



# Google Summer of Code

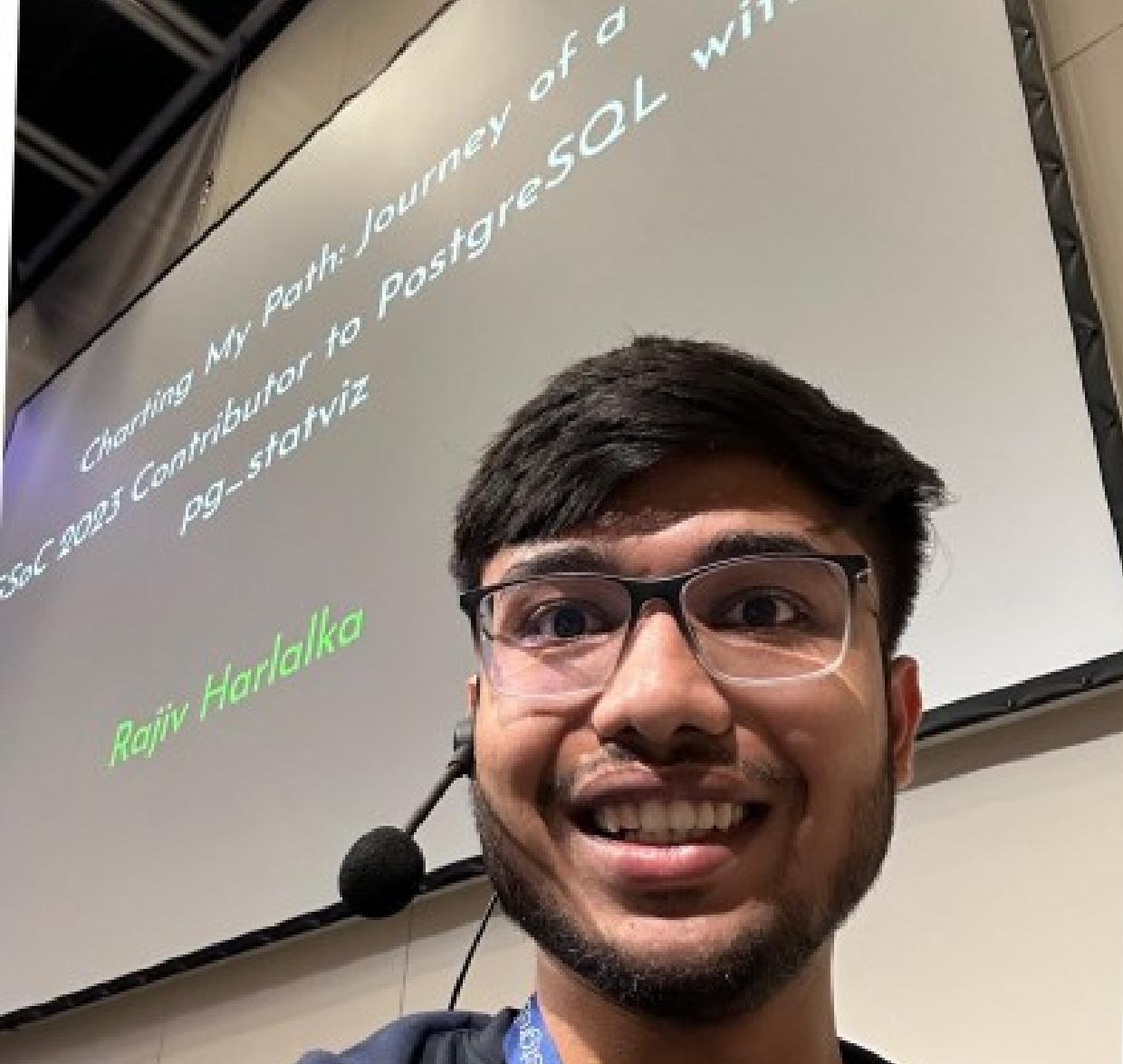
## Introductory Seminar

# 2024

By Kharagpur Open Source Society



# Our speakers



**Rajiv Harlalka**  
**GSoC'23 Student @ PostgreSQL**  
**Advisor @ KOSS IIT KGP**



**Harsh Khandeparkar**  
**GSoC'23 Student @ CHIPS Alliance**  
**Executive @ KOSS IIT KGP**



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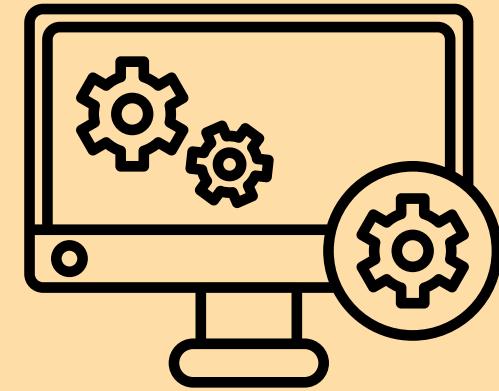
## What is GSoC?

An international online program  
designed to encourage university student  
and working professional participation  
in open source software development

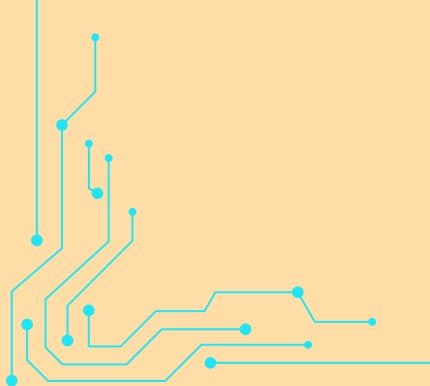
# **Introduction to FOSS**

**FOSS: Free and Open Source  
Software**

# Open source vs Proprietary Software



- **Proprietary Software** is the “property” of someone else, and you are licensed to use it in the way the owner wants you to use it
- The source code **FOSS** is open for anyone to view, edit, and use the way they want
- Google Chrome vs Firefox



# FOSS Today



- **Most of the top supercomputers run Linux, an open-source OS**
- **The core code of Android is open-source (> 3B active devices)**
- **Most programming languages are open-source**
- **Google Chrome, Edge and most other browsers are all based on Chromium, an open-source browser**



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## How It Works

**Contributors work for an open-source organization, and earn a stipend for successfully completing the project.**  
**Contributors spend their time outside of school/job working in a field that can help them with their studies or career.**



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## How does GSoC work?

- Open source software projects apply to be mentor organizations
- Google chooses the organizations to participate (160+ in 2023)
- Contributors submit project proposals to mentor organizations



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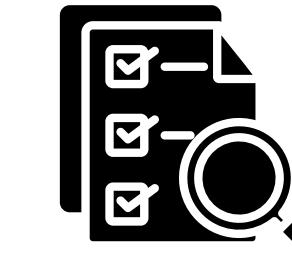
## How does GSoC work?

- Mentor organizations choose the proposals from students they'd like to accept
- Contributors are paired with a mentor to help them throughout their project and get involved in the community
- Coding begins! Contributors work towards milestones laid out in their project proposal with their mentor over 12+ weeks



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## Evaluations



- **Contributors must pass two evaluations**
- **Contributors who pass each eval are paid a stipend for their work**
- **At the conclusion of GSoC, contributors prepare a report of their work that will be displayed on the website archive**



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## Eligibility

- Over 18 upon registration
- Eligible to work in the country in which you reside
- Have participated in no more than 1 previous GSoC
- Willingness and enthusiasm to learn new things \*



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**Things that you don't need to be for getting selected for GSoC**

- **Dassi**
- **Student of CSE Dept**
- **Competitive Coder**
- **Expert level programmer**



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## Useful links



- **Program Website:** [g.co/gsoc](https://g.co/gsoc)
- **Student Manual:** [g.co/gsoc/studentmanual](https://g.co/gsoc/studentmanual)
- **Google Open Source Blogs:** [opensource.googleblog.com](https://opensource.googleblog.com)
- **MetaKGP Wiki:** [metakgp.org/w/GSoC](https://metakgp.org/w/GSoC)



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## 2024 Standard Timeline



- Feb 21: **Organisations Announced**
- Mar 18 - Apr 2: **Contributors submit their proposals**
- May 1: **Accepted GSoC projects announced**
- May 1 - May 26: **Community Bonding Period**
- May 27 - Aug 26: **Standard Coding Period**
- Jul 12 : **Midterm Evaluations**
- Sep 3 : **Initial Results announced**



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## Perks of GSOC

**Let's talk about some swag**





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- **Software development skills, exposure to fields you like**
- **Stipend of \$750 / \$1500 / \$3000 (Multiply by 83 later)**
- **This is optional. You can also abstain from receiving the stipend :)**
- **After GSoC:**
  - **Contacts, Letter of Recommendation**
  - **Publishing paper(s), invitation to talks**
  - **Conferences, Travel, Community interaction**





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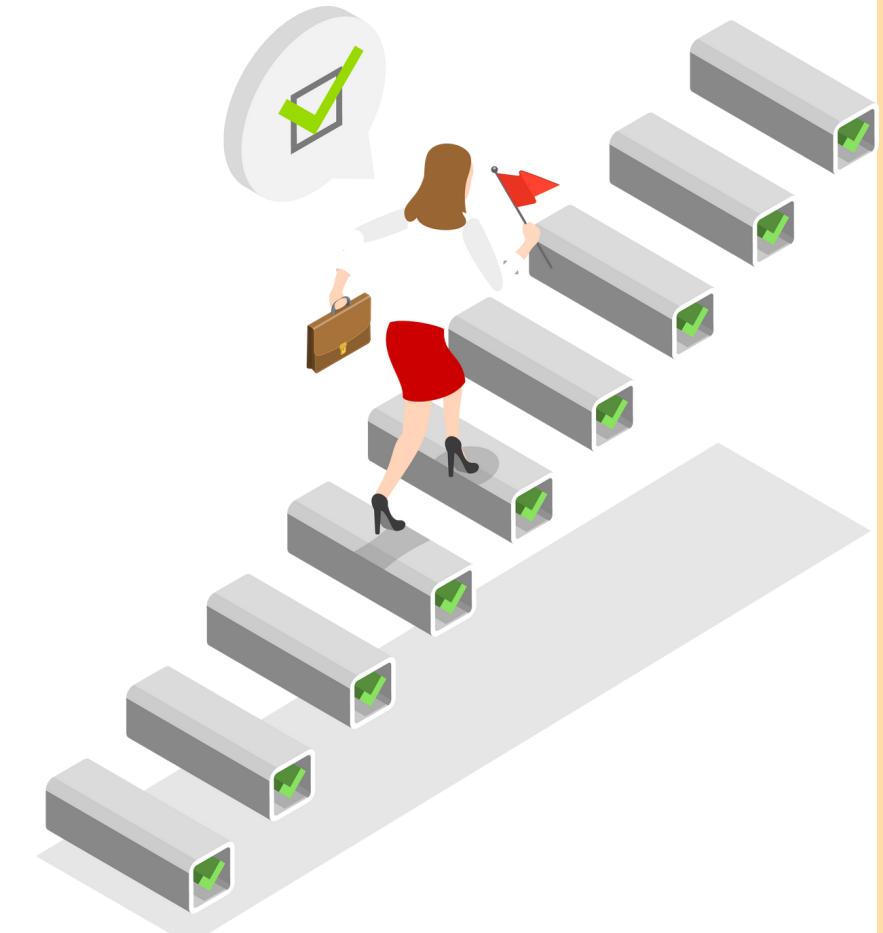
## How to select Organizations



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## What's the ideal way

- Review organizations and their projects (approx. 200).
- Shortlist 10–20 based on project descriptions and tech
- Refine to 5–8 considering past selections and engage with final orgs' communities and mentors
- Talk to previous contributors and boil this down to 1–3 orgs
- Note that you can submit upto a total of 3 proposals (in the same or different orgs)





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## How to search Projects



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## A few tips that will come in handy!



- Use archives to see which organizations get selected every year
- Select projects bridging your field and computer science for an advantage
- Read previous students' projects from the archive and project ideas proposed by the org



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## After selecting an org?

- **Interact with the community! (VERY Important)**
- **First, compile/install and USE the product**
- **Start with beginner issues. Check the repo's issue tracker. Some orgs require a set number for proposal acceptance**
- **Select a project once the org list is out. Begin proposal writing, engaging with mentors. This process usually takes a month**
- **Stay engaged and active, addressing issues during the review phase**



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## Do's and Don'ts



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## DON'Ts



- **Don't be vague**
- **Don't ask generic questions**
- **Don't hesitate**



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## DON'Ts



- **Don't expect instantaneous replies.**
- **Don't personally mail or DM the mentors before reading the community guidelines**



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## DON'Ts



- **Do not ask to ask. eg: “May I ask a question?”**
- **Don’t try to undermine other applicants**



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## DO'S



- Be active on all communication channels of the organization (make yourself visible)
- Research your questions first



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## DO'S



- **Ask direct and concise questions. Efficient communication is key**
- **Helping others = Getting help for yourself!**



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## Proposal drafting advice

- Look at previous years' proposals.
- Often orgs and mentors have specific expectations or formats. Read their guidelines.
- Discuss the draft proposal with your mentor before submitting it.
- A basic structure includes (Read GSoC Guidelines)
  - Background (on the project, the problem it tries to solve)
  - The proposed solution
  - A timeline of when and how you are going to tackle it
  - Deliverables
  - A short “about me” and skills/experience (at the end)
- Mention other commitments, if any.



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## Recommended materials:

- **Official student guide by Google**
- **Unofficial GSOC FAQs by Himanshu Mishra(MA'19):**  
<https://github.com/OrkoHunter/gsoc-FAQs>
- **Dr. Chris Rackauckas (MIT), Julia -**  
<https://www.stochasticlifestyle.com/tips-google-summer-code-application/>
- **GSOC: HOW? THIS? THAT? at**  
<https://thealphadollar.me/experience/2018/12/03/how-i-prepared-for-gsoc-18.html>



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**GSOC history from  
IIT Kharagpur**



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## KGPians in GSOC

**2016 - 15**

**2017 - 31**

**2018 - 22**

**2019 - 19**

**2020 - 9**

**2021 - 17**

**2022+ - Data not released**

**For more info : [metakgp.org/w/GSoC](https://metakgp.org/w/GSoC)**

# GSOC Stories

# Blast from the past : )

Hello, I am first year undergrad and I am quite an enthusiast for GSoc in the field of web dev. I started some of learning just after my ADV exam and followed a udemy course. But now ,after completing the course long ago I am getting demotivated as to what's the next step, what to learn next, from where to learn and who's there for help and this sem being online I am not getting enough contact of seniors. I even participated in the KWOC KOSS event but due to the newly started classes could not contribute much to it. I feel as I want to talk to someone about what I know and some cool stuff but I am not that community. I don't know how will I get a reply to this message of mine so I am dropping my mail : [REDACTED]@gmail.com Hoping a response from a senior soon.

# **Q / A**

# Thank You!



Please give us your valuable feedback :)