



Institute of
Computing for
Climate Science



ICCS Hacktoberfest 2026

Q&A Session

What is the ICCS Hacktoberfest?

- An event organised by the Institute of Computing for Climate Science at the University of Cambridge, and inspired by the [Hacktoberfest](#) initiative
- A chance to contribute to climate research open source code, or to get contributions to your climate research code base from new contributors
- A collaborative coding fest that you can participate in at any point during the month of October.
 - With weekly coffee catch-ups, and the opportunity to network with and learn from other open source coders in the climate science community

Key Dates

- **Mon 29 June, 15:30 - 16:30 GMT**
- **Mon 14 September**
- **Wed 30 September, 16:00 - 17:00 GMT**
- **Wed 7 October, 16:00 - 17:00 GMT**
- **Wed 14 October, 9:00 - 10:00 GMT**
- **Wed 21 October, 16:00 - 17:00 GMT**
- **Fri 30 October, 16:00 - 17:00 GMT**

online Q and A session (today!)

Registration deadline

ICCS Hacktoberfest kick off event

Coffee catch up online networking session

Coffee catch up online networking session

Coffee catch up online networking session

Wrap up celebration

How does it work?

- You can be a maintainer, a contributor, or both
- Sign up:



Maintainer - before Hacktober

- **Send us your repository link before September 20**
- Prepare your code base by identifying/creating suitable issues and label them as “iccs-hacktoberfest”
 - Also add issues for low or non-code contributions (e.g. copy editing, adding to technical documentations, user experience testing, creating digital content or graphic design)
- Make sure you have a README, license and contributing information
- Book a code clinic with us if you need advise:

<https://forms.gle/jz2vR9RiofWtvCj68>

Maintainer - during Hacktober

- Monitor your repo for new PRs and comments on issues
- Reply to questions from contributors
- Do code reviews for new PRs - be nice and encouraging!
- Merge PRs and label them as “iccs-hacktoberfest-accepted”

How to deal with spam?

- If you suspect spam contributions, try to get in touch with the contributor
- If you do not get convincing replies, and/or the PR is huge and spammy, add a note saying you do not accept these kind of contributions, add a “spam” label and close the PR

Contributor

- We will send you a list of contributing repositories
- Browse the repos, and find a suitable issue to tackle
- Read the README and contributing information
- Ask any clarifying questions on the issue
- Create a new branch to solve the issue
- Code!
- Create a PR
 - Link to the underlying issue by saying “Fixes #<issue number>”
 - Provide a description of your changes
- Incorporate feedback from code review

Can I use AI?

- Please don't use AI. As this is a learning opportunity we encourage you to participate without using these tools.
- Your PRs might be labelled as “spam” and closed by the maintainers

“Standard” Hacktoberfest

- We are not officially part of the “original” Hacktoberfest
- But you can sign up and take part here: <https://hacktoberfest.com/>
- There are events online and around the world that might be fun!
- They use the “hacktoberfest” label for participating repositories
- They also have resources for beginners and extensive participation guidelines: <https://hacktoberfest.com/participation/>

FAQ

- <https://iccs.cam.ac.uk/iccs-hacktoberfest-2026-frequently-asked-questions>

Please bear with us!

- We are doing this for the first time
- There might be snags along the way
- Let us know if anything does not work
- Let us also know if you are enjoying yourself and gaining from this! :)

Any Questions?

Registration link:

