Living Open Source University (LOSU) - Zambia 2024

Living Open Source University (LOSU) is an initiative of the Living Open Source Foundation. This program offers a free, one-year course to 12 selected students, providing them the opportunity to earn various open source certifications. This document outlines the program details and requirements for applicants.

Program Details
LOSU's one year program is conducted at the LOSU venue in Lusaka, Zambia. Students are expected to attend classes daily and collaborate closely with their peers. The program emphasizes group work and regular class attendance.

A detailed study plan will be provided, and students will utilize the provided course materials for their learning. The program combines self-study with regular mentor guidance. Students will cover the following topics in the order listed, with the opportunity to earn certifications in each:

1. Linux Foundation Certified Associate (LFCA)
2. Linux Foundation Certified System Administrator (LFCS)
3. Kubernetes and Cloud Native Associate (KCNA)
4. Certified Kubernetes Application Developer (CKAD)
5. Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)

Student Requirements
Due to the limited number of slots (12 per year), students must apply and meet the following criteria

Open Source Attitude: Students should embody an open source mindset and, after completing the program, are expected to mentor local groups to help others get certified.
Language Proficiency: Students must be able to communicate in either English or French. As most course materials are in English, a sufficient command of the English language is required.
IT Affinity: Applicants must demonstrate a strong interest in IT, with evidence provided in their application.
Commitment and Motivation: Students must be dedicated to completing the program. During interviews, candidates must explain how they will ensure full dedication throughout the year-long program.
Post-Program Commitment: Upon successful completion, students must commit to mentoring future students for at least two years, without financial compensation.

Student Benefits
Free Course Materials and Certification Vouchers: Students will receive course materials and certification vouchers valued at $3,000.
Introduction to Sponsoring Companies: Students will be introduced to sponsoring companies, which may offer job interviews to participants, significantly enhancing their employment prospects.
Financial Assistance: Students may qualify for financial support during their studies, determined on a case-by-case basis by the LOSU organization.

This initiative aims to cultivate a new generation of open source professionals who will contribute to and expand the open source community in Zambia and beyond.