

# Google Summer of Code 2012

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Google Summer of Code is a program that offers student developers stipends to write code for various open source projects (see the [faq](#)<sup>1</sup> for more information).

Google Summer of Code has several goals:

- Create and release open source code for the benefit of all
- Inspire young developers to begin participating in open source development
- Help open source projects identify and bring in new developers and committers
- Provide students the opportunity to do work related to their academic pursuits (think “flip bits, not burgers”)
- Give students more exposure to real-world software development scenarios (e.g., distributed development, software licensing questions, mailing-list etiquette)

This year, the **PicoLisp community** will apply for the first time as a mentoring organisation. We feel, that exposure to PicoLisp’s exciting and distinctive features will open the mind of students for programming language concepts well outside the current academic mainstream. The delicate simplicity and purity of PicoLisp will connect the students with the past ([50 years of Lisp](#)<sup>2</sup>) as well as with the future ([The Hundred-Year Language](#)<sup>3</sup>) of programming languages.

Although we recognize that students might need a bit more time to get started with PicoLisp than with other, more conventional languages, we are convinced that the highly productive environment PicoLisp offers will enable them to get things done during their GSoC 2012 project.

This year, one of the major topics for PicoLisp’s application will be **adding support for geo-data and spatial analysis to PicoLisp**. We will offer a few relevant project ideas related to this topic on the [Ideas page](#)<sup>4</sup>, but students (and potential mentors) are free to propose their own ideas or variations of our proposals.

The [students page](#)<sup>5</sup> offers a few tips how to apply for a PicoLisp GSoC project. Here you can find relevant information for [program admins](#)<sup>6</sup> and [mentors](#)<sup>7</sup>. Its only natural that Alex will be the main admin and mentor for PicoLisp. He will personally contact other candidates, if necessary.

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<sup>1</sup>[http://www.google-melange.com/document/show/gsoc\\_program/google/gsoc2012/faqs#whatis](http://www.google-melange.com/document/show/gsoc_program/google/gsoc2012/faqs#whatis)

<sup>2</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisp\\_\(programming\\_language\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisp_(programming_language))

<sup>3</sup><http://paulgraham.com/hundred.html>

<sup>4</sup><http://picolisp.com/5000/wiki?ideasPage>

<sup>5</sup><http://picolisp.com/5000/wiki?studentsPage>

<sup>6</sup><http://orgmode.org/worg/org-contrib/gsoc2012/orgmode-gsoc2012-admin.html>

<sup>7</sup><http://orgmode.org/worg/org-contrib/gsoc2012/orgmode-gsoc2012-mentor.html>