

Google Summer of Code 2026

Contributor Application Template



Thank you for your interest in Catrobat. We are very happy that you want to help us to achieve our vision of providing a free FOSS visual mobile programming framework for beginners. For more information about us visit <https://catrobat.org> or follow our social media channels!

AI tools policy: We explicitly encourage applicants to use AI tools as much as they like (for brainstorming, code generation, refactoring, testing, documentation, and review). We believe this can significantly improve quality and learning when used thoughtfully. You remain fully responsible for the result: correctness, clean code, maintainability, and test quality. Please be prepared to explain and defend your design and tests (e.g., in a short video walkthrough) and do not use AI as a substitute for understanding.

Please read first (important): Catrobat receives many GSoC inquiries and proposals. To keep the process fair and manageable, we cannot provide extensive pre-application hand-holding or rapid back-and-forth Q&A. We therefore prioritize applicants who can make progress independently and demonstrate this, e.g., with a concrete submission.

How we work (agile, prioritization, flexibility): We follow an agile development approach. It is not realistically possible to predict in advance which exact set of features can be completed in 90/175/350 hours by a specific person, because progress depends on many factors (experience, AI tooling, unforeseen technical issues, and often pure chance). Instead, we usually define a prioritized backlog and implement the most valuable user-facing functionality first. If time remains, we continue with the next items in priority order. Priorities may change over time based on what we learn during implementation, and we adjust the plan together.

We would be grateful if you could help us in the proposal selection process by sending us information about your submission and yourself. Please only provide information you feel comfortable sharing with us. Rest assured that we will never pass on this information to anyone outside Catrobat's GSoC selection team.

For your proposal please copy this document and provide answers to the provided questions (Please do not request access to this document - instead please make a copy of it). Feel free to adapt or extend the template, as long as you include all the points mentioned in the original one. Please provide all your answers in English.

Ideas list: <https://developer.catrobat.org/pages/development/google-summer-of-code/2026/>

To apply for some of the project ideas, please complete the associated entry task, if any, and

include the links to the requested demo artifacts in your application (see section 10 below). Entry tasks have on purpose been formulated in a little bit more difficult way so that it's not easy to simply feed the idea into an AI, and let the AI completely answer for you. However, we understand that the time to complete an entry task can be substantial, and we therefore ask you to write down the time you need to finish the entry task. In case your proposal will be accepted, this time to complete the entry task will be subtracted from the number of hours that will be agreed to be completed by you. For substantial proposals that we could not accept, there will be some other way of recompense for you, to be decided.

Thank you, we're looking forward to your proposal!

YOUR PROPOSAL'S TITLE: ____

YOUR FULL NAME: ____

YOUR GSoC DISPLAY NAME: ____

YOUR EMAIL: ____

YOUR GITHUB USERNAME (if available): ____

Number of hours you intend to spend on the project (90, 175, or 350): ____

1. SHORT PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION: Please introduce your proposal in a few sentences. This should comprise at the most four lines of text.

2. GSOC PROPOSAL DATA: Tell us a little bit about you - what you think we should know about you and what would be relevant for GSoC. E.g., about your studies/university, background, interests,... Please just share only things you feel comfortable with. We don't request any private data from you.

3a. In case your proposal relates to Pocket Code: Please install Pocket Code (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.catrobat.catroid>) from Google Play and create a small game with it. Please export it as a .catrobat file and upload this game to a Google drive folder, then share the link to it here. Please make sure the file and folder are publicly available.

3b. In case your proposal relates to marine science or octopus intelligence: Please check out <https://www.octopus-intelligence.org/> and describe shortly which technical aspects of the proposed project ideas, e.g., augmented reality, IoT, or 3D reconstruction of the ocean floor is of interest to you.

4. MOTIVATION: Why are you interested in our project and this specific idea?

5. TEST DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT: In your own words, describe TDD and give one short example of a red→green→refactor cycle you applied (can be from your entry task).

6. EXPERTISE: Please describe your technical expertise relevant to our project.

7. CODE SAMPLES: Please provide a code sample of some program you have written in the past. Either insert some short snippet here (e.g., an interesting method) or link to some public project you contributed to (e.g., your GitHub profile, a pull request from you,...)

8. TOOL CHAIN: Please state your familiarity with development tools that could be relevant to Catrobat (e.g., git, Android Studio, Xcode, Jira, ...)

9. TIME COMMITMENT: Please state for which of the time options (90, 175 or 350 hours) you apply. Additionally, please state for each GSoC month how many hours you will spend working on the project in that month, and whether there will be any planned absences. The number of hours in the months must sum up to the time option you choose. Time commitment expectation: If you apply for a 350-hour project (or 175/90 hours), we expect you to spend the full number of hours on the project during the program. Please do not stop early because you believe “the project is finished”; instead, we continue with the next prioritized work items (additional features, improvements, refactoring, tests, documentation, examples, polish, robustness, etc.) until the agreed hours are completed.

10. PROJECT IDEA SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS: Please provide the links required by your chosen project idea’s entry task / instructions (e.g., fork branch, compare link, GitHub Actions run, local coverage evidence, demo video, AI review transcript). Please also include the number of hours that you invested in the completion of the entry task and all the associated artifacts.

11. COMMENTS: Please state here any other thoughts, ideas, or other feedback you would like to share with us.