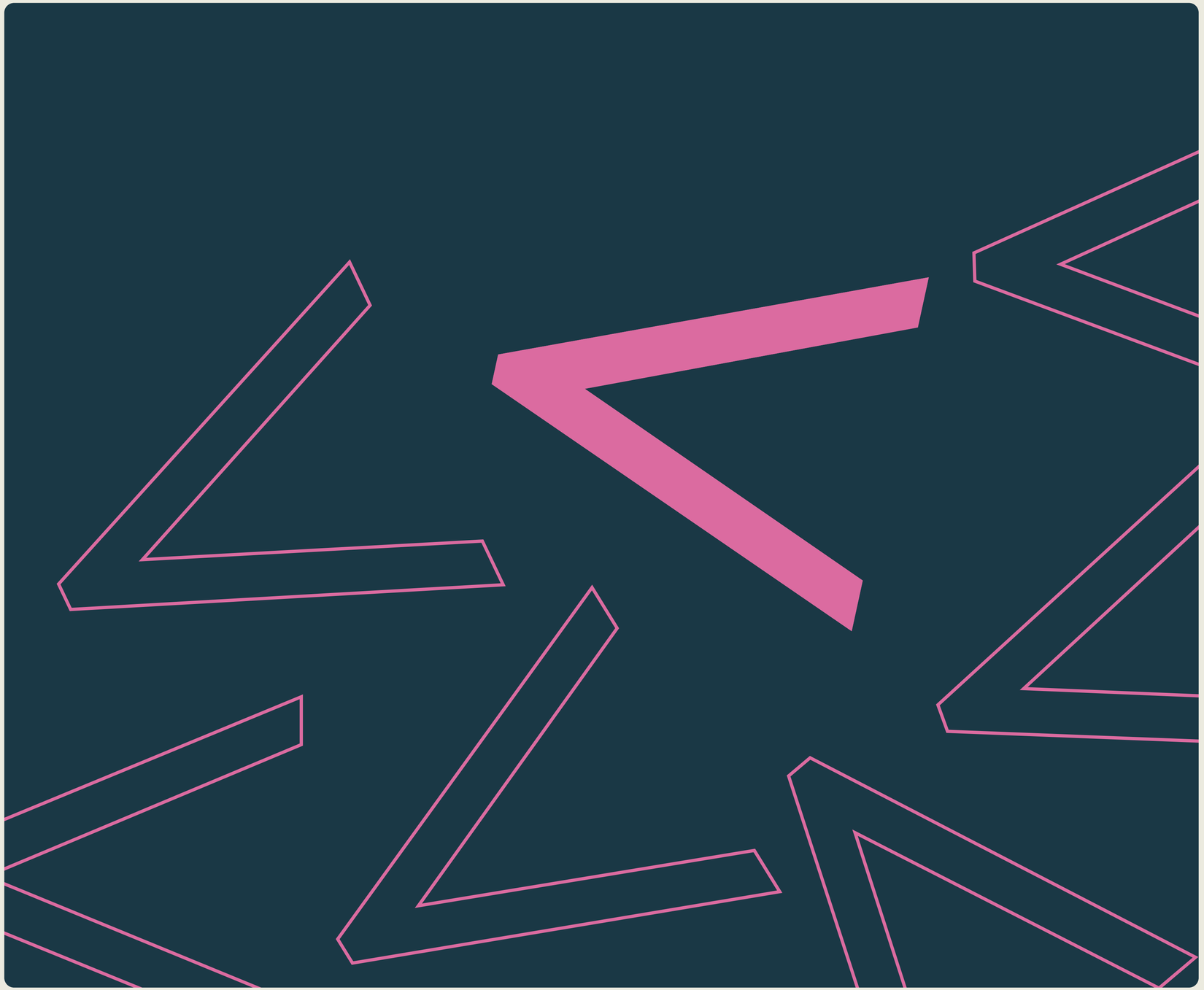
OpenSSL Foundation

Data privacy. Secure connections. For everyone.

# Annual Report

## Fiscal Year 2025



August 1, 2024 - July 31, 2025

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# Executive Director's message /

Dear Supporters,

Fiscal year 2025 was all about continuing the journey we began in March 2024 when the OpenSSL Foundation was relaunched and we employed our own staff for the first time. Since then, we have been working hard to define the Foundation's new identity and purpose.

A key highlight was publishing the Foundation's new mission statement. This works in addition to the OpenSSL Project mission and describes the Foundation's specific role within the broader OpenSSL ecosystem.

> "The OpenSSL Foundation works to ensure that everyone, including nonprofits, academics, and independent developers, has access to fundamental data privacy and security tools that are the backbone of internet protection, quietly safeguarding millions of users. We do this to help build a safer internet — one that serves the public interest and upholds privacy and security as foundational rights."

In tandem with this new mission, we've rolled out a new logo, brand look, and website, which collectively help clarify the Foundation's unique identity, focus, and desired impact on the world.

Community is essential to the success of any open source project, and I am delighted that we have been able to get out and meet so many people during the course of the year. In addition to attending FOSDEM 2025 and other conferences, we were busy preparing for the inaugural OpenSSL Conference, which took place in October 2025.

In January 2025, we took on our first ever Communities Manager, Jon Ericson, to help coordinate our various community activities, and we launched the Foundation Business Advisory (F-BAC) and Technical Advisory (F-TAC) committees with representatives elected from the OpenSSL communities.

During fiscal year 2025, we released OpenSSL 3.4 and 3.5. OpenSSL 3.5 is particularly significant since it is not only a Long Term Support release (LTS) but also integrates support for Post Quantum Cryptography (PQC) primitives. OpenSSL's support for these new PQC standards will be a key enabler for organizations globally to start their post-quantum transition.

In fiscal year 2026, which is now already underway, we are embarking on a major project to refactor our handling of large integers (i.e. the so-called "BIGNUM" code) to use fixed size values for better constant time characteristics - thus improving the security of the library. We also are tackling the GitHub issue backlog. Both of these important projects are being funded by an investment from the Sovereign Tech Agency at the end of fiscal year 2025.

Securing the funding for such work is an important part of what we do at the Foundation. I can't thank our supporters enough for the critical funding that they provide, especially Sovereign Tech Agency and FLOSS/fund, which were our most generous supporters in fiscal year 2025. Without this funding we would not be able to do what we do.

Lastly, I'd like to thank everyone who made any kind of contribution to OpenSSL during the course of the year in whatever form. Your support helps us make the internet a safer place for everyone.

Matt Caswell
Executive Director
December 2025

# Foundation mission /

OpenSSL Foundation works to ensure that everyone, including nonprofits, academics, and independent developers, has access to fundamental data privacy and security tools that are the backbone of internet protection, quietly safeguarding millions of users.

We do this to help build a safer internet — one that serves the public interest and upholds privacy and security as foundational rights.

# Core activities /

OpenSSL Foundation enables access to online privacy and security tools for everyone as a fundamental human right.

## We do this by:

- Working together with the OpenSSL Corporation to co-manage the OpenSSL Library, with particular focus on the needs of non-commercial communities.
- Building our community and ensuring their voices are heard through mechanisms such as the Business and Technical Advisory committees.
- Enforcing community norms and ensuring compliance with the OpenSSL Library's Code of Conduct.
- Providing user-friendly documentation that helps developers of varying skill levels make best use of our data privacy tools.
- Creating awareness of data privacy and security through conference presentations and active involvement in the global free and open source software community.
- Educating our community of users through webinars, personal engagement, and other resources.
- Collaborating with other organizations to get strong data privacy and security into as many applications, software, and devices as possible.
- Handling the domains, trademarks, contributor license agreements, and other legal matters related to the Foundation and the OpenSSL Library.
- Raising funds to ensure we can perform this work in service of our mission.

# Meet the team /

## Management team

**Matt Caswell**
Executive Director and Principal Software Engineer

**Jon Ericson**
Communities Manager

**Richard Levitte**
Distinguished Software Engineer

**Tomáš Mráz**
Chief Technology Officer

**Amy Parker**
Deputy Executive Director

## Staff

**Ryan Hooper**
Associate OpenSSL Foundation Engineer

**Daniel Kubec**
Senior Software Engineer

**Igor Ustinov**
Senior Software Engineer

## Board of Directors

**Matt Caswell**
President: March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2026

**Richard Levitte**
Treasurer: June 5, 2024 through February 28, 2025
Secretary: March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2027

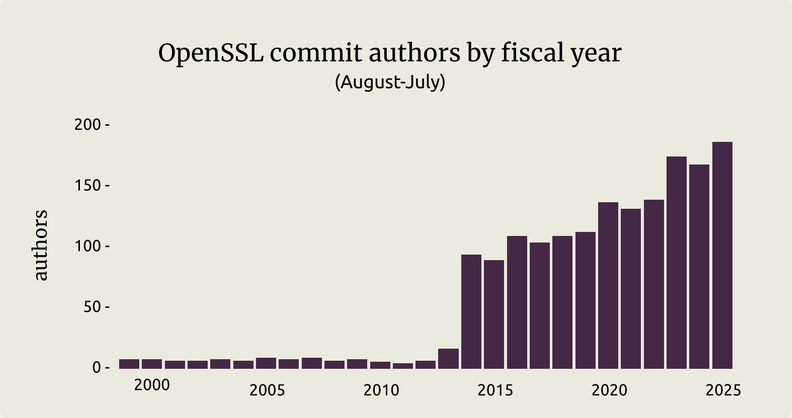
**Tomáš Mráz**
Secretary: March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025
Treasurer: March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2027

## Members

Anton Arapov
Matt Caswell
Tim Chevalier
Mark Cox
Denis Gauthier
Tim Hudson
Hugo Laudau
Richard Levitte
Tomáš Mráz
Kurt Roeckx

# Community/

As OpenSSL Project's first ever community manager, I've been excited to meet people from around the world who made OpenSSL a cornerstone of internet security and data privacy. Open source projects thrive when backed by a resilient community so I'm eager to remove unnecessary barriers and empower people to write the next chapter of OpenSSL.




For the first half of its history, a small number of maintainers (10 or fewer) managed the OpenSSL Library. In fiscal year 2025, a record number of individuals (225) contributed code. What changed since 2014? Well, the world discovered that a critical piece of network security was at risk because of a lack of resources. Thankfully many people stepped up to provide funding, expertise and volunteer time to support the OpenSSL Library.

Our mission goes beyond code so the OpenSSL Foundation sought out people who contribute in other ways. A prime example are the new advisory committees elected from the OpenSSL communities. The Foundation Business Advisory Committee (F-BAC) was elected in January 2025, and one of their first orders of business was prioritizing future work from the perspective of the communities they represent. The Foundation Technical Advisory Committee (F-TAC) was elected in May, focusing on the technical side of the project.

In June 2025, we ran OpenSSL in the Wild, our first ever user survey. Among other stories, we heard about how OpenSSL is used in an internet proxy, to secure serial port connections and to implement secure connections in Cobol programs. The survey confirmed that for many developers, OpenSSL is the standard against which other cryptographic libraries are measured.

Jon Ericson
Communities Manager

## New Contributor spotlight:

Kanagavel Subramani is a Senior System Software Engineer from Chennai, India. At American Megatrends International he is responsible for ensuring their UEFI firmware is compatible with the latest OpenSSL release. Modern computers rely on the UEFI Secure Boot feature to protect users from malicious code when starting up. OpenSSL provides the cryptographic algorithms needed to verify programs have not been compromised.

"OpenSSL plays a vital role in securing digital communication. Contributing to it felt like a meaningful way to support the open-source community and improve the reliability of widely used cryptographic tools. If you're passionate about open-source, start small and stay curious. Every contribution counts, and the learning you gain is invaluable."

Kanagavel Subramani

# Advisory Committees/

## Foundation Business Advisory Committee (F-BAC)

Academics – **Nicola Tuveri** (Tampere University)
Committers – **Paul Dale** (Oracle)
Distributions – **Dmitry Belyavsky** (Red Hat)
Individuals – **Randall Becker**
Large Businesses – **Tim Chevalier** (NetApp)
Small Businesses – **James Bourne** (FireDaemon)

## Foundation Technical Advisory Committee (F-TAC)

Academics – **Nicola Tuveri** (Tampere University)
Committers – **Dmitry Belyavskiy** (Red Hat)
Individuals – **Igor Ustinov**
Large Businesses – **Barry Fussell** (Cisco)
Small Businesses – **Aditya Koranga** (PQStation)

"I advocate for the needs of resource-constrained companies. [Our] collective effort is making OpenSSL's cryptographic tools more accessible for companies of all sizes, particularly those without dedicated security teams."

James Bourne
FireDaemon

"The committee's technical expertise is deep and covers a wide range of industry backgrounds. The traction of the team is building, and I believe that going forward the guidance we provide to the broader community will become very beneficial."

Barry Fussell
Cisco

# Foundation on the road/

As a fully remote team that supports a global community of volunteers, we greatly value every opportunity to meet with our communities in person.

Some of this year's highlights were:

## November 2024

Melbourne, Australia

**Meet-up with OpenSSL Projects** – OpenSSL Foundation, OpenSSL Corporation, cryptlib, and Bouncy Castle.


## December 2024

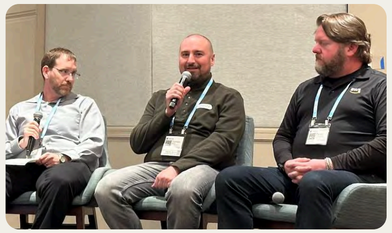
Prague, Czechia

**Santa's Crypto Get-Together** including a presentation by Tomáš Mráz on the History and Current Status of the OpenSSL Project.

## January 2025

Brussels, Belgium

**The Free and Open Source Developers' European Meeting (FOSDEM)**, a volunteer-organized event to promote the widespread use of free and open source software.



## April 2025

Toronto, Canada

**International Cryptographic Module Conference (ICMC) and PQ Cyber Day**, including Tomáš Mráz's participation in a panel discussion on the journey toward quantum-safe migration.

## April 2025

San Francisco, CA, USA

**RSA Conference**, one of the world's largest cybersecurity conferences.

## April 2025

Redwood City, CA, USA

**CMX Summit**, serving community professionals from tech organizations around the world.

## May 2025

Brno, Czechia

**Meet-up with OpenSSL Projects** – OpenSSL Foundation, OpenSSL Corporation, cryptlib, and Bouncy Castle.


## June 2025

Brno, Czechia

**DevConf CZ**, a Red Hat sponsored open source community conference.

# Supporting Our Community/

In April 2025, the Foundation sponsored Nicola Tuveri's participation in the International Cryptographic Module Conference (ICMC). Nicola is a Doctoral Researcher at Tampere University and active contributor to the OpenSSL project, serving on the Foundation's Business and Technical Advisory Committees.

Sponsoring conference attendance is one important way we support the non-commercial members of our OpenSSL community, especially academics and independent developers who otherwise would not be able to attend these important industry events.

"ICMC 2025 was a timely and meaningful gathering—technically, socially, and strategically. I'm sincerely grateful to the OpenSSL Foundation for sponsoring my participation. It was a valuable opportunity to connect with individuals involved in the OpenSSL Project and with stakeholders from across the cryptographic landscape, and to contribute to the ongoing dialogue shaping our post-quantum future.

Nicola Tuveri

# OpenSSL Library/

From the very beginning, OpenSSL has consisted of two software libraries. One is a collection of cryptographic algorithms (libcrypto) and the other is a toolkit for creating secure network connections (libssl). Since the code is open source, distributed with a generous license, works on all sorts of platforms and has proven to be dependable for decades, it's used by many, many other software projects.

It's actually hard to know how many other projects use OpenSSL. Based on Homebrew, a popular package manager for macOS, a quarter of the packages depend on OpenSSL 3.x. As a result, last year it was installed over 5 million times via that package manager alone. Nearly all Linux distributions include OpenSSL and the majority of deployed web servers encrypt network traffic via OpenSSL by default.

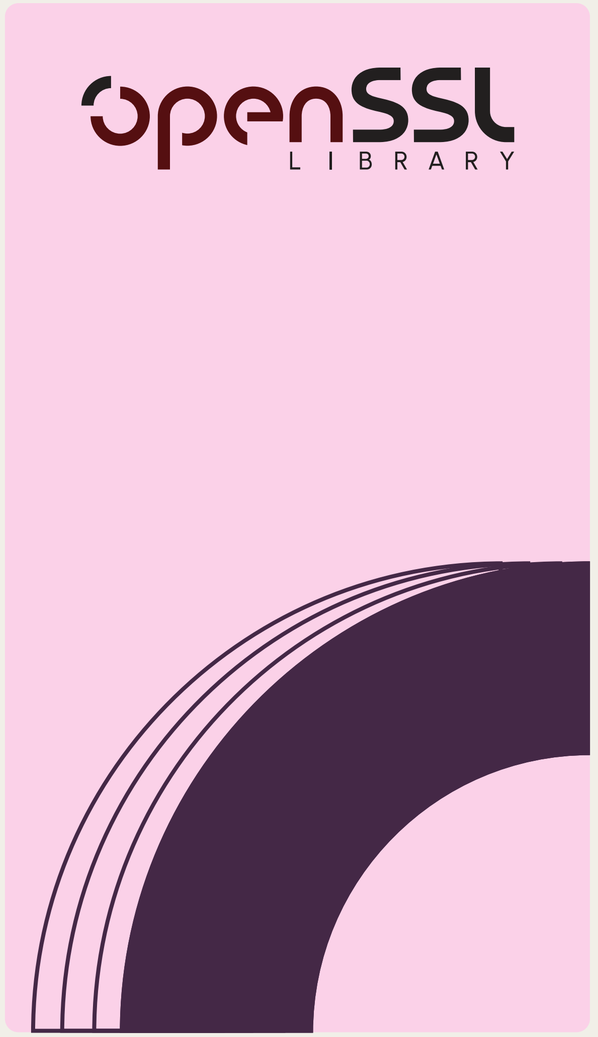
Since our last report, there have been two releases of the OpenSSL Library based on our timed release policy: 3.4 on October 22, 2024 and 3.5 on April 8, 2025.

Version 3.5 is the newest Long Term Support (LTS) release that will be supported for the community until April 2030 and included several important new features:

- The server implementation of the QUIC internet protocol, which allows more efficient network connections when security is the default.
- New cryptographic algorithms, ML-KEM, ML-DSA, and SLH-DSA, that future-proof data and digital signatures in the event that quantum computers break traditional public-key algorithms.
- A mechanism for abstracting symmetric keys so that OpenSSL can expand support for hardware-based security.

Even for people with a technical background, it can be difficult to keep up with the latest in data security. This educational blog series introduces 3.5's features using analogies that get across the broad concepts, if not the technical minutia.

Over the 2025 fiscal year, 974 issues were closed and 1,115 pull requests were merged into the code. Most of those changes were reviewed by Foundation staff and almost a third of them were submitted by volunteers. People started 530 discussions about the code on GitHub.



# Treasurer's report/

In 2024, the OpenSSL project underwent a governance reform that resulted in the OpenSSL Foundation standing up independent staffing, finances, and operations. Prior to March 1, 2024, Foundation activities were primarily carried out under the auspices of OpenSSL Corporation. As such, the Foundation's Fiscal Year 2024 financials represented only the five month period from March 1 through July 31, 2024.

Fiscal year 2025 represents the first full fiscal year of independent foundation operations. Total revenue was $686,563, of which $500,000 came from OpenSSL Corporation. We expect to see further revenue growth in the coming years as we continue to build up our fundraising program. Thank you to all the supporters who help fund our work!

Total expenses in fiscal year 2025 were $931,345, with payroll expenses representing 86% of the overall amount. The fiscal year started with three staff and ended with five. We've since grown to seven, representing an increase in staffing costs that will be visible in next year's report.

We began the year with a cash reserve of $517,197, and ended with $288,913. The difference of $228,284 was mainly used for payroll expenses and business travel costs.

In addition to the numbers reported below, the OpenSSL Corporation holds a separate cash reserve that is intended to be shared between the two organizations. We allocated $375,000 of our share of that reserve toward the costs of the inaugural OpenSSL Conference, which was co-hosted by the Corporation and Foundation in October 2025.

Conversations about how the balance of that reserve will be managed are still ongoing. We will share the total remaining value of the Foundation's portion of that reserve once those conversations are finalized and the funds are being managed directly by the Foundation.

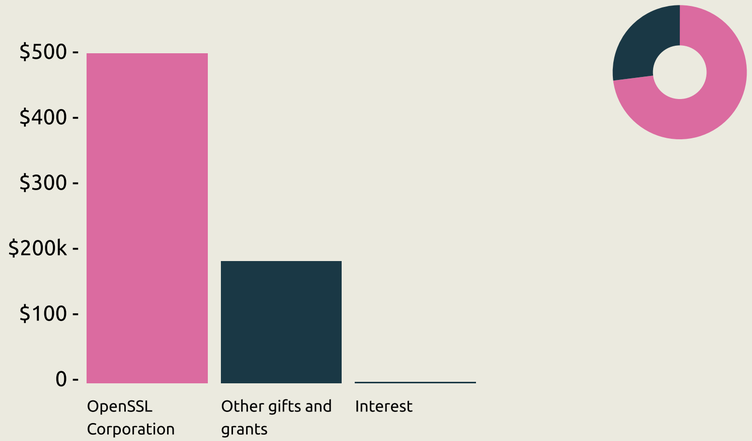
It is an honor to steward the OpenSSL Foundation's finances, ensuring that every dollar of financial support is put to its best use in service of our data privacy and security mission. If you are not already a supporter, please consider joining the growing community of individuals and institutions who are powering our work.

Tomáš Mráz
Treasurer

# Financials /

## Revenue Report

Our revenue report reflects income recognized in our accounting system. This includes gifts and pledge payments received within the fiscal year, minus any fees; it does not include promises for future financial support.

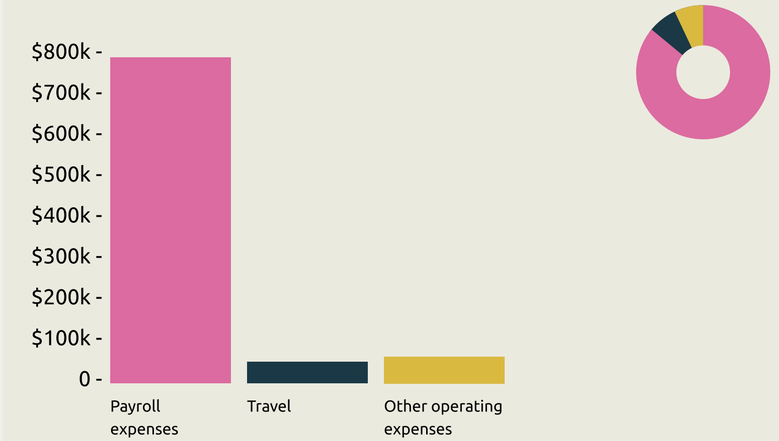



| | |
|---|---|
| OpenSSL Corporation (72.83%) | $500,000.00 |
| Other gifts and grants (26.92%) | $184,851.31 |
| Interest (0.25%) | $1,711.20 |
| **Total** | **$686,562.51** |

*Github Sponsors includes both individual sponsorships and some Code Protectors who opt to make their gifts through this platform.

## Expenses

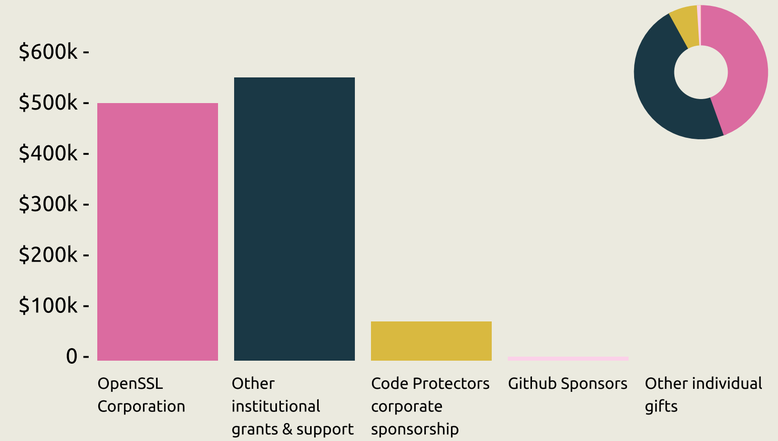
In our first full fiscal year of operation, expenses exceeded our revenue. We supplemented our revenue with funds from our cash reserve to fully cover our expenses.




| | |
|---|---|
| Payroll expenses (85.66%) | $797,818.95 |
| Travel (6.59%) | $61,350.29 |
| Other operating expenses (7.75%) | $72,175.73 |
| **Total** | **$931,344.97** |

## Fundraising Report

Our fundraising report tracks fundraising activity and performance. It includes gifts, pledges, and other formal commitments made within the fiscal year, regardless of when those pledges will be realized. This is a different way of looking at the Foundation's financial picture that helps us track the success of different fundraising revenue streams.




| | |
|---|---|
| OpenSSL Corporation (44.55%) | $500,000.00 |
| Other institutional grants & support (49.09%) | $563,649.92 |
| Code Protectors corporate sponsorship (6.53%) | $75,000.00 |
| Github Sponsors* (0.79%) | $9,113.73 |
| Other individual gifts (0.04%) | $458.13 |
| **Total** | **$1,148,221.78** |

# Premier Supporters /

OpenSSL Foundation is grateful to the following supporters who provided gifts, pledges, or other funding commitments within the period of August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2025.

## Premier supporters

Individuals and organizations that pledged or contributed financial support of $100,000 or more are recognized as Premier Supporters.


OpenSSL CORPORATION

Sovereign Tech Fund

FLOSS/fund
by ZERODHA

# Supporter spotlight /

## FLOSS/fund

FLOSS/fund was established by Zerodha in 2024 with the bold vision of providing $1 million per year to free/libre and open source software projects globally. We were honored to be among the fund's first tranche of recipients, with an investment of $100,000. This is the first major financial contribution OpenSSL Foundation has ever received from India. It's a testament to India's expanding open source community and the OpenSSL Library's importance in the global internet infrastructure.

Kailash Nadh
CTO of Zerodha

"It makes perfect logical sense for a business that relies on FOSS to support it, directly or indirectly, when they freely tap into a global ecosystem of unlimited FOSS innovation—free in both cost and freedom. How many technology companies today could even exist without the massive amounts of FOSS they use?"

## Sovereign Tech Agency

Sovereign Tech Agency is a publicly funded organization in Germany that focuses on increasing the security and resilience of critical open source software that forms the foundation of modern digital technology. Following a multistep review and selection process, OpenSSL Foundation received a €405,888 investment, one of the largest ever contributions in our history. Over the coming year, this funding will support two significant pieces of technical work: enhancing timing side-channel resistance in the BIGNUM code and addressing a backlog of user-submitted GitHub issues.

Tara Tarakiyee
Lead Technologist at the Sovereign Tech Agency
Photo Credit: Maximilian Koenig

"OpenSSL serves as critical digital infrastructure supporting countless applications and services worldwide, yet like many similar foundational open source projects, it has historically operated with limited resources. This investment in OpenSSL's long-term security and maintainability shows Sovereign Tech Agency's commitment to supporting essential open source maintainers and strengthening the digital infrastructure of the 21st century."

# Code Protectors & Github Sponsors /

## Code Protectors

Code Protectors are corporate sponsors who provide essential unrestricted funding that powers the Foundation's ongoing operational needs.

| | |
|---|---|
| Platinum | Bloomberg |
| Gold | NetApp |
| Silver | COMCAST |
| Bronze | SAKURA internet |
| Copper | babiel • Mercedes Benz AG • SAP • SFTPPlus |

## Github Sponsors

The Github Sponsors platform allows users to financially support open source projects and organizations directly through their Github accounts. Users may choose whether or not their support is publicly visible on their Github profiles.

View our current Github Sponsors.

# Ways to give /

OpenSSL Foundation relies on gifts, grants, and other contributed support in order to fulfill its data privacy mission and continue strengthening the security of the internet.

## We invite your support!

- Make a US tax deductible donation through Software in the Public Interest, our 501c3 fiscal sponsor
- Donate directly to OpenSSL Foundation
- Donate cryptocurrency
- Set up one-time or monthly giving through Github Sponsors
- Contact us to discuss other options

# Stay connected /

For the latest news about the Foundation, see our blog and follow us on LinkedIn. Whatever your role, there is an OpenSSL community for you to join:

- Academics
- Committers
- Distributions
- Individuals
- Large Businesses
- Small Businesses

For the technically-minded, see our guidance about how to get involved.

There has never been a better time to join the OpenSSL community.