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Thread: [Gated-Source: Rethinking How Open Source Developers Get Paid](#)

Stanley - October 21, 2025, 8:20 am

Gated-Source: Rethinking How Open Source Developers Get Paid

Gated-Source is a formalized approach that lets developers share their code while controlling access to it. Instead of choosing between "completely open" or "completely closed," you decide what to share freely and what requires payment.

<https://hackernoon.com/gated-source-rethinking-how-open-source-developers-get-paid?source=rss>

Chorozon - October 21, 2025, 9:40 am

This sounds like closed source with extra steps

Hackers - October 22, 2025, 6:25 am

(Oct 21, 2025 09:40 AM)Chorozon Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This sounds like closed source with extra steps
I can see this being useful though, for sure...

You might want someone to be able to view & contribute to the frontend, but not the backend.
If you give a coder who is working on 10% of the codebase access to 100% of it, they can find potential backdoors or vulns, and make a plan for the frontend software or other interface to make use of that.

By giving only partial access to the codebase, you can make it more secure by limiting exposure / visibility into potential flaws.

It's also nice to know when viewing a PR what someone COULD affect, and if they literally can't access part of the codebase then the risks go down and it should theoretically be easier to manage Git controls & security.

Vectura - October 22, 2025, 8:02 am

Interesting concept. Open source has always struggled with sustainability, so a middle ground like this could actually work, if it doesn't kill the spirit of collaboration that made it thrive in the first place.

DAL-SHA - October 22, 2025, 1:41 pm

Actually , I've had this question myself !!

Anyways , Interesting idea could finally help open source devs earn fairly without full closure.

Ieste - October 30, 2025, 10:42 am

Paying open source developers was always the problem.