



Linux
Professional
Institute

2025

Annual Review



Photo: iStock.com/CatherineHarold



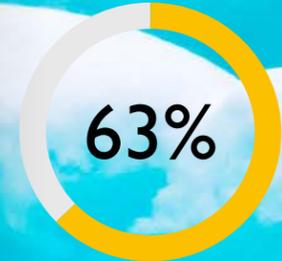
95% of IT professionals said employer-provided training and certification were important in their job choice

- Open Source Professionals Job Survey Report 2025



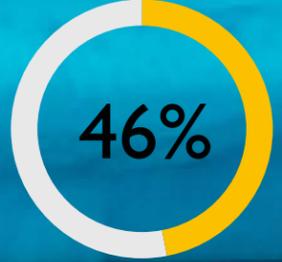
96% of organizations reported increasing or maintaining their use of open source software

- 2025 State of Open Source Report



63% of professionals who earned IT certifications received job promotions or were anticipating one

- Pearson VUE 2025 Value of IT Certification Candidate Report



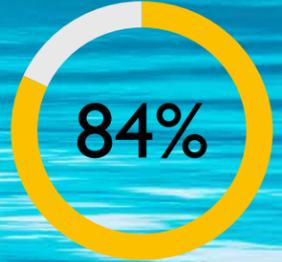
46% of organizations saw increased business value from open source software over the last year

- The State of Global Open Source 2025 Report



Cost reduction is the #1 reason organizations choose open source, regardless of size.

- 2025 State of Open Source Report



84% of IT certification holders say they are likely to pursue another IT certification in the next 12 months.

- Pearson Vue Value of IT Certification Candidate Report 2025

Greetings from the Chair of the Board



2025 has been an outstanding year for LPI.

We successfully launched the heavily revised and updated version 2.0 of the DevOps Tools Engineer certification, marking an important milestone in our commitment to modern, industry-aligned professional development. I am pleased to share that the official Learning Materials for the DevOps 2.0 exam are now available, providing candidates and training partners with high-quality, structured resources from day one.

This year was also special from a governance perspective. We had the honor of electing new directors to the Board, completing a group of 13 members representing diverse nations, cultures, and perspectives. This diversity strengthens our mission and reflects the truly global nature of the open source community we serve.

Looking ahead to 2026, we are excited to announce upcoming updates to the LPIC-2 certification. The exam will feature new objectives aligned with current technologies and professional demands, along with updated Learning Materials to support candidates, educators, and partners worldwide.

We close this year with gratitude, joy, and renewed energy. Together, we continue our work in support of open source, collaboration, and professional excellence—confident that our shared efforts will keep making a meaningful difference in the global community.

Thank you for your continued support and trust in LPI. I am excited about what lies ahead and look forward to working with all of you to shape the future of open source.

Warm regards,



Uirá Ribeiro
Chair of the Board
Linux Professional Institute

Greetings from the Executive Director



Welcome to the 2025 Annual Review of the Linux Professional Institute (LPI). This document is a celebration and recap of our activities and accomplishments throughout 2025. These accomplishments could be achieved only through the efforts of our community of members, volunteers, partners, and staff to fulfill our mission to "promote the use of open source by supporting the people who work with it."

This year saw the update to version 2.0 of the DevOps Tools Engineer certification. We have been hard at work on updates to the LPIC-2 certification and the Linux Essentials certificate, which will be released in 2026.

In early 2025, we launched a digital badging service for our certification holders. This year, we are considering additional badges for volunteers, members, or approved trainers. If you think of areas where digital badging is helpful, please let us know by contacting us at info@lpi.org.

We've also continued our participation in the annual United Nations Hackathon. This will continue into 2026 and should provide some opportunities for volunteers to help out this year.

We've inducted our two co-founders, Dan York and Evan Leibovitch, into our Hall of Fellows, joining Jon "maddog" Hall. The Hall of Fellows has been set up to recognize outstanding contributions to the free and open source communities.

This Annual Review highlights other impressive contributions in 2025, from technical achievements to efforts that have supported community growth and open source adoption worldwide.

Again, thank you for your interest in LPI and the effort we make to encourage people to undertake a career path that includes the use of free and open source software. If you'd like to help us in this effort in some capacity, reach out to us at volunteer@lpi.org. We'll find a way that we can work together to help others discover and learn the value of using open source technologies in their careers and lives.

Best wishes for a successful and safe year ahead.



G. Matthew Rice
Executive Director
Linux Professional Institute

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DevOps 2.0: Major Update to a Major Discipline

In November 2025, Linux Professional Institute (LPI) launched version 2.0 of its DevOps Tools Engineer certification, along with free Learning Materials. This new version is an important update that reflects how DevOps tools and practices have changed over time. Since the first version of the exam was introduced, the way software is built, deployed, and operated has evolved. Version 2.0 provides details about particular tools and matches real-world DevOps roles even better than version 1.0.

Covering the entire lifecycle

“The new DevOps Tools Engineer exam covers the most important methodologies and tools along the entire lifecycle of modern software applications,” says Fabian Thorns, Director of Product Development at LPI. “Today, DevOps is practiced in a wide variety of forms. In all these cases, certain tools have become well established, such as Kubernetes for container orchestration, Git for source code management, and the methodologies of continuous integration and delivery.”

The new version has been thoroughly rethought and rearchitected. “By focusing on container technologies, the exam covers fewer specific technologies than version 1.0, but these are covered in greater depth. This makes exam preparation easier and training more targeted,” explains Thorns.

“A special highlight are the Learning Materials that we are publishing on our Learning platform (learning.lpi.org) at the same time as the exam”, adds Dr. Markus Wirtz, Senior Product Manager at LPI. “The



free Learning Materials are optimized for educational use and consist of explanations and exercises. This is a special offer for teachers, trainers, and lecturers as well as self-learners.”

The exam contains 60 questions that have to be answered in 90 minutes. It will be available in Pearson VUE Test Centers (exam code 701-200) and the OnVUE online proctoring platform (exam code 701-200v). There are no prerequisites for taking the exam. Upon passing the exam, candidates receive the DevOps Tools Engineer version 2.0 certificate. Certificate holders are entitled to become members of LPI.

At launch, the exam is available in English. A Japanese translation is planned for release in 2026. Version 1.0 of the English exam will remain available until June 30, 2026.

Adapting to industry changes

Since the launch of version 1.0 of our certificate in the rather early days of the DevOps movement, the fields of system administration and software development have changed significantly. Best practices have evolved, some technologies became standards for supporting DevOps, and others shifted into the broader admin toolbox.

A prominent example is Ansible. Back in 2018, it was an important “DevOps tool”. Over the years, it became a major tool for most system administration tasks. Similarly, creating virtual machine images and managing traditional virtualization turned out to be a

common operation procedure and less a developer’s duty.

At the same time, containers became the de facto standard for packaging and deploying applications. Today containers, along with their entire ecosystem of tools, are the primary technology used by both developers and operators to support the joint responsibility for developing and delivering software products.

The new exam version puts container technologies at its core, along with all relevant elements of the ecosystem, starting from modern software architectures and source code management all the way up to security and observability.

More information about the new exam is available at lpi.org/our-certifications/devops-overview/. Free Learning Materials can be found at learning.lpi.org/

[en/learning-materials/701-200/](https://learning.lpi.org/en/learning-materials/701-200/).

Looking ahead

The DevOps Tools Engineer version 2.0 reflects LPI’s goal of aligning its certifications with stable, widely used open source technologies and real-world job roles.

In 2026, LPI is also planning to update its Linux Essentials and LPIC-2 exams, continuing its efforts to modernize and improve its certification program.

These significant updates strengthen LPI’s role in supporting open source professionals around the world with practical, relevant, and accessible IT certifications.

Wishing you a fantastic year in FOSS!

“Passing the Linux Professional Institute exam wasn’t just a checkbox for me — it was a personal milestone. It validated all the work I’d been doing on my own and gave me a strong foundation to build upon.”
[Read his story ...](#)

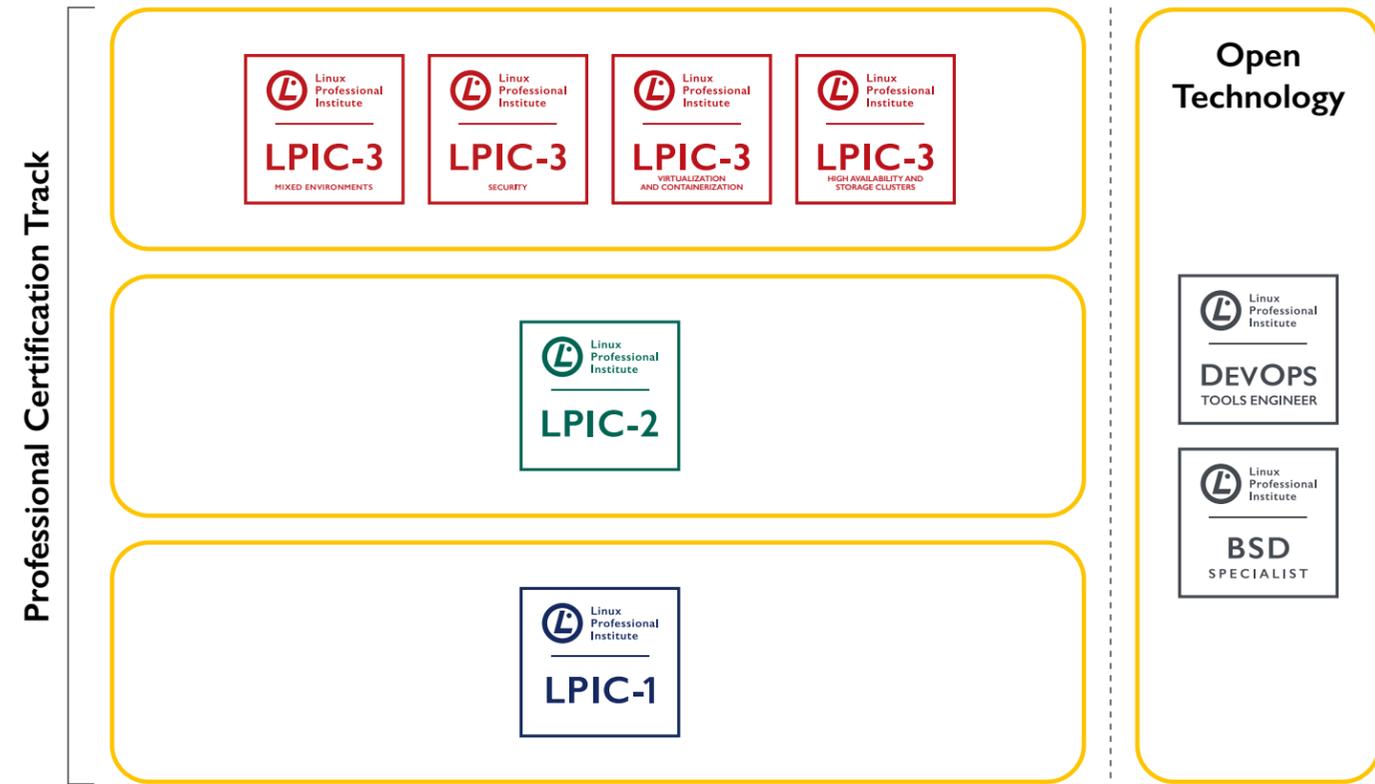
Rodiel Lezcano
Infrastructure Architect, based in Toronto



Certifications

Linux and open source certifications provide a tangible measurement to employers of certification holders' knowledge and capability, allowing professionals to stand out against other job applicants and receive fair compensation for their valuable skill sets. For self-employed Linux and open source professionals, certification clearly signals knowledge and professionalism to clients. Becoming certified can improve upon existing skills and create a more thorough understanding of Linux. Linux Professional Institute currently offers vendor-neutral Linux, BSD, and DevOps certifications.

Updates for Linux Essentials and LPIC-2 are currently in development to include the most recent state-of-the-art technologies. The releases are planned for 2026.



Certificates

Linux Professional Institute (LPI) Essentials certificates help individuals new to computer technology discover opportunities in IT with an internationally recognized credential.

Supported by free LPI Learning Materials, studying for the Essentials certificates enables students, professionals, and tech enthusiasts to solidify their knowledge and pave the way for a more robust career and education in technology.

Essentials certificates currently cover Linux, Security, Web Development, and Open Source. LPI aims to expand development of the Essentials track to cover all major disciplines in IT, with a special focus on relevant, cutting-edge industry needs and open source technologies.

Educational
Certificates



[Start your Essentials journey](#)



“LPI Linux Essentials certificate laid the groundwork for more advanced studies in Linux and operating systems and empowered me to think critically about implementing efficient and effective solutions in my projects.”

[Read his story ...](#)

Kevin Aguirre
Developer and Linux enthusiast

DevOps Tools Engineer 2.0

Businesses across the globe are increasingly implementing DevOps practices to optimize daily systems administration and software development tasks. As a result, organizations are hiring IT professionals who can effectively apply DevOps to reduce delivery time and improve quality in the development of new software products.

To meet this growing need for qualified professionals, Linux Professional Institute (LPI) developed the Linux Professional Institute DevOps Tools Engineer certification, which verifies the skills needed to use the tools that enhance collaboration in workflows throughout system administration and software development.

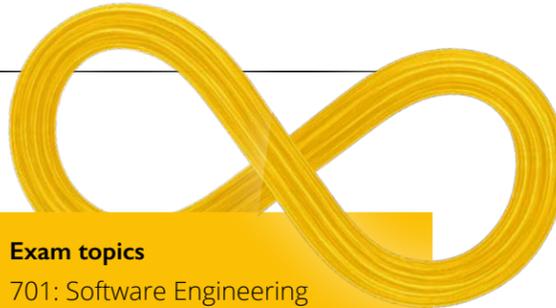
In developing the Linux Professional Institute DevOps Tools Engineer certification, now in version 2.0, LPI reviewed the DevOps tools landscape and defined a set of essential skills required to apply DevOps. The certification exam validates those practical skills, focusing on the most prominent open source DevOps tools. It covers the intersection between development and operations, making it relevant for all IT professionals working in the field of DevOps.

For more information, please visit:
www.lpi.org/our-certifications/devops-overview/

“As my passion for IT grew, I realized I wanted to turn it into a career. Certifications became the logical next step. Among the many options, LPI certifications stood out for their alignment with my values.”

[Read his story ...](#)

Daniele Sconda
IT systems administrator
Flero, Italy



Exam topics

701: Software Engineering

702: Application Container

703: Kubernetes

704: Security and Observability

Exam code: 701-200

Languages available: English

Validity period: 5 years



Online Exams

Linux Professional Institute offers its Essentials and LPIC track exams online via the [Pearson VUE OnVUE](#) testing system. All exams can be taken in English online. Linux Essentials, Web Development Essentials, LPIC-1, LPIC-2, LPIC-3, and DevOps exams have been translated into additional languages.

While LPI exams have traditionally been held physically on-site, online proctoring has opened up LPI certifications to candidates who are geographically isolated or don't have physical access to test sites for other reasons. During the online exam, a live proctor monitors candidates through the webcam on their workstation to provide a secure exam experience.

For more information, visit: <https://www.lpi.org/online-testing>.



Learning Materials

Linux Professional Institute Learning Materials break down objectives from LPI certification exams into 1-2 hour lessons. Each lesson includes relevant assignments and an answer guide. The format of LPI Learning Materials easily translates to classroom environments and provides structure for independent students.

Thanks to the efforts of more than 65 professionals from all over the world, free Learning Materials are available for Essentials certificates in Linux, Security, Web Development, and Open Source, in addition to LPIC-1 and the newly updated DevOps certification. The Learning Materials are available online at <https://learning.lpi.org/>



New translations were created for Vietnamese, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, French, and Hungarian! Check out the Learning Portal to explore. Language availability varies between resources.

Learning Material Translations

It is important to us that the knowledge required for Linux Professional Institute exams be accessible to as many people as possible. The best way to do this is to make study materials available in the native language of candidates. That is why LPI collaborates with many volunteers to translate our Learning Materials into as many languages as possible.

Linux Essentials and Web Development Essentials Learning Materials are available in more than 10 languages. For more details on available translations and materials for Security Essentials, Open Source Essentials, LPIC-1, and DevOps, visit: <https://learning.lpi.org/en/about/translations/>

Exam	Linux Essentials	Security Essentials	Web Development Essentials	Open Source Essentials
Exam Code	010	020	030	050
Version	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
English				
Bosnian / Croatian				
French				
German				
Greek				
Hungarian				
Italian				
Japanese				
Polish				
Portuguese				
Spanish				
Turkish				
Ukrainian				
Vietnamese				

The tables below give you an overview of the availability of our exams and Learning Materials.

	The exam can be taken in this language.
	The Learning Materials are completely available.
	The Learning Materials are still in development, but parts have already been published.

Lessons 1361	Authors 70	Lines 681150	Commits 7742
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Translations are a great first step into the LPI community.

If you know the technical background of one of our exams, and you want to translate the Learning Materials into your language, write an email to learning@lpi.org and join our network of contributors!

Approved Trainers

Linux Professional Institute actively supports educators who help cultivate and guide our FOSS community. The LPI Approved Trainer program helps Linux educators demonstrate their credibility with endorsement from LPI (such as use of an LPI Approved Trainer logo). LPI Members with professional levels of certification (such as LPIC-1) are eligible to apply by submitting a CV or LinkedIn profile and a video submission of the applicant teaching material from the LPI certification track.

For more information on the prerequisites and how you can apply, visit us at: <https://www.lpi.org/become-trainer>

Approved Trainers

Trainers approved by Linux Professional Institute benefit from:



- Access to all Member benefits
- Access to updates about certifications and materials
- Use of the LPI Approved Trainer logo
- Downloadable
- Discounts available for their students
- Dedicated area on [discuss.lpi.org](https://www.lpi.org/discuss)

25 Approved Trainers and counting!

Join the feedback committee in 2026 for Professional Development Units (PDUs)! Let us know how we can:

- Better support you as an Approved Trainer.
- Involve you in the selection process for future Approved Trainers.
- Integrate your thoughts on policy decisions.



Rodolfo Saenz
FOSS advocate
Can be reached at rsaenz@phoenixitdev.com

“Becoming an LPI Approved Trainer was the cherry on top of my professional journey. It motivates me to continue inspiring others through the power of Linux and open source. Today, I work as a trainer. Seeing my students succeed and knowing I’ve made a difference in their lives is incredibly fulfilling.”

[Read his story ...](#)

Membership Program

LPI Membership has enabled 500+ open source professionals pursue career objectives by helping candidates get the most out of their LPI certification. In addition to providing discounts and exclusive soft skill resources, LPI Membership offers candidates the option of accruing Professional Development Units (PDUs) as an alternative way to maintain the active status of their certification. To learn more about our LPI Membership Program, visit: <https://www.lpi.org/member>

PDUs allow LPI Members to use work and volunteer experience to prove an understanding of cutting-edge Linux technologies, in place of renewing their certification every five years. Listed below are some of the most popular PDU activities supported by LPI:



Attending Courses



Working in an area related to your certification



Achieving an additional certification from another organization

More than 3660+ PDUs processed to increase the value of certification!

“LPIC-1 and LPIC-2 provided the foundational pillars, specifically mastery in regular expressions, that I now leverage for Kubernetes and observability. These core Linux skills have made me a more competitive professional, capable of delivering high-impact value as I prepare for LPIC-3.”

[Read his story ...](#)

Diego Zúñiga
Telecommunications and Networking Engineer



Partner Programs



ACADEMIC PARTNER

Train and certify students in Linux, open source skills in your schools, technical centers, polytechnics, or universities.



TRAINING PARTNER

Strengthen your corporate learning offering with an education package that includes LPI's international certification.



PUBLISHING PARTNER

Have published LPI exam materials promoted to our partners in academia and IT training, and be featured on our website.



SOLUTION PROVIDER

Implement open source solutions (software/hardware) to accelerate digital transformation—powered by LPI-certified talent.



COMMUNITY PARTNER

Join hundreds of LPI community partners. Share best practices, real-world experiences through in-person and online events.



CHANNEL PARTNER

Activate and manage LPI partners (Training, Academic, Solution Provider) to build a strong, scalable, and sustainable ecosystem.



HIRING PARTNER

Connect with certified talent: access our geo-referenced database by certification level (optional, with no personal data visible).



MISSION SUPPORTER

Access community, services, recognition, and marketing for a global network of 500,000+ IT professionals (350,000+ certified).

Become a Partner



Discover 400+ Partners in more than 80 countries

Linux Professional Institute (LPI) created the Become a Partner portal as the main gateway for organizations to apply and become official LPI Partners. Partners gain access to comprehensive Linux and open source training programs, educational materials, industry insights, increased credibility and market presence, and a vibrant FOSS community network. Our Partner Programs include: **Academic Partner** (designed for schools, institutes, polytechnics, universities), **Training Partner** (for corporate/private training centers), **Solution Provider** (IT consulting firms delivering Linux/open source solutions), and **Channel Partner** (organizations activating and managing LPI leads/partners).

Organizations aiming to lead Linux and open source adoption, attract students or clients, and accelerate impact with support from a global, vendor-neutral, nonprofit organization like LPI are encouraged to apply to help build the future of open source talent.



Scan to learn more!

[Academic Partners](#)

[Training Partners](#)

[Channel Partners](#)

[Solution Providers](#)

Partnering Activities

In 2025, the LPI Partnering team reinforced LPI's role in public policy and digital transformation through agreements with governments, multilateral organizations, and key open source ecosystem partners.

Governments

Strategic partners from state-level governments in South America and Europe launched projects to strengthen local talent through training and certification delivered in collaboration with LPI Partners, including Academic and Training Partners, as well as Solution Provider Partners whose teams are certified at the highest levels of the LPI certification program.

Multilateral allies

In 2025, LPI signed strategic alliances with international organizations aligned with LPI's mission.

- United Nations – Digital and Emerging Technologies – Open Source Office
- OpenForum Europe (OFE)
- ESOP – Portuguese Association of Open Source Software Companies
- GFOSS – Greek Free/Open Source Software Society
- OSI - Open Source Initiative
- APELL - European Open Source Software Business Association



Dr. Arnulfo Treviño Cubero, Director of the Faculty of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering at UANL University, Dr. Betsabé Rocha Nieto, Secretary of Economy of the State of Nuevo León, and Hernan Pachas Magallanes, Global Head of Partnerships at LPI, in Mexico.

Academia

Driven by growing market demand for open-source-certified professionals, LPI expanded into Scandinavia, France, and the Middle East in 2025 through brand new partnerships with educational institutions. Universities across the Americas integrated LPI certifications into their curricula, empowering instructors as coaches and enabling students to graduate with internationally recognized in-demand Linux and open source credentials.

Through Channel Partners, LPI also strengthened sustainable ecosystems in Panama, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Kenya, Brazil, Germany, and Spain. LPI, together with its partners, advanced Linux and open source across education, industry, and government—supporting merit-based ecosystems and expanding opportunities for individuals and communities.

LPI representatives, including Board Chair Emeritus Jon "maddog" Hall, and partners at the United Nations Open Source Week 2025 in New York.

Partnering Activities

Participation by LPI and its channel partners in events across the Americas, EMEA and APAC has encouraged more public and private organizations to join those ecosystems.

Industry

Linux Professional Institute enabled the broader tech ecosystem by connecting companies, industry associations, and channel partners with certification and talent-development programs. In 2025, LPI signed agreements with leading SME players to advance open source projects. In South America, we partnered with financial institutions to help SMEs obtain credit for open source initiatives delivered through LPI Solution Providers.



Javier Domínguez, CEO of PUE Academy, and Hernan Pachas Magallanes from LPI in Madrid, Spain.

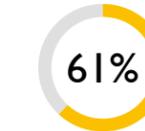


Jared Plumb, Director for Software Engineering at WGU University, US, and LPI's Hernan in New York.

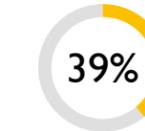
Key numbers



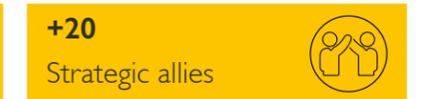
Partner Support Satisfaction Index, including high-quality post-sales service, timely response, and reliable technical and sales support >92%



Exams delivered through our Partners



Exams delivered through Pearson VUE Marketplace



In 2025, LPI's global commercial team:

- Consolidated alliances with governments and international organizations that position open source as a pillar of sovereignty and digital transformation.
- Strengthened a global academic network that integrates LPI certification into educational programs and employability projects.
- Enabled an industrial and partner ecosystem that connects banks, IT solution providers, business associations, and training channels around LPI certification.

Together, these achievements provide a solid foundation to scale a broader B2B strategy in 2026, with a clear focus on measurable impact on talent, ecosystems, and public policy.

Volunteer Programs



Authors

Volunteer authors from many different regions of the world share their open source success stories, experiences, and tips with the readers of the LPI blog at <https://www.lpi.org/blog>.

Many volunteers around the world are involved with Linux Professional Institute. They make LPI stronger and root it firmly in the community.



Booth Buddies

Our Booth Buddies act as important representatives of LPI and the Linux community. Booth volunteers provide assistance and support at community events. To help at community events, contact us at volunteer@lpi.org.



Translators

LPI translations are made possible through international volunteers. Thanks to community support, the LPI website is now available in ten languages. Our exams can be taken in English, German, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazilian), Chinese, and Spanish.

Translations are required for website content, technical articles, brochures, social media, our blog, news, and events. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, contact us at volunteer@lpi.org.

Volunteer Programs



Exam Development Team Members

The exam development team is always looking for additional help in creating, reviewing, and translating the exam content to ensure that questions are correct, current, and fair. Your valuable contributions can help challenge question choices and improve the experience of future Linux users taking our exam.

Contact us at volunteer@lpi.org to become involved in the future of LPI certification.



Learning Materials Team Members

Learning Materials are continuously expanded and updated by a worldwide community of Linux and open source users. Volunteers are needed to help author, review, and translate the Learning Materials.

Contact us at learning@lpi.org to help improve freely available education in Linux.



Committee Members

LPI has a variety of committees on which members collaborate on projects with like-minded individuals and provide LPI with important feedback and guidance. Committee members have the opportunity to propose new ideas that can be supported by LPI.

For more information on how you can become involved, visit <https://www.lpi.org/committees>.

Events

Throughout 2025, LPI continued to expand its engagement with developers in the FOSS community through events. LPI has experienced tremendous growth in virtual event hosting and partnership. Some successes include:

<p>LPI supported more than 43 events from January - December 2025.</p>				
Japan	Mexico	Germany		
France	Poland	Spain	Philippines	Bulgaria
India	Spain	Italy	Germany	United States
Brazil	United States	Austria	Thailand	Belgium

Software Freedom Day 2025

Linux Professional Institute (LPI) played a key role in the remarkable success of Software Freedom Day 2025, supporting a community-led effort that more than doubled its reach compared to the year before. By working closely with local organizers and partners, LPI helped make SFD25 a real example of what passionate free and open source communities can achieve when they collaborate. This partnership has already created a strong foundation for continued work beyond 2025. In FOSS, community is not just a slogan—it's a mindset that drives lasting, shared success.



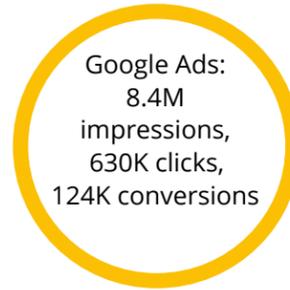
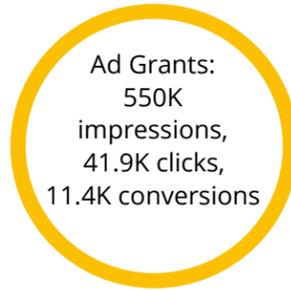
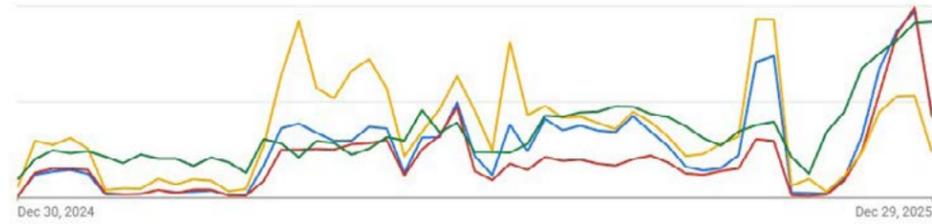
“The LPIC-1 certification was a game-changer for me. The certification helped me formalize my knowledge, understand Linux at a deeper level, and apply those skills in real-world environments.”
[Read his story..](#)



Moreno Razzoli
Linux Educator
Morrolinux, Italy



Marketing and Social Media



SEO improvements:
7.95M impressions and 304K clicks
in organic Google Search, 3.3M pageviews

296K social media followers,
1.4K posts published,
4.9% engagement rate

170K website visits due to the LPI25 campaign,
37.5K from the DevOps 2.0 campaign

13M organic impressions, 77K reactions,
81K clicks, 9K shares and 2.2K comments
on social media

51M paid impressions and 977K clicks on Meta,
4.9M paid impressions and 28.9K clicks on LinkedIn

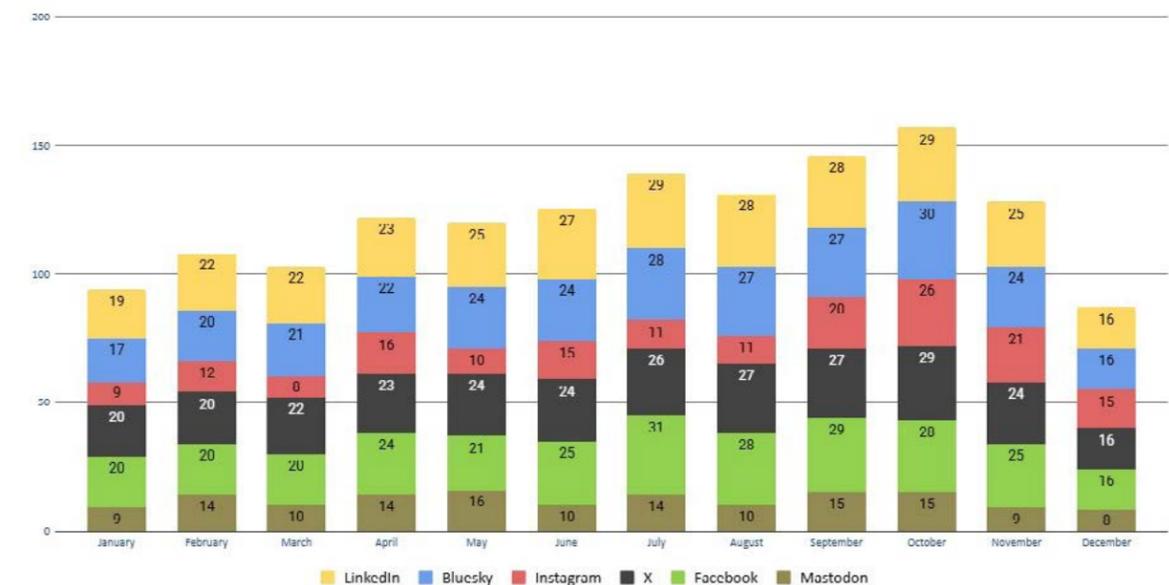
Published 268 articles on our website,
which generated 98K pageviews
within their first 30 days

Marketing and Social Media



The number of posts grew about 45% from 1,008 in 2024 to 1,460 in 2025.

Month	Posts
January	94
February	108
March	103
April	122
May	120
June	125
July	139
August	131
September	146
October	157
November	128
December	87



Open Source Software Used at LPI



BigBlueButton

[BigBlueButton](#)

Conference software with a chatbox, optional video calling, recording, and screenshare.



Nextcloud

[Nextcloud](#)

Cloud storage. Securely share documents with a team.



[Mindmap](#)

Mind-map creation tool for visualizing and planning projects.



[OmegaT](#)

Translation Memory tool intended for professional translators. Includes auto-complete and extensive glossaries.



Mailman

Manages electronic mail discussion and e-newsletter lists.



MariaDB

Open source database management with options for high availability and cloud support.



[Discourse](#)

Forum management software. Used to run <https://discuss.lpi.org>.



[Odoo](#)

ERP platform.



“The LPIC-I certification was a turning point. It reminded me that continuous learning is critical, even after years in the industry.”

[Read his story ...](#)

Taymour Elerian
Solutions Architect/IT mentor

Open Source Software Used at LPI



[OBS Software](#)

Streams meetings and webinars on platforms such as Facebook and YouTube.



[Bluespice](#)

A derivative of MediaWiki, the basis of Wikipedia. Wiki platform used at LPI to run our intranet operatives.



[Weblate](#)

Used for internal infrastructure and tools development.



[ASCIIDoctor](#)

Text editor that converts AsciiDoc to formats such as PDF and HTML5. Simplifies software documentation.



[Docker](#)

Container management. Containers are a single package containing all libraries and dependencies needed to run software.



[Debian](#)

A distribution of Linux OS used throughout the internal infrastructure at LPI.



[OpenVPN](#)

Secure Virtual Private Network software.



[LimeSurvey](#)

Questionnaire and survey builder.



[Git](#)

Software for tracking changes in source code.



[GitLab](#)

An open source DevOps platform. Used for projects completed by our Product Development team.



[WordPress](#)

Content hosting software that powers roughly 43% of all sites on the web - including lpi.org.



[Mastodon](#)

Ad-free open source social media platform.



[OpenProject](#)

Team project management software. Supports agile, classic, and hybrid project strategy tracking.



[Mattermost](#)

Chat client software for internal and partner communication.



[Hugo](#)

Static website generator.

Board of Directors

Linux Professional Institute (LPI) would like to thank its Board of Directors, who continue to guide its mission to promote the use of open source by supporting the people who work with it:



Uirá Ribeiro (Chair)

Prof. Uirá Ribeiro is the Board Chair of LPI and a Senior C-Level executive with a solid background in Information Technology, Software Development, and Internet Architecture Engineering. He served as the headmaster of a Brazilian university for over 15 years.

Uirá holds a master's degree in Informatics and a bachelor's degree in Data Processing, along with 15 IT certifications. He has written 11 books in English, Portuguese, Spanish, and Italian, and is the CEO and founder of Linux Certification Edutech. For 15 years, he has taught Linux online classes, with more than 14,000 certified students.



Brian Clemens (Vice-Chair)

Brian Clemens is a founder and the Vice President of the Rocky Enterprise Software Foundation, as well as a founder and Program Manager of Rocky Linux. His interest and experience with Linux and FOSS began with Fedora Core 4, and he has since championed FOSS across a wide range of organizations. Since cofounding Rocky Linux in 2020, he has worked full-time exclusively in open source.

Having held a diverse range of IT roles, from running cable to supporting multinational telecom infrastructure deployments, he brings a broad breadth of experience and understanding to the organizations he serves.



Simone Davide Bertulli

Simone Davide Bertulli is a cybersecurity professional with more than eight years of experience working in the Cyber Defence Center of a major Italian oil and gas company. For the past three years, Simone has also been active in the telecommunications field.

Simone has written several articles for the LPI blog, including contributions to the Security Essentials and LPI Membership Journey series. In addition, Simone has experience as a technical reviewer for manuals and training courses, covering both IT security and infrastructure-related areas. Simone is also an LPI Approved Trainer.

Board of Directors



Henrietta Dombrovskaya

Henrietta Dombrovskaya is a database researcher and practitioner with more than 40 years of experience. While databases have always been her passion, her encounter with PostgreSQL in 2011 opened a new chapter in her career. After discovering the power and driving force of free and open source software (FOSS), she gradually transitioned from a user to an advocate, donor, and educator.

At present, Hettie is a Database Architect at DRW Holdings in Chicago, IL, where she is responsible for all PostgreSQL-related initiatives within the organization. She is also a PostgreSQL contributor.



Werner Fischer

Werner Fischer has been a passionate Linux user for more than two decades. In the early 2000s, he studied computer and media security at the University of Applied Sciences in Hagenberg, Austria.

Werner later joined the German server company Thomas-Krenn, where over the past 20 years he has worked in a wide range of roles. His work has included developing virtualized Linux high-availability clusters, managing web operations and knowledge transfer teams, and building the publicly accessible Thomas-Krenn Wiki. Werner is the first LPI Approved Trainer in Austria.



Tiago Felipe Gonçalves

Tiago Felipe Gonçalves is a Senior Network Engineer with a 24-year career deeply rooted in Linux and open source technologies. An Italo-Brazilian professional currently based in the Netherlands, he brings a global perspective to the open source community, shaped by his work across multiple regions.

Tiago holds more than 44 professional certifications, including the complete Linux track (LPIC-1, LPIC-2, LPIC-3 Virtualization and Containerization, and BSD Specialist). He is fluent in Portuguese, English, and Italian, with elementary proficiency in Spanish and Dutch.

Board of Directors



Dorothy Gordon

Dorothy Gordon is a global leader in the field of technology and development with a special focus on Africa. She works to bring about greater engagement and action on policy, implementation, and evaluation issues relating to the impact of technology on society.

Dorothy is the current Chair of the Inter-Governmental Council for UNESCO's Information for All Programme with a mandate to build a more inclusive Knowledge Society. As the founding Director-General of the Ghana-India Kofi Annan Centre of Excellence in ICT, she ensured that its backend systems run exclusively on FOSS technologies.



Klaus Knopper

Klaus Knopper is an Electrical Engineer with over 30 years of experience in Unix and Linux systems. He is best known as the creator of Knoppix, a pioneering live CD Linux distribution.

Klaus is a professor of Software Engineering, IT Security, and Informatics at the University of Applied Sciences Kaiserslautern in Germany, where he also serves as Vice President for Digitalization. A long-time open source contributor, he cofounded the LinuxTag conference and is a frequent international speaker. In addition, Klaus works as a self-employed software developer and consultant.



Ted Matsumura

Ted Matsumura has worked in the tech industry since the mid-1980s and with Linux and FOSS since the mid-1990s. As a product manager, he has promoted Linux and FOSS at both startups and larger companies, including Intel, Packet Engines, and Penguin Computing.

Ted Matsumura contributed to Crouton, which enables Linux to run on Chromebooks, and worked with developers to create the first Gigabit Ethernet Linux drivers. Ted has taught Linux and computer science as an adjunct professor, and currently works on secure cloud environments and DevSecOps at a multinational firm.

Board of Directors



Michinori Nakahara

Michinori Nakahara spent over 33 years at IBM-Japan in various leadership positions, specializing in the Asia-Pacific region. He then served as Chief Training Officer for a Tokyo-based open source software start-up. In November 2022, he became Japan General Manager for AutoGrid Systems.

Having worked in Japan, studied in both Japan and the United States, and worked closely with US and European IT companies, he brings a unique and varied perspective to the Linux and open source community as a member of the LPI's Board of Directors.



Ricardo Prudenciano

Ricardo Prudenciano has built his career entirely around Linux and open source technologies, focusing primarily on systems support and administration.

Over the past 20 years, Ricardo Prudenciano has progressed through nearly every stage of a Linux professional's career—from intern to senior roles—leading and coordinating teams along the way.

He has also published courses on Introduction to GNU/Linux, Shell Script Programming, and preparation for LPIC-1 and LPIC-2 certifications, reaching over 38,000 students.



Jill Ratkevic

Jill's first "Silicon Valley job" was for the very first open source embedded Linux company. She has advocated for open source at Capitol Hill on behalf of Sun's Scott McNealy and Java's James Gosling. Her journey has spanned from advocacy in 1999 to being central to the SCO v. IBM lawsuit as a ZDNet reporter. This career has brought Jill the fortune of being sought out by CEOs from Sun to Salesforce and many others now undergoing a revamp.

Jill is happy to support the community after 25 years, moving from foundation to enforcement. She calls for

Board of Directors



Thiago Sobral

Thiago Sobral has been working with Linux, as well as free and open source software, since 1998. He began working as a hardware intern, then became an ANSI C programmer in Linux. He has worked for small and large enterprises and is a former employee of Conectiva, Red Hat, and SUSE, where he was able to experience and understand the needs and values of enterprise open source.

Today, he is a Global Offering Manager for Open Source at IBM. He is heavily involved in various communities around the world.



Jon "maddog" Hall (Chair Emeritus)

Jon "maddog" Hall is the Board Chair Emeritus of Linux Professional Institute. He is a programmer, systems designer, systems administrator, product manager, technical marketing manager, author and educator, since 1969.

Hall helped formulate some of the concepts of LPI and donated personal money to allow the first 200 tests to be administered for psychometric purposes. He has traveled the world speaking on the benefits of open source software. For his contribution to LPI and the FOSS community, he became the first person to be inducted in the LPI Hall of Fellows.

Check out the LPI Board Election Process:

<https://www.lpi.org/elections/2025/>



Hall of Fellows

The Linux Professional Institute (LPI) Hall of Fellows recognizes people who have made long-term and meaningful contributions to the free and open source software (FOSS) community and to LPI. The Hall of Fellows serves as a permanent record of their work, documenting their achievements for future generations of FOSS users.

In 2025, two more well-known open source advocates, Evan Leibovitch and Dan York, were inducted into the LPI Hall of Fellows. Evan and Dan are among the cofounders of LPI and collaborated to set the scope of LPI's work prior to its founding. They joined Jon "maddog" Hall, LPI Board Chair Emeritus, who was the first person ever to receive this honor.

Evan Leibovitch served as Director of Community Relations for LPI. He has been a strong supporter of open computing and open source for many years. Evan was the first Linux-specific columnist at ZDNet and has participated in numerous conferences, nonprofit organizations, policy initiatives, and white papers throughout his illustrious career.

While working for the United Nations refugee agency UNHCR, Evan helped bring Internet access and job opportunities to refugee centres in Egypt, Uganda, and Kenya. He also cofounded and became the first president of the Internet Society's Canada Chapter, and served as the first Chair of ICANN's North American At-Large Advisory Body.

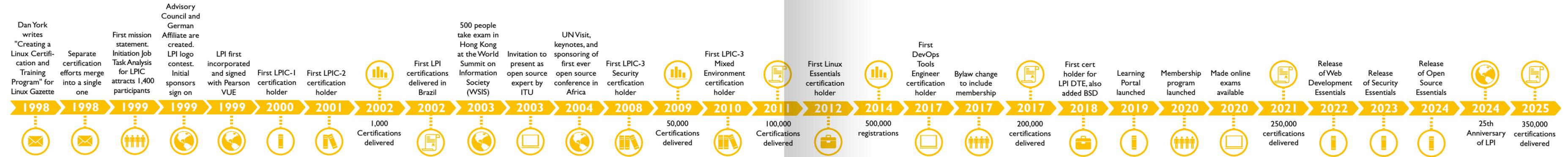
Dan York served as LPI's first President. He was a board member of Linux International from 2001 to 2005 and helped found the VoIP Security Alliance (VOIPSA) in 2005. In the late 1990s and 2000s, Dan was deeply involved in Linux user groups and the wider open source movement.

Since 2011, Dan has worked at the Internet Society. His previous role involved documenting Internet shutdowns, analyzing Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites, promoting the use of open standards, and building stronger and more sustainable technical communities. Dan has also written several books on Linux, networking, security, and IPv6.

To learn more, visit our Hall of Fellows:
www.lpi.org/hall-of-fellows



History



History

How LPI filled the certification gap for FOSS

For many years, without interacting, computer certifications were on the rise while the movement for free and open source software was making inroads.

The entry of Linux into mission-critical applications and corporate environments in the late 1990s changed the equation, offering good reason to create certifications for open source software.

These pages lay out the history of Linux Professional Institute, which broke new ground by offering vendor-independent certifications in Linux and open source.

In the beginning...

In 1998, two separate community efforts were addressing the dearth of Linux support in professional settings. If a company chose to deploy Linux, how would an IT manager find qualified people to install, maintain, and support it? At the time, there were a large number of certification programs for Microsoft Windows systems, providing guidelines for companies trying to understand someone's expertise with Windows. Could there be some similar kind of certification program for Linux?

Red Hat started to develop its own certification

for its Linux distribution. Several other distribution vendors started to publicly discuss creating their own certifications. The fragmentation of these corporate efforts prompted some people within the Linux community to express concern that we might wind up with multiple limited Linux certifications that wouldn't advance the deployment of Linux as much as a common certification.

In October 1998, Dan York published in the Linux Gazette an article calling for a community Linux certification program, resulting in an active community discussion group. Dan would go on

to write a series of articles that were noticed by Linuxcare, a startup offering Linux support. Linuxcare contacted Dan and employed him to build the certification program ultimately offered by LPI.

Meanwhile, a separate discussion led by Evan Leibovitch at the Canadian Linux Users Exchange promoted a similar initiative. Jon "maddog" Hall, President of Linux International, who knew both Evan and Dan, introduced them, and they merged their efforts into a single project to create a community-based Linux certification program. The agreed objective

was to take a different path from most IT certifications of the day, by being:

- non-profit
- neutral with regard to vendors, open source operating systems, and software distributions
- opposed to using certification as a tool to sell "official training"
- psychometrically validated
- multilingual and globally accessible

Making it happen

By the spring of 1999, the certification effort caught the attention of Benoy Tamang at Caldera,

a Linux distributor, who was considering launching their own independent certification program. Benoy brought Dan and Evan to meet with Caldera and make a pitch for funding. The day before the pitch—April 4, 1999—Dan and Evan ducked into the single meeting room of the La Quinta Inn in Orem, Utah, and designed the three-tier program now known as Linux Professional Institute Certification. Caldera liked what they saw the next day and decided to cancel their own certification program in favor of becoming LPI's first corporate sponsor. Soon other sponsors, including IBM and SUSE, came on board. Next, a team needed to be formed. Dan and Evan

History

were joined by community members Charles “Scudder” Mead and Tom Peters. Rounding out the initial team was Scott Murray, a psychometrician who would ensure that the effort’s exams could be scientifically validated and uphold a high standard of quality. These five were the original incorporators of LPI.

The non-profit was officially incorporated in the province of New Brunswick, Canada, because Canada was considered to be politically neutral and New Brunswick was one of the few jurisdictions that allowed virtual board meetings in 1999.

Many in the Linux community liked the program that LPI was proposing - including Jon “maddog” Hall, who became the first Platinum Individual Charter Sponsor by contributing 1,000 USD of his own money so LPI could deliver its first 200 tests.

The community expands

During this time, the entirely volunteer LPI team expanded to include people working on many different aspects of the program. The team performed an extensive “job-task analysis” to ensure that the exams covered cutting-edge topics. Another group worked with VUE (later part of Pearson) to work out how to deliver the exams electronically through VUE’s network of testing centers. Other volunteers worked on marketing and promotion, while yet others solicited

donations and ensured the evolution of the organization’s operations. All of this happening through email lists and occasional conference calls.

Going global

After the first Level 1 exams were delivered in 2000, followed by Level 2 in 2001, LPI started gaining international acceptance and community support. Like-minded groups quickly helped create local presences around the world, first in Japan and then in Germany and Brazil.

Realizing that testing centers were not available in all parts of the world, and wanting to make LPI certifications as accessible as possible, the LPI team also developed a mechanism for delivering the exams on paper in a proctored setting. In October of 2002, Jon “maddog” Hall cooperated with 4Linux, an early supporter of LPI in Brazil, to deliver 101 paper exams in Sao Paulo while on a trip to Latin America.

In November 2003, LPI hosted more than 500 people at its exam lab at LinuxWorld Hong Kong, the largest of many such events. LPI has since certified people in more than 190 countries and territories and delivered exams in nine languages. A partnership with L’Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) brought low-cost open source certification to some of the world’s least developed economies.

Expanding the program offerings, LPIC-3 was launched in 2007. In the following years, LPI launched new employment programs, continued to participate in open source conferences everywhere, and supported its partners in local advocacy efforts.

LPI launched an introductory series for non-professionals in 2012 with the Linux Essentials certificate. The organization also broadened from system administration to programming with its DevOps certification in 2017. It began work with the BSD Certification Group in 2017, leading to the 2019 launch of the BSD Specialist program. Adding BSD and DevOps to LPI certifications extended vendor-neutral certification into a broader range of IT skills and professions.

Over time, the LPI network of partners has expanded in both numbers and geographic reach, now numbering more than 500 partners in over 190 countries and territories.

Community governance

For its 20th anniversary in 2019, the LPI Board introduced Membership as part of a substantial change in the organization’s governance and direction. This change would enable LPI-certified individuals to elect LPI’s Board and help shape its direction. In 2019, LPI introduced a learning portal that offered the first in a series of free study guides that assists students and trainers alike.

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During the COVID-19 years in the early 2020s, LPI started offering at-home certification exams using Pearson’s OnVUE system.

Our first-ever Board election was held at the Board’s Annual General Meeting in June 2021. As part of these governance changes, LPI also introduced a Code of Ethics and committed to promoting professional conduct and personal development within its community of certified open source practitioners. In 2022, LPI launched the Upgrade to Linux initiative, a multi-stakeholder program designed to address the needs of users unable to upgrade their computers to Windows 11 (offering a path instead to “upgrade to Linux”).

Creating new career opportunities

Also in 2022, the Essentials track tripled its offerings with the Web Development Essentials and Security certificates. An Open Source Essentials certificate, along with Learning Materials, appeared in 2024. The certificate empowered both FOSS and FOSS-adjacent professionals to prove their specialized knowledge of open source communities, businesses, legal environments, and culture. New partnerships, certification programs, accessibility initiatives, and free training materials in multiple languages are consistently in development.

In April of 2024, LPI in conjunction with its partner Linux New Media, released the first edition of

the Open Source Professionals Job Survey Report. The report queried nearly 600 open source professionals for their career goals and values, creating a guide for hiring managers to architect roles that better suited industry professionals.

25th anniversary celebrations

2024 also marked the 25th anniversary of LPI’s support for open source adoption and career development. To thank the FOSS community, LPI introduced two special offers: free exam vouchers for every 25th candidate taking an LPI exam, and a 25 percent discount on Linux Essentials.

LPI celebrated its anniversary also with a “Switch to Linux” campaign, offering a 25 percent discount on any LPI exam to individuals who switched from a proprietary operating system to GNU/Linux and shared photos of their switch on social media. These initiatives received a strong and positive response from the community. The same year, LPI formed an honorary Hall of Fellows, in recognition of their long-term contributions to the FOSS community and the LPI. Jon “maddog” Hall became the person to be inducted.

New milestone

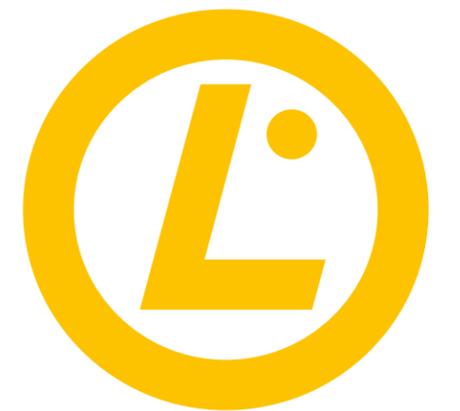
In 2025, LPI released version 2.0 of the DevOps Tools Engineer certification. The exam covers practical skills using a variety of methodologies and open source tools that have become the standard

stack to implement DevOps. Earlier, two more open source advocates, Evan Leibovitch and Dan York, were inducted into the LPI Hall of Fellows.

A big thank you...

LPI owes its growth from a few mailing lists into the world’s largest open source skills certification program to the support of many. Today, it has over 350,000 certification holders across more than 180 countries. It’s you—our dedicated community—who has made this journey possible.

In 2026, LPI is excited to keep advancing its mission: to promote the use of open source by supporting the people who work with it.





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