

LFN Mentorship Program

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Program Overview

The LF Networking (LFN) intern/mentorship program is aimed at creating a structured hands-on learning opportunity for new developers who may otherwise lack the opportunity to gain exposure to open source software development and entry to the LFN projects' technical communities. It also provides a more defined path for LFN projects to connect with the next generation of student developers to inject more talent into their developer base. Each mentee will apply and be matched with a mentor or mentors who are active developers and technologists contributing to the industry's leading open source networking projects such as ONAP, OPNFV, OpenDaylight, FD.io. Each mentee will work remotely from his/her location of choice. Regular evaluation and feedback will be provided. Mentees who have done outstanding work may have the opportunity to travel to an LFN conference/event to meet their peers and mentors face-to-face and to present their work to the broader community.

Potential Benefits for Student Mentees

- Mentees gain exposure to real-world software development by working closely with active developers in the community
- Mentees get introduced to open source development infrastructure, tooling, and culture
- Mentees have the hands-on opportunity to do work related to their academic and professional interests and to further the pursuit of those interests
- Mentees develop close working relationships with open source professionals and industry business leaders to expand their professional network

Potential Benefits for LFN Projects

- More source code gets written and used for the benefit of all
- The mentorship program helps create a pipeline to a diverse, well-educated pool of developers
- The mentorship program helps spread the word about LFN projects and its related technologies at academic institutions and increase academia's interest in the teaching and research of the technologies
- The mentorship program helps LFN gain valuable insight into new developer onboarding processes and how to lower the barriers to entry for new developers.
- The mentorship program creates positive press for LFN via student testimonials, brand recognition, and peer-to-peer messaging

Mentee Stipends

Mentees will be eligible to receive a stipend. The total stipend amount will be calculated using [a tiered structure based on the country where the mentee resides when participating in the program](#). The stipend will be paid in several installments provided that regular interval evaluations show the intern is making satisfactory progress. The final installment will be paid upon successful project completion.

Travel Funding

Mentees who have done an outstanding work may be invited and be provided a travel funding by LFN to attend a technical event and present their work to the broader community.

Travel funding is on hold for 2021 because of travel restrictions and events all going virtual. There will be opportunity to bring greater visibility to mentor and mentee contributions through blogging and virtual presentations to the broader LFN project communities.

2021 Program Timeline*

- 16 Mar 2021 - 05 Apr 2021 [Community members who are interested in mentoring submit project proposals](#).
- 09 Apr 2021 (1 week): Individual Project TSC reviews and approves projects
- 15 Apr 2021 List of approved projects announced and the program officially launched
- 15 Apr 2021 [Mentee application opens](#)
- **10 May 2021 17:00 Pacific Daylight Time: Mentee application closes**
- 14 May 2021 - 20 May 2021 Mentee application review and applicant interview
- 21 May 2021 Top mentee candidates are identified
- 24 May 2021 Finalize mentee cohort and selected mentees complete HR contracting paperwork
- 24 May 2021 - 31 May 2021 Mentee and mentor onboarding
- 01 Jun 2021 All mentees officially begin
 - full-time program: June 1 - August 21
 - part-time program: June 1 - November 13

*The program dates are subject to change without advanced notice.

(Full-Time) Mentee Schedule

Full time program requires the commitment of 40 hours per week for 12 consecutive weeks from a mentee and this option is recommended for students who are off school from June to August to dedicate full time to the internship.

- Summer Term:
 - June 1: official start date
 - June 19: 1st Quarter Evaluation at the end of week 3 (25% of the stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentee is in good standing with the mentor following the 1st quarter evaluation)
 - July 10: Midterm Evaluation at the end of week 6 (25% of the stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentee is in good standing with the mentor following the midterm evaluation)
 - July 31: 3rd Quarter Evaluation at the end of week 9 (25% of the stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentee is in good standing with the mentor following the 3rd quarter evaluation)
 - August 21: Final Evaluation upon conclusion of the internship at the end of week 12 (remaining 25% stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentor determines that the mentee has successfully completed the internship following the final evaluation)
- Fall Term:
 - September 1: official start date
 - mentorships available on LFX Mentorship: July 15th, 2021
 - applications open: July 15th - August 12th (4 weeks)
 - application review/admission decisions/HR paperwork: August 12th - August 31st

Summer PT (Part-Time) Mentee Schedule

Part time program requirements the commitment of 20 hours per week for 24 consecutive weeks and this option is recommended for students who are in school or have other significant commitments for the duration of the program.

- June 1: official start date
- July 10: 1st Quarter Evaluation at the end of week 6 (25% of the stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentee is in good standing with the mentor following the 1st quarter evaluation)
- August 21: Midterm Quarter Evaluation at the end of week 12 (25% of the stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentee is in good standing with the mentor following the midterm evaluation)
- October 2: 3rd Quarter Evaluation at the end of week 18 (25% of the stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentee is in good standing with the mentor following the 3rd quarter evaluation)
- November 13: Final Evaluation upon conclusion of the internship at the end of week 24 (remaining 25% stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentor determines that the mentee has successfully completed the internship following the final evaluation)

Questions?

Please email mentorship@lfnetworking.org

See Previous Intern's Work and Spotlights

- [FD.io Intern Spotlight: Javier Fernandez Valles](#)
- [OPNFV Intern Spotlight: Sofia Enriquez](#)
- [CENGN Webinar](#): CENGN Intern Aarti, speaks about OPNFV third Colorado Release! Watch the video to learn more and read about her experience!
- [OPNFV Video](#): OPNFV Intern Interview: Zahra Jahedi
- [OPNFV Video](#): OPNFV Intern Interview: Daniel Tudares