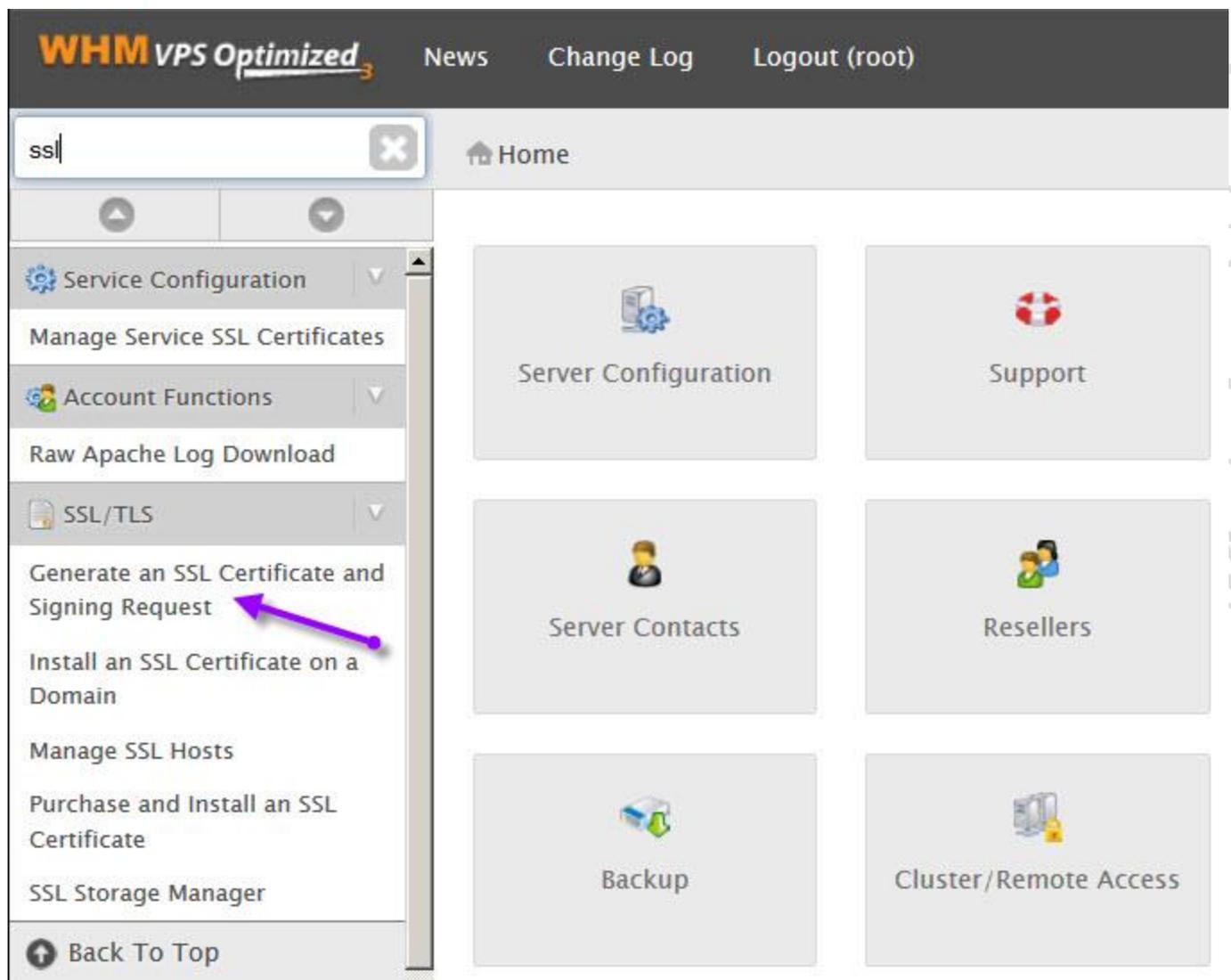


## Generating CSR using WHM 11.48

In order to activate an SSL certificate it is required to submit a CSR (Certificate Signing Request) on our website. The CSR is a block of code with encrypted information about your company and domain name.

To generate the CSR in WHM you need to:

- Log in to your WHM account
- Find option ‘Generate an SSL Certificate and Signing Request’

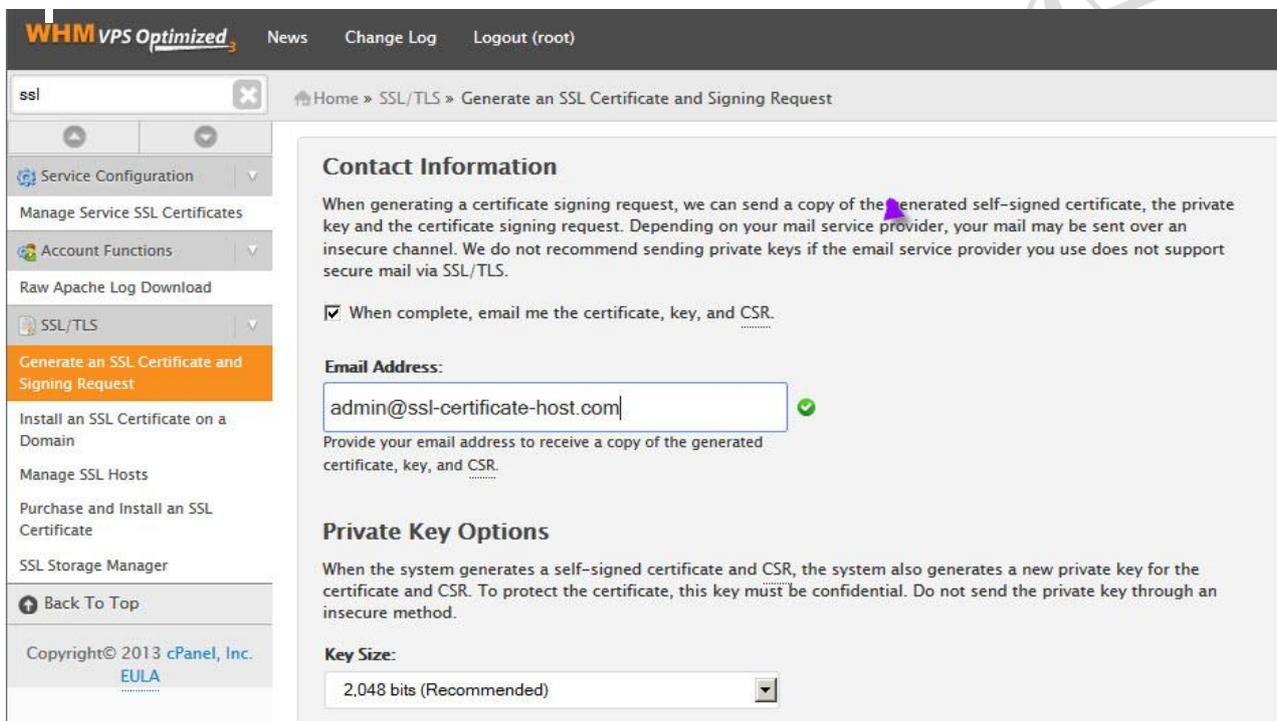


The screenshot shows the WHM VPS Optimized 3 dashboard. The top navigation bar includes 'News', 'Change Log', and 'Logout (root)'. A search bar contains 'ssl'. The left sidebar is expanded to show the 'SSL/TLS' section, with 'Generate an SSL Certificate and Signing Request' highlighted by a purple arrow. Other options in the sidebar include 'Service Configuration', 'Account Functions', 'Raw Apache Log Download', 'Install an SSL Certificate on a Domain', 'Manage SSL Hosts', 'Purchase and Install an SSL Certificate', and 'SSL Storage Manager'. The main content area displays a grid of service tiles: 'Server Configuration', 'Support', 'Server Contacts', 'Resellers', 'Backup', and 'Cluster/Remote Access'.

- On the new page you will be requested to provide the information required for CSR generation.

**! Note:** If you check the first box and enter your email address, the keys will be sent to the provided address after generation.

- **Key Size.** Usually there are two options: 2048 and 4096. You can choose any of them. 2048 key size is considered secure nowadays, but if you wish to have a higher security level, 4096 key size is preferable. However, every doubling of key size slows down establishment of SSL/TLS session by 6-7 times. Additionally, a bigger key size increases load on your server's CPU.



The screenshot shows the WHM VPS Optimized interface. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home » SSL/TLS » Generate an SSL Certificate and Signing Request'. The main content area has two sections: 'Contact Information' and 'Private Key Options'. In the 'Contact Information' section, there is a checkbox checked for 'When complete, email me the certificate, key, and CSR.' Below this is an 'Email Address:' field containing 'admin@ssl-certificate-host.com' with a green checkmark icon to its right. Below the email field is a note: 'Provide your email address to receive a copy of the generated certificate, key, and CSR.' The 'Private Key Options' section has a 'Key Size:' dropdown menu set to '2,048 bits (Recommended)'.

**Important:** It is mandatory to use only alphanumeric characters. Otherwise, there is a possibility that a Certificate Authority will reject the CSR and certificate activation will fail.

All the fields (except for the 'passphrase') must be filled in.

- **Domains.** Here you should put the domain name you wish to secure. In case SSL should be issued for a subdomain, it is required to specify a domain's subdomain as 'sub1.yourdomain.com'. If you have a wildcard certificate, please put an asterisk with a dot in front of the domain name as '\*.yourdomain.com'. If the CSR is generated for a Multi Domain certificate, you should specify the domain names one per line.



For a Geotrust Domain Validated certificate (QuickSSL Premium, RapidSSL) to be valid on a domain name with and without www, it is required to specify the domain name with www in the field (www.yourdomain.com). This feature works only for main domains, but not for subdomains.

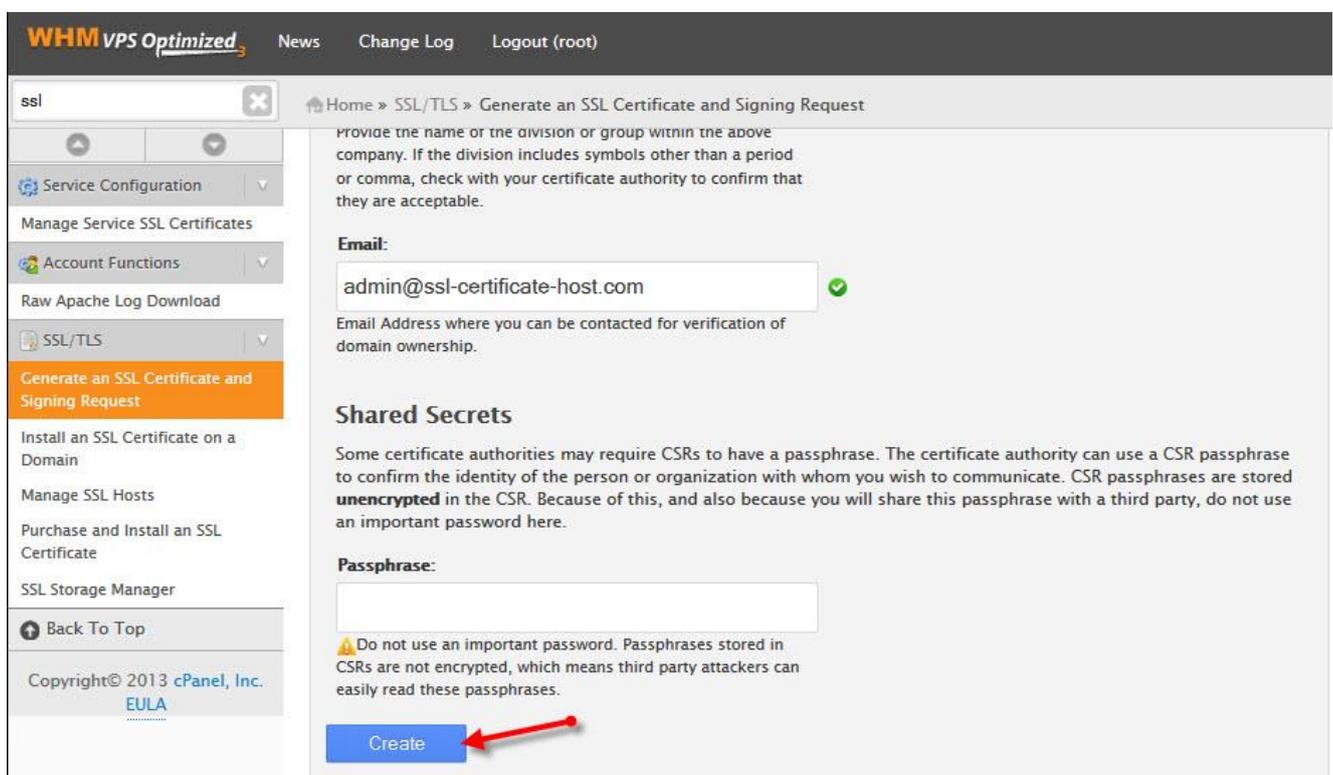
The screenshot shows the WHM VPS Optimized interface for generating an SSL certificate. The 'Domains' field is filled with 'www.ssl-certificate-host.com'. The 'City' field is filled with 'Los Angeles' and the 'State' field is filled with 'California'. Each field has a green checkmark indicating it is valid. The interface also includes a sidebar with navigation options and a top navigation bar with 'News', 'Change Log', and 'Logout (root)'.

If you have a certificate with domain validation, it is not mandatory to specify Company Name and Company Division fields. However, do not leave the fields blank, just put there 'NA' instead.

The screenshot shows the WHM VPS Optimized interface for generating an SSL certificate. The 'Country' field is set to 'US (United States)'. The 'Company Name' field is filled with 'NA'. The 'Company Division' field is filled with 'NA'. The 'Email' field is filled with 'admin@ssl-certificate-host.com'. Each field has a green checkmark indicating it is valid. The interface also includes a sidebar with navigation options and a top navigation bar with 'News', 'Change Log', and 'Logout (root)'.

It is not mandatory to specify the Passphrase. In fact it is not with the passphrase your Private Key will be encrypted, but with a challenge password. The "challenge password" used to be a shared secret between a certificate applicant and a Certificate Authority. Nowadays challenge password is not required to have an SSL issued and can be considered as an obsolete feature.

- Once you fill the required information in, click on “Create”.



The screenshot shows the WHM VPS Optimized interface. The main content area is titled "Generate an SSL Certificate and Signing Request". It contains an "Email:" field with the value "admin@ssl-certificate-host.com" and a green checkmark. Below this is a "Shared Secrets" section with a "Passphrase:" input field. A red arrow points to the "Create" button at the bottom of the page.

On the prompted page you will see three blocks of code.

- **Signing Request.** Actually it is your CSR that you should submit during SSL activation on our website.
- **Certificate.** It's a self-signed certificate issued for your domain name which will be not used further. Eventually you will receive a trusted certificate issued for your domain name.

