M tasks as services, making it suitable for timed, batch, and cross-regional O&M.

11 Billing FAQ

11.1 Why Do I Get Additional Charges or Arrears After Purchasing a Package?

- The package quota has been used up.

  After the quota of a package is used up, the pay-per-use billing mode is used by default. If there is insufficient balance in your account, you will be unable to pay for the current charges, resulting in arrears.

- The package quota is not used up.

  Log in to the **Billing Center** and verify if the API is being called from the same region where the package was purchased. Note that cross-region calling is not supported by the package. In addition, check whether the API of the package is the one actually called.

Figure 11-1 Billing Center

11.2 Why Can I Still Call the Service and Incur Arrears When My Account Balance Is Zero?

If there is insufficient balance in your account, you will be unable to pay for the current charges, resulting in arrears. After entering **the grace period and retention period**, you can still access and use cloud services. However, it is

important to top up your account in a timely manner to avoid an interruption in services.

11.3 Why Do I Get Additional Charges or Arrears After Unsubscribing from an OCR Service?

If you have unsubscribed from an OCR service, you would not be charged any additional fees.

If there are additional charges, check whether you have not unsubscribed from the service for an IAM user.

Procedure

1. Log in to the management console, choose **Billing & Costs** > **Bills** > **Billing** > **Expenditure Details**, choose **Resource Type** from the drop-down list of the search box, enter the product name in the search box, for example, **General Text OCR**, and press the search icon to find the product information such as **Specifications** and **Region** (for example, **CN-Hong Kong**).

   Figure 11-2 Expenditure Details page
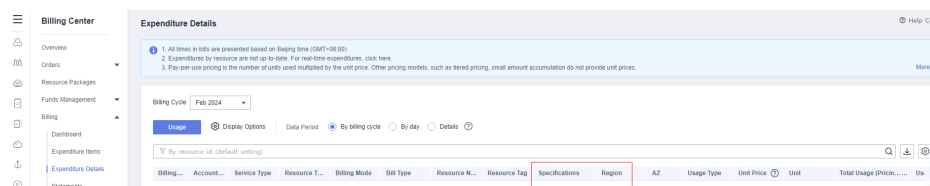
2. Switch to the **OCR console**, go to the **Overview** page, locate the row containing the service based on the obtained specifications and region information, and click **Subscription Management** in the **Operation** column. In the displayed dialog box, find the IAM user for whom you have subscribed to the service and click **Unsubscribe** in the **Operation** column.

   Figure 11-3 Subscription Management
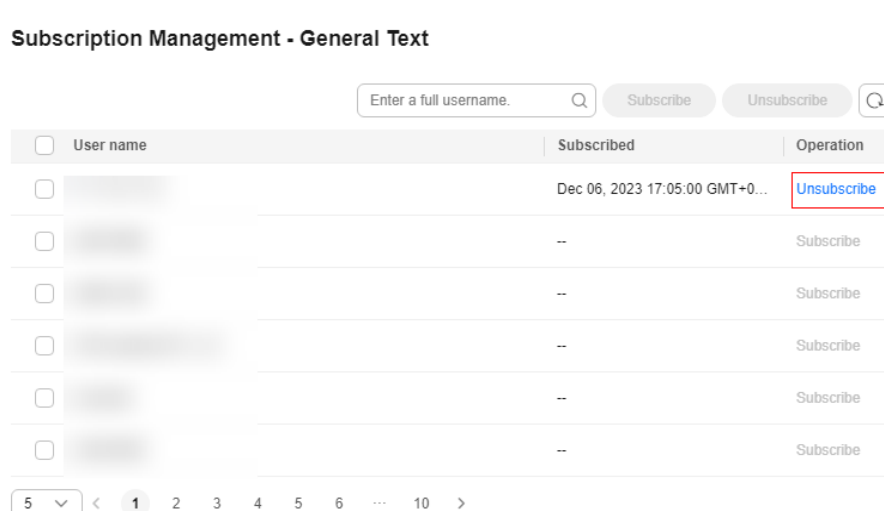
11.4 Can I Refund a Package After I Buy It?

No, refunds are not supported after purchasing a package.

11.5 How Is Billing Handled When a Package Is Used Up? And How Can I Check the Remaining Quota and Receive Alerts for My Package?

Once the package limit is reached, billing will switch to pay-per-use (based on the number of successful API calls). If the service is not used, there will be no charges. For specific pricing details, see **OCR Pricing Details**.

Checking Your Package Quota

1. Log in to the **OCR console**.
2. Choose **Package Management** to check the remaining package quota.

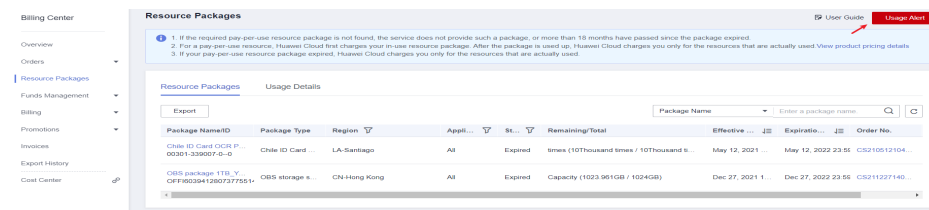**Figure 11-4** Package Management page
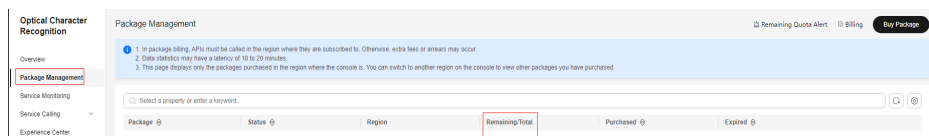
Setting Alerts for Remaining Package Quota

- Log in to the OCR console and choose **Package Management**, or log in to the OCR console and choose **Billing & Costs** > **My Packages**. In the upper right corner of the page, click **Usage Alert** and enable the usage alert function.

Figure 11-5 Remaining quota alert 1


Figure 11-6 Remaining quota alert 2

- Threshold type: You can set the remaining usage alarm threshold as required. When the remaining usage of a resource package reaches the alarm threshold, the system sends an SMS message or email to you.

📖 **NOTE**

- When the total usage changes after purchasing or renewing a resource package, the alert will be triggered again.
- Usage is only applicable to the region you call, and different regions will be counted separately.
- When multiple resource packages are used together, the system will aggregate and calculate the remaining usage.

11.6 How Does a Member Account Use a Package Purchased by an Enterprise Master Account?

The enterprise master account and its member accounts are accurately named the account and the IAM users. Accounts and IAM users can be compared to parent-child relationships. The account is the main body of resource ownership and billing, and has all permissions for its resources. IAM users are created by the account and can only have the resource usage permissions granted by the account. The account can modify or revoke the usage permissions of IAM users at any time. The fees generated by IAM users when operating resources are uniformly charged to the account, and IAM users do not need to pay for resources. An account can be used to **create IAM users** and **assign permissions to the IAM users**. IAM users can view and use the resources authorized by the account after logging in to the system.
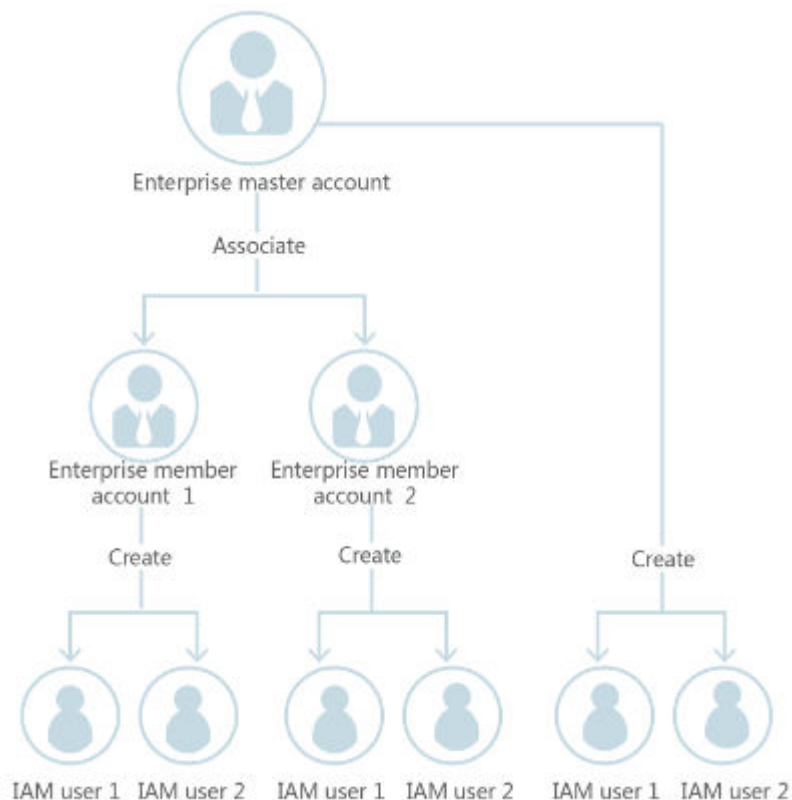
11.7 What Is Fee Deduction Order for Multiple Packages?

If you have purchased multiple packages, the fee deduction rules are as follows:

- Fees are deducted according to the package source type, with the deduction priority from high to low being: free entitlements -> promotions -> subscriptions.
- Fees are deducted based on the creation, activation, and expiration time of the package.
  - For multiple packages created at the same time, the first effective package will be prioritized for deduction.
  - For multiple packages with the same activation time, the first expired package will be prioritized for deduction.
  - For multiple packages with the same expiration time, the first created package will be prioritized for deduction.
- Time-limited packages are preferentially deducted.
- If an enterprise project is included in the bill, the package designated for the enterprise project is given priority for deduction. If the package for the designated project is not enough for deduction, all enterprise project packages will be used.

📖 NOTE

The preceding rules only apply to package deductions.

11.8 What are Grace Period and Retention Period?

Grace period: refers to the time provided by Huawei Cloud for you to renew or repay when your package resources expire or payment fails due to insufficient balance, during which you can only access and use some resources normally. The grace period for Huawei Cloud (International) is 15 days.

- If you fail to make payment due to insufficient balance, you will not be able to subscribe to new services.
- If you enter the grace period due to the expiration of your package resources, you can still subscribe to new services.

Retention period: refers to the period after the grace period when your package resources have not been renewed or your pay-per-use resources have not been paid off. During this period, you cannot access or use the resources, but the data stored in the resources will still be retained. The retention period for Huawei Cloud (International) is 15 days.

11.9 What Is Considered Valid Billing for OCR?

- OCR services are called through RESTful APIs, and billing is based on the HTTPS request status code returned. When the status code is **2**xx (such as 200/201), the call is successful and billing is applied.

- OCR services use package billing to reduce call costs. Based on the usage of most customers, the proportion of billing due to incorrect sample uploads is very small and can be ignored.

- As image input is very open, to prevent malicious attacks, valid recognition information (even if partially inaccurate) will be billed on Huawei Cloud. This is similar to how call quality issues are typically charged for.

11.10 Can Different API Packages Be Shared?

Each API is associated with a specific package and can only deduct the corresponding API's call count.

For example, if you buy a Passport OCR package, it can only be used for the Passport OCR API.

11.11 Can OCR Be Charged by Project?

Yes.

OCR allows you to use Enterprise Project Management Service (EPS) to split fees for resources used by different user groups and users. For details, see the **Enterprise-Project-Id** parameter in **Optical Character Recognition API Reference**.