FREE CLOUD CREDITS, REAL LLM WORK

$300 of free credits. Gone in 3 days.

What I spent them on, and how you can too.

Free cloud credits are hard to spend.

An LLM is different.

It applies to all the computer work I do.

Gemini 4 Argon did about 80% of my course materials site.

THREE FRONTIER MODELS, THREE PERSONALITIES

My impression, not a benchmark.

The Scholar

Gemini 4 Argon

Huge, thorough research

$300 Google Cloud credit

The Sharp Problem Solver

GPT-6 Astra

Really got things solved

$150 Azure credit via Visual Studio

The Practitioner

Claude Opus 5.5

Finds the right line

Paid plan, not covered by free credits

WHAT I NOTICED

To me, only three really think.

Gemini 4 Argon

GPT-6 Astra

Claude Fable or Opus

The rest predict the next word as they go. They do not stop, look back, and think.

1 Gemini 4 Argon

Google Cloud $300 Free Trial, valid for 90 days. Use it on Gemini Enterprise Agent Platform.

2 GPT-6 Astra

Visual Studio Enterprise: $150 Azure credit a month. Deploy it in Microsoft Foundry.

3 Claude Opus 5.5

A partner model, so free credits do not cover it.

Free credits got a locked-in Opus user to try Gemini.

Tight limits on frontier credits and quotas can mean missing prospective customers.

I do not know how long this stays open.