

General Rules of Operation Policy

Effective Date: June 24, 2024

The following General Rules of Operation Policy applies to projects hosted by LF Charities, Inc. (“LF Charities”).

Projects will engage in the work of the project in a professional manner consistent with maintaining a cohesive community, while also maintaining the goodwill and esteem of LF Charities, its affiliates and other partner organizations in the open source community and respect the rights of all trademark owners, including any branding and trademark usage guidelines.

Contributors, maintainers and other project participants (collectively, “Collaborators”) should allow open participation from any individual or organization meeting the requirements for contributing under the governance documents or policies of the project, regardless of competitive interests. Put another way, the project community must not seek to exclude any participant based on any criteria, requirement, or reason other than those that are reasonable and applied on a non-discriminatory basis to all Collaborators in the project community. Projects will comply with the [Antitrust Policy](#) of LF Charities.

The project will operate in a transparent, open, collaborative, and ethical manner at all times. The output of all project technical discussions, proposals, timelines, decisions, and status should be made open and easily visible to all.

Under no circumstances will LF Charities be expected or required to undertake any action on behalf of the Project that is inconsistent with the tax-exempt charitable status or purpose, as applicable, of LF Charities or of any of its affiliates.

Except for trade or service marks already held by an affiliate of LF Charities and made available under the trademark usage guidelines of such affiliate, (a) LF Charities will hold title to all trade or service marks developed and specifically used for the project (“Project Trademarks”), whether based on common law or registered rights, and (b) Project Trademarks will be transferred and assigned to LF Charities to manage on behalf of the Project. Any use of any Project Trademarks will (a) either be (i) in a way that constitutes fair use or (ii) in accordance with the [trademark usage guidelines](#) of LF Charities and (b) inure to the benefit of LF Charities.

LF Charities will be the registered owner of project code repositories, social media accounts, and domain name registrations created by the project community as part of the project (“Project Accounts,” and, together with “Project Trademarks,” “Project Assets”), for the benefit of the project community.

Each project will operate pursuant to a technical charter or other form of written governance that will specify how technical oversight of a project is structured. Typically, oversight will be through a “steering committee” or similar group, as specified in the applicable charter or governance document. A project may, by vote of at least two-thirds of the voting members of its steering

committee, transfer the project and Project Assets to an alternative project host in compliance with (a) rules regarding transfer of assets from organizations exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States and (b) the terms of any grant agreements with respect to the project then in effect.

Except as otherwise agreed by LF Charities (for example, in cases where a grant provides for a maximum administrative fee on grant monies), funds given to LF Charities as 501(c)(3) contributions for the benefit of any project will be held by The Linux Foundation for the benefit of the project. Such funds will have a G&A fee applied by The Linux Foundation to cover general overhead and administrative costs related to the receipt, processing and disbursement of such funds. The G&A fee will be 9% of funds received by a project through either LF Charities or The Linux Foundation up to \$1 million in a year and 6% on funds received by a project through either LF Charities or The Linux Foundation above \$1 million in a year.