launch_code

Discovery

Mentor Orientation

Agenda

- Introduction
- Presentation
  - LaunchCode and Discovery
  - Mentor Responsibilities
- Demo
  - Discovery Curriculum @ Stepik
  - LaunchCode Q&A Site
- Discussion
  - Diversity and Inclusion

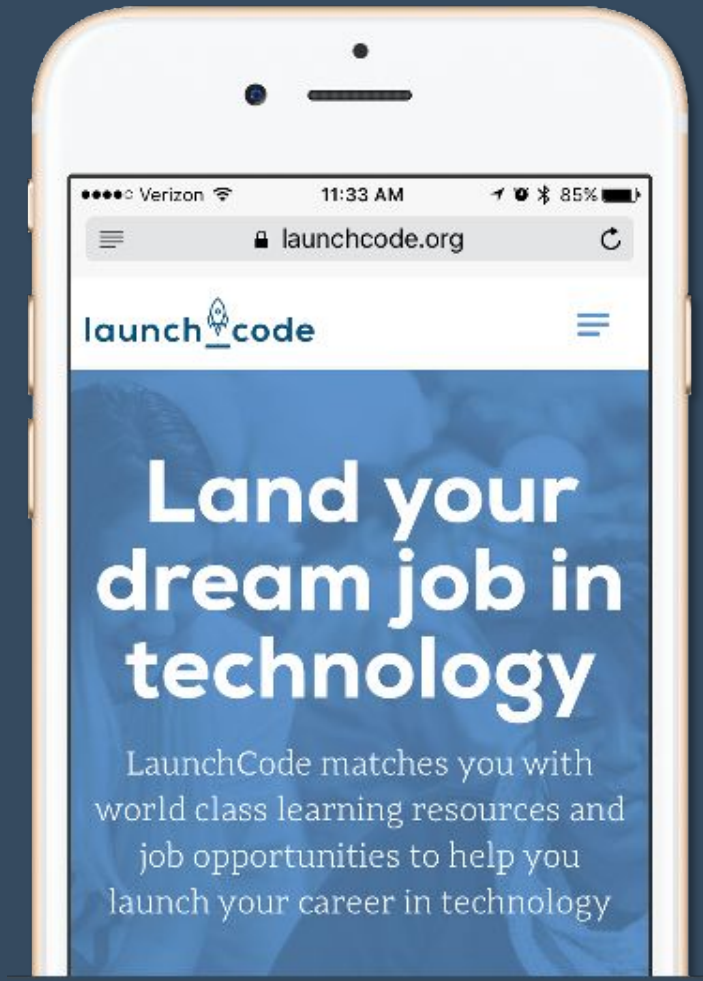
What Do We Do?

Education

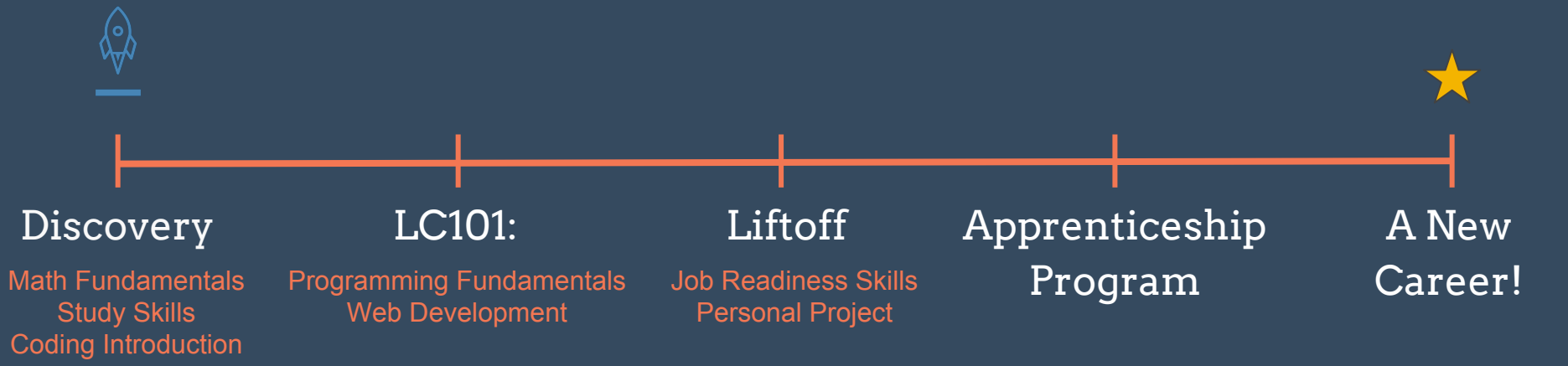
- LaunchCode provides FREE technical training for individuals looking towards Tech as their next career
- Mentoring

Apprenticeships

- 4 Cities including: St. Louis, Kansas City, Miami, Tampa
- 1000+ Placements



The Typical Path



What is Discovery?

FREE introductory tech curriculum

Course covering study skills, computer skills, math and programming fundamentals.

- Self-guided online program supplemented with weekly meetups.
- In-person mentorship with community professionals.

10 Week Meetup Pilot Program

What Students Learn

Module 1: INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Module 2: STUDY SKILLS - best practices for learning how to learn

Module 3: COMPUTER SKILLS - using your computer like a dev

Module 4: LEARN TO CODE - fundamentals in Python

Module 5: MATH FOR CODERS - linear equations and geometry

Module 6: ONWARD AND UPWARD - final review and next steps

Module 1: Introduction to Computer Programming

- What is computer programming?
- What is code? How do you write code?
- What do computer programmers do?

Module 2: Learn Like a Rock Star

- What can I do to learn better/faster/more easily?
- What am I doing that hurts my learning ability?
- How can I be more organized?
- Is it better to succeed the first time or to fail first?
- Can I do this? (Yes, you can!)

Module 3: Be the Boss of Your Computer

- What IS a computer?
- What's the difference between hardware and software?
- What is an operating system?
- How do I navigate my computer?
- How can I use my computer like a programmer?

Module 4: Code Like Nobody's Watching

Finally, coding! Students learn:

- more about Python
- how to design a computer program
- how to use conditionals and repetition
- how to begin to create their own functions!

Module 5: Keep Calm and Problem Solve

- Yikes, it's math!
- Basic algebra and geometry
- Exponents and logarithms
- Averages and percentages
- Write some more complicated programs with MATH.

Module 6: Onward and Upward

- Review everything you learned with some final checkpoint questions
- Some final tips for moving forward with learning to program
- Sign up for LaunchCode programs like LC101!!
- Or follow programs of your own choosing (we tell students a few good places to find them).

Meetup Logistics

Format

- Mentors asked to be there for as much of the assigned time as possible
- Students can come in at any time during the assigned time
- Students may be there to ask specific questions they've had about the material, or they may be there to have a scheduled time to work through some of the material

As a Mentor, You Should

Know the Material

- We ask that you peruse or complete the Discovery material at your convenience to be able to answer questions more specifically and help with technical issues the learners have.

Be Available for Questions

- Introduce yourself to Discovery learners if you haven't met them before. Ask if they have any questions.
- If someone looks like they have a question, they probably have a question. Don't be afraid to ask!

Help Students Outside of Meetups!

LaunchCode Q&A Website

- help.launchcode.org
- Discussion forum for learners to ask for help from one another, LaunchCode staff, and volunteer mentors.
- The main source of information and help outside of meetup sessions.
- If you're comfortable, sign up for an account and check intermittently to see if there are any student questions that you may be able to answer.

Support for You

Open Door Policy

- Contact us anytime for anything!

Communication Channels

- Any important information (date changes, program changes, etc.) will be conveyed via email, so please check for emails from LaunchCode before heading to meetups.

FAQ from Learners

Do I need to come to all the meet-ups?

No. Discovery is designed for learners to follow online at their own pace. The meet-ups are set up so that participants can get to know their fellow learners and seek for support when they have questions. You can complete Discovery without attending meet-up at all but we strongly encourage you to check out the meet-up when you need assistance.

Do I need my own computer in order to do Discovery?

No. You can access Discovery from a laptop or computer at the library. However, after completing Discovery if you want to continue with LaunchCode's job-focused programs (such as LC101 or CoderGirl), you will need a laptop for that.

If I cannot come to the meet-up, what are some other ways I can get help?

You can go to help.launchcode.org, an online community for LaunchCode learners. Of course, Search engines such as Google, DuckDuckGo are always your friends.

Where do I start?

1. Go to launchcode.org/discovery
2. Click button “REGISTER HERE”
3. Create an account (you only need to do this once)
4. Start learning
5. Please fill out the surveys we ask you so that we can learn a little more about you as the learner

Questions??

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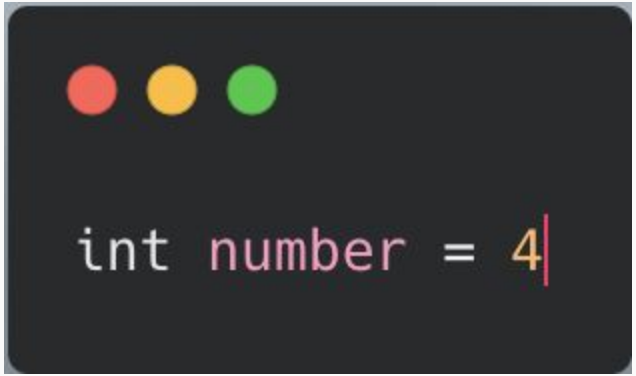
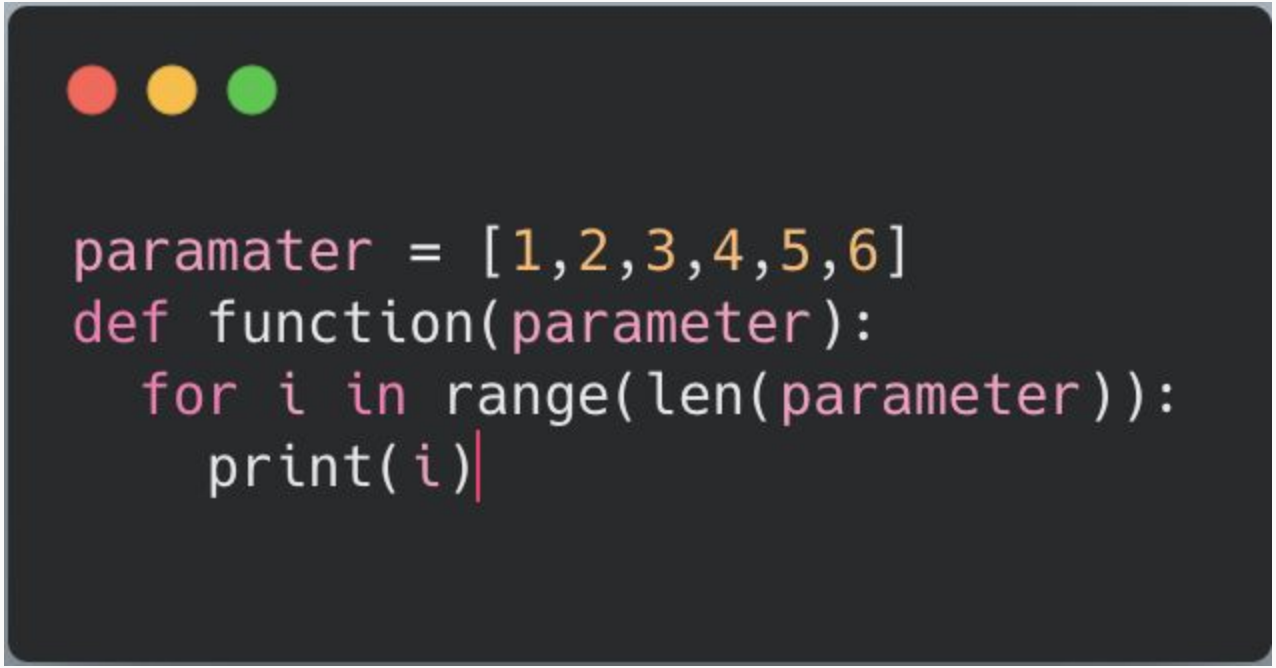
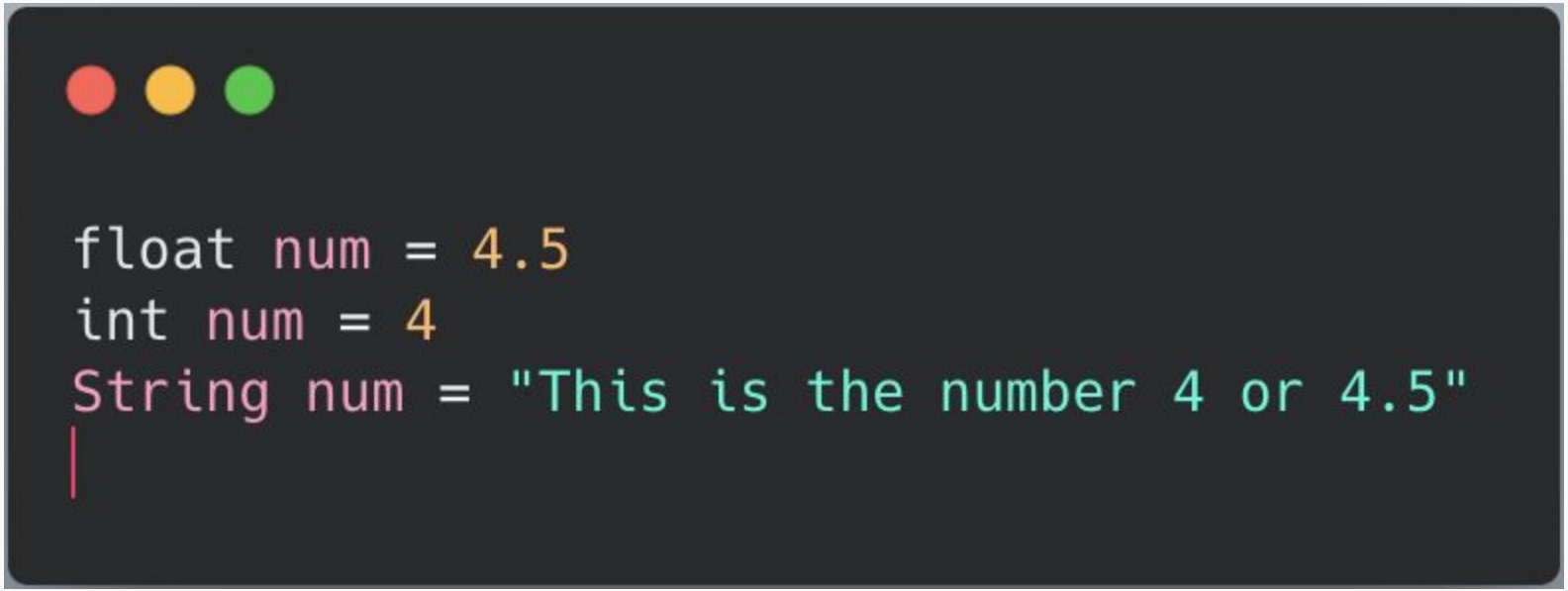
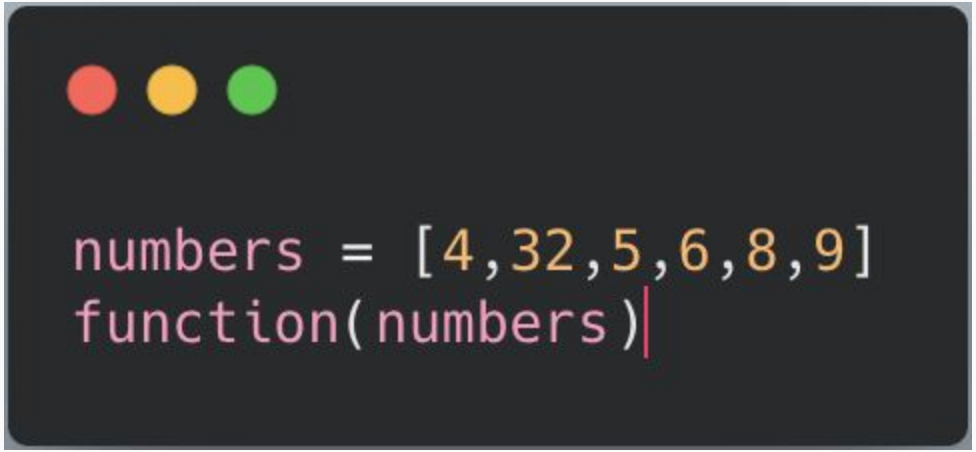

int number = 4


paramater = [1,2,3,4,5,6]
def function(parameter):
for i in range(len(parameter)):
print(i)


float num = 4.5
int num = 4
String num = "This is the number 4 or 4.5"


int response = int(input("What is your number?"))


numbers = [4,32,5,6,8,9]
function(numbers)

return vs print statements