

Sama Ahmed

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EDUCATION

California State University, Fullerton

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science | GPA: 3.59

Fullerton, CA

Anticipated Graduation: May 2026

EXPERIENCE

User Experience Research Intern

Jun. 2025 – Aug. 2025

LPL Financial

San Diego, CA

- Analyzed advisor feedback on MyRepChat and conducted heuristic evaluations, identifying **10+** usability issues that informed feature development
- Presented insights to UX, product, and vendor teams, directly influencing enhancements on a platform used by **30,000+** financial advisors nationwide
- Built persona guides and updated pilot program documentation, simplifying access to research resources for the UX team

Open Source Software Co-Team Lead & Webmaster

Aug. 2024 – May 2025

Association for Computing Machinery at CSUF

Fullerton, CA

- Led weekly workshops for **30+** students on SvelteKit, open-source workflows, and design documentation, mentoring a 10-person team
- Maintained and scaled acmcsuf.com, the chapter's largest open-source project with **70+** contributors, by implementing features, reviewing **40+** PRs, and improving contributor documentation

Supplemental Instruction Leader

Aug. 2024 – May 2025

California State University, Fullerton

Fullerton, CA

- Facilitated two weekly sessions reinforcing Calculus I concepts, improving student understanding and average grades by **10%**
- Designed interactive activities and group discussions to foster an engaging, supportive learning environment

IT Student Assistant

Aug. 2023 – Present

California State University, Fullerton

Fullerton, CA

- Delivered tech support to faculty and staff, troubleshooting hardware/software and configuring workstations
- Resolved **300+** ServiceNow tickets, reducing response time and improving faculty satisfaction with IT services

PROJECTS

PlaylistExporter | SvelteKit, TailwindCSS, Python, Flask, Spotify API, YouTube API

- Designed and prioritized features for a cross-platform playlist conversion tool, addressing the user pain point of managing music across Spotify and YouTube
- Collaborated with a team of 3 to implement OAuth authentication and automated playlist creation, ensuring a smooth and secure user experience

LEADERSHIP

FullyHacks | Co-Director, UI Designer

Sep. 2023 – Present

- Co-designed the FullyHacks 2024 interface in Figma, ensuring a seamless user experience across devices that attracted **400+** applicants and secured 10 sponsors
- Directed FullyHacks 2025 alongside 3 co-directors, leading **50+** organizers across web, design, and marketing teams and achieving a **35%** year-over-year increase in project submissions

FullyBeyond | Web Development Team Lead

May 2024 – Nov. 2024

- Led a 5-person dev team to build fullybeyond.acmcsuf.com, the platform for CSUF's first 24-hour designathon, using SvelteKit and TailwindCSS
- Partnered with 11 organizers to launch the event, engaging **100+** students and boosting their design skills

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, JavaScript, C, C++, HTML, CSS, SQL

Frameworks: Flask, Svelte/SvelteKit, React, Bootstrap, TailwindCSS

Tools: Git, Linux, Figma, JIRA, Confluence, Miro

Methods: User Research, Usability Testing, Prototyping, Agile/Scrum