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Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'setenv.3'

\$ man setenv.3

SETENV(3) Linux Programmer's Manual SETENV(3)

NAME

setenv - change or add an environment variable

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
int setenv(const char *name, const char *value, int overwrite);
```

```
int unsetenv(const char *name);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see feature_test_macros(7)):

```
setenv(), unsetenv():
```

```
  _POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200112L
```

```
  || /* Glibc versions <= 2.19: */ _BSD_SOURCE
```

DESCRIPTION

The `setenv()` function adds the variable name to the environment with the value `value`, if `name` does not already exist. If `name` does exist in the environment, then its value is changed to `value` if `overwrite` is nonzero; if `overwrite` is zero, then the value of `name` is not changed (and `setenv()` returns a success status). This function makes copies of the strings pointed to by `name` and `value` (by contrast with `putenv(3)`).

The `unsetenv()` function deletes the variable name from the environment. If `name` does not exist in the environment, then the function succeeds, and the environment is unchanged.

RETURN VALUE

`setenv()` and `unsetenv()` functions return zero on success, or -1 on error, with `errno` set to indicate the cause of the error.

ERRORS

`EINVAL` `name` is NULL, points to a string of length 0, or contains an '=' character.

`ENOMEM` Insufficient memory to add a new variable to the environment.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see [attributes\(7\)](#).

??

?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

??

?`setenv()`, un? ? Thread safety ? MT-Unsafe const:env ?

?`setenv()` ? ? ? ?

??

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, 4.3BSD.

NOTES

POSIX.1 does not require `setenv()` or `unsetenv()` to be reentrant. Prior to `glibc 2.2.2`, `unsetenv()` was prototyped as returning void; more recent `glibc` versions follow the POSIX.1-compliant prototype shown in the SYNOPSIS.

BUGS

POSIX.1 specifies that if `name` contains an '=' character, then `setenv()` should fail with the error `EINVAL`; however, versions of `glibc` before 2.3.4 allowed an '=' sign in `name`.

SEE ALSO

`clearenv(3)`, `getenv(3)`, `putenv(3)`, `environ(7)`

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.10 of the Linux man-pages project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.

GNU

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SETENV(3)