

Kiara Mathura

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Subject: Application for Software Development Internship

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am a full-stack developer with a Financial Management Honours degree from the University of Stellenbosch, seeking a software development internship to gain hands-on experience and contribute meaningfully to a dynamic development team. My ultimate goal is to combine my financial background with my programming expertise to grow into a FinTech software developer. I believe my skills in Python, JavaScript, cloud architecture, and project management—coupled with my ability to deliver complex full-stack applications—would make me a strong asset to your team.

My technical journey includes working with Python, PostgreSQL, and JavaScript frameworks such as Node.js, Express.js and React. I have earned AWS certifications including Solutions Architect Associate, Developer Associate, and SysOps Administrator Associate, as well as the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM). I recently applied this combined knowledge to develop and deploy a cross platform full-stack, microservices-based, real-time ‘Tic Tac Toe’ application—my capstone project—accessible at kiaramathuraportfolio.com.

This project features a scalable Node.js backend built on microservices architecture, secure JWT-based authentication, REST APIs, WebSocket support, and PostgreSQL databases. I designed and deployed the system using AWS services including EC2, S3, Route 53, CloudFront, and ACM to ensure reliable, HTTPS-secured infrastructure. On the frontend, I developed a responsive React web app, a PyQt5 desktop app, and a React Native mobile app (via Expo Go), enabling real-time cross-platform multiplayer gameplay with integrated chat and rematch capabilities.

Creating the mobile app and breaking the monolithic backend into modular microservices gave me deep insights into software scalability, API versioning and service isolation. This process also honed my debugging, documentation, and architectural decision-making skills. From planning and design to deployment and iteration, I independently owned the full product lifecycle.

I am proud of the progress I've made through self-directed learning, but I recognize the value of professional mentorship and exposure to production environments. I am eager to contribute to your team, gain experience with established workflows, and continue growing as a software developer who can build reliable, impactful applications.

Thank you sincerely for your consideration,

Kiara Mathura