

Bi-Weekly Individual Progress Report

Project Short Name: PayLES_____

Your Name: Mike West

Number of hours worked (1) in the first week: 8_____ (2) in the second week: 10_____

Due date of this report: 28 Feb 2025_____

GitHub: <https://github.com/PayLES/PayLES.git>

1. Tasks and Targets set for the report period (of two weeks)

This report period (of 4 weeks due to extenuating circumstances) encompasses the initiation of the project and early proof of concepts of the program.

The first goal was to set up a basic outline of the entire project and all files. I selected HTML5 with CSS to provide the frontend of the application, and a python backend with Flask. Flask is a python web framework which allows for easily incorporating python into the web application. Because I selected Flask, it required me to structure my files in a specific hierarchy. I created generic templates of each of the necessary files, then worked to compile them all together to ensure they accurately work.

The second goal was to ensure this foundation of the project works and is able to be viewed on a web browser. I followed the steps Flask requires to run the webpage, which is essentially navigating to the application directory of the program, running a python virtual environment, then running main.py python file. This python file then uses flask to call for specific HTML files (currently index.html and les.html), a CSS file (currently style.css), and a requirements.txt file. It also generates a folder where uploaded files can be stored. After running this command and going to <http://127.0.0.1:8080/> on my browser, I can interact with the program. A goal in the future is to host this site on a secure web hosting platform, such as Google App Engine. The program is also accessible on all major browsers.

In addition, I ensured that the project was fully open-source and hosted on GitHub. The link is above, which shows all the progress throughout the report period. I use Visual Studio 2022 as my programming application.

2. Adjustment and revisions made against the original tasks and targets

I have made no major revisions against the original goals of the project. As I continue to work forward on this project, I anticipate no changes as the goals and work is feasible, achievable, and still representative as to the project I am going to complete.

3. Summary of the accomplishment and the contribution to the project in the report period

So far in the project I have been able to develop a basic proof-of-concept for the core design of the application. This boils down to users being able to upload a military Leave & Earnings Statement (LES), have information from that LES scraped and displayed in a table, then having those values be editable across future months.

The most important part of the project, which was also the one which I was most concerned about, was capturing the values of an uploaded LES. All military members receive an LES in pdf format at the end of every month and is formatted in a big table. To capture this.

4. Conclusion Remarks

Despite being out approximately a month due to circumstances, I am on-track to continue with my project and finish it on time. I have worked to make up the time lost since I have been back and have gotten to a state which I believe is more than 50% complete. Especially since I have successfully achieved the core functionality of the application, and the remaining work lies in building out that core with all the features I intend to have. It also encompasses styling and design of the webpage, overhauling the user interface, and optimizing the code. I am confident to complete this project within the remainder of the semester and submit all deliverables by their planned dates.

5. References used, for example, list the textbooks that your work is partly utilizing and any other book, journal and conference papers, and Web sites.

Flask Documentation:

<https://flask.palletsprojects.com/en/stable/>

Python Web Applications using Flask:

<https://realpython.com/python-web-applications/>

Python PDFPlumber:

<https://pypi.org/project/pdfplumber/>