

This guide covers everything you need to know about the **GirlScript Summer of Code (GSSoC)**, a 3-month long open-source program that helps students and beginners dive into the world of open source.

Program Overview

GSSoC is an online, global program that brings together students (Contributors), experienced developers (Mentors), and project owners (Project Admins). Unlike Google Summer of Code (GSoC), GSSoC is **beginner-friendly** and does not require a complex project proposal to get started.

- **Duration:** 3 Months (Typically May–August or Oct–Nov).
 - **Eligibility:** Open to all genders, students, and professionals globally.
 - **Goal:** To help beginners learn Git, GitHub, and contribute to real-world projects.
-

The Step-by-Step Process

1. Registration Phase

Generally happening in **February/March** (or late summer for the extended edition), you apply by filling out a contributor form on the official GSSoC website. You'll need to provide your GitHub and LinkedIn profiles.

2. Community Bonding Period

Once selected, you are invited to the **Discord Server**.

- **Workshops:** Mentors host sessions on Git, GitHub, and how to find issues.
- **Networking:** You get to interact with Project Admins and fellow contributors to understand the available projects.

3. Contribution Period (The Coding Phase)

This is the core of the program.

- **Explore Projects:** Browse the 100+ projects on the GSSoC website. Projects range from Web Dev (MERN, Django) to AI/ML and App Dev.
- **Find Issues:** Look for issues labeled with #GSSoC25 or specifically Level 1, Level 2, etc.
- **Request Assignment:** Comment on an issue to ask the Project Admin to assign it to you. **Crucial:** Never work on an issue that hasn't been officially assigned to you.
- **Solve & Submit:** Fork the repo, make changes, and raise a **Pull Request (PR)**.

4. Review & Leaderboard

Once your PR is reviewed by a Mentor or Project Admin:

- **Merged:** Your code is integrated into the project.
- **Points Awarded:** Your points automatically update on the GSSoC Leaderboard.

Points and Scoring System

GSSoC uses a gamified system to keep contributors motivated. Points are awarded based on the difficulty level of the issue:

Difficulty Level	Points Awarded	Description
Level 1 (Easy)	3 Points	Typos, documentation, or minor UI tweaks.
Level 2 (Medium)	7 Points	Bug fixes or small feature enhancements.
Level 3 (Hard)	10 Points	Complex logic, major features, or refactoring.

Perks and Rewards

- **Certificates:** All active contributors receive a certificate of participation.
- **Badges:** Digital badges for hitting milestones (e.g., "Explorer" or "Top Contributor").
- **Goodies:** Top-ranked participants on the leaderboard receive swags like t-shirts, stickers, and other cool tech goodies.
- **Career Opportunities:** Top performers often get prioritized for internships with partner organizations.



Pro-Tips for Success

1. **Communicate Early:** If you're stuck, ask in the project's Discord channel or GitHub discussion.
2. **Quality over Quantity:** A single high-quality feature (10 points) is often more valuable for your portfolio than three tiny typo fixes (9 points).
3. **Follow Style Guides:** Read the `CONTRIBUTING.md` file in every repository to ensure your code matches the project's standards.
4. **Be Consistent:** Don't wait until the last week. The leaderboard is competitive, and consistent contributors are more likely to get their PRs reviewed.