

# 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 [Nephio](#), [ONAP](#), [Anuket](#), [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 increases 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 upon successful project completion.

## Travel Funding

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

Travel funding is subject to restrictions based on COVID and other geopolitics outside of the Linux Foundation's control.

## 2024 Program Timeline\*

- 19 Feb 2024 - 17 Mar 2024
  - During this time, Mentors will submit their project proposals.
  - [Mentorship project proposals](#)
  - 18 Mar 2024 Project TSCs should have reviewed and approves projects
- 20 Mar 2024 List of approved projects announced and the program officially launched
  - TAC will review and approve the top 3 Mentorship projects via voice vote on 20 Mar 2024
- 22 Mar 2024
  - [Mentee application opens](#)
- **26 Apr 2024 17:00 Pacific Daylight Time: Mentee application closes**
- 22 Mar 2024 - 26 Apr 2024 Mentee application review and applicant interview
  - Interns can expect to hear from the Mentor & Linux Foundation during this time if they meet the requirements for the application.
- 28 Apr 2023 Top mentee candidates are identified and announced.
- The final step will have the selected mentees complete HR contracting paperwork.
  - Please confirm with your Mentor that you have been selected and then [Casey Cain](#) will coordinate getting your HR paperwork processed.

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

## Summer Term Mentee Schedule

**A full-time program requires the commitment of 40 hours per week for 12 consecutive weeks from a mentee.** This option is recommended for students who are off school from June to August and are capable of dedicating to a full-time schedule.

- **Full-Time Summer Schedule**

- June 1: official start date
- July 14: Midterm Evaluation at the end of week 6
- August 31: Final Evaluation upon conclusion of the internship at the end of week 12 (The stipend will be paid to the mentee if the mentor determines that the mentee has successfully completed the internship following the final evaluation)

**The part-time program requires a commitment of 20 hours per week for 24 consecutive weeks.** This option is recommended for students who are in school or have other significant commitments for the duration of the program.

- **Part-Time Summer Schedule**

- June 1: official start date
- August 1st: Initial Evaluation
- September 8th: Midterm Evaluation
- November 29th: Final Evaluation upon conclusion of the internship (100% of the 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](mailto:mentorship@lfnetworking.org)

## See Previous Mentee Work and Spotlights

- LF Networking [Blog Post](#) by Mentee [Nicholas Karimi](#) (2021)
- [FD.io Intern Spotlight: Javier Fernandez Valles](#)
- [OPNFV Intern Spotlight: Sofia Enriquez](#)
- [CENGW Webinar](#): CENGW Intern Aarti, speaks about ODNFV third Colorado Release! Watch the video to learn more and read about her experience!
- [OPNFV Video](#): ODNFV Intern Interview: Zahra Jahedi
- [OPNFV Video](#): ODNFV Intern Interview: Daniel Tudares