

Joseph Destefano

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Summary

Front-End Focused Full-Stack Developer with nearly two years of experience building scalable web applications using the MERN stack and Python. Skilled in React, JavaScript, Typescript, HTML5, CSS3, Tailwind CSS, Responsive Design, Python, Accessibility Best Practices, SEO Fundamentals, Progressive Web Apps (PWA), Offline Support, UI/UX Design Principles, Jest

Core Skills

Front-end Development: React, Redux, JavaScript, Typescript, HTML5, CSS3, Tailwind CSS, Responsive Design, Python, Accessibility Best Practices, SEO Fundamentals, Progressive Web Apps (PWA), Offline Support, UI/UX Design Principles, Jest

Backend Development: Node.js, Express, Python, Django, REST API Development, MongoDB, Firebase, PostgreSQL, MySQL, JWT, OAuth, Heroku, Netlify, AWS, CI/CD, Postman, Debugging, Code Optimization

Tools & Workflows: Git, AWS Cloud Services, Jest, Postman, Agile, Scrum, Debugging

Professional Experience

Full Stack Developer | 05/2025 – Present

Stealth Startup – Middletown, NJ

- Built an AI-powered CFO Agenda Creator using React and Tailwind CSS, reducing planning time for executives by 50% through automated financial data imports.
- Integrated RESTful APIs to deliver real-time insights, improving accuracy and eliminating manual processes.
- Collaborated with UI/UX designers to create a clean, modern, and highly usable interface.
- Implemented automated testing, reducing post-release bugs by 30%.

Freelance Web Developer | 04/2024 – Present

Self-Employed – Middletown, NJ

- Designed and deployed responsive websites for small businesses, boosting online engagement by 40%.
- Developed e-commerce platforms with integrated payment gateways to secure transactions.
- Customized CMS solutions using MERN Stack, allowing non-technical clients to independently manage content.
- Optimized website performance through code minification and image compression, improving load times by 30%.
- Collaborated closely with clients to understand their brand vision, ensuring a seamless and tailored user experience.

Projects

CFO Agenda Creator – [CFO Agenda Creator](#)

- Developed an AI-powered React application using Tailwind CSS and OpenAI to analyze financial documents and automatically generate CFO meeting agendas, emails, and survey.
- Automated a financial control setup process that typically takes 1–2 days, with early results showing potential to reduce it to under 1 hour.
- Designed to improve data accuracy and operational efficiency for public companies by minimizing manual reporting steps
- Aims to streamline communication workflows, enabling finance teams to focus more on high-value analysis and decision-making.

Meal Mind – Live site available upon request due to client confidentiality

- Developed Meal Mind, an AI-powered nutrition tool that creates personalized meal plans, grocery lists, and shopping carts tailored to user dietary preferences and health goals.
- Integrated advanced nutrition calculations and AI-driven logic to deliver customized food recommendations addressing complex dietary restrictions and macro targets.
- Built a dynamic, user-centric interface that simplifies nutrition planning and enhances user engagement.
- Demonstrated strong skills in complex data processing and scalable application development for real-world health and lifestyle challenges.
- Planning to implement comprehensive progress tracking in the next update to provide users with actionable insights and improved goal monitoring.

Meet Application – [Meet Application](#)

- Built a progressive web application (PWA) with React for scheduling, managing, and joining meetings, as well as discovering tech events by city.
- Implemented dynamic filtering and interactive data visualizations to enhance event discovery and user experience.
- Integrated real-time updates, authentication, calendar sync, and offline support using service workers for seamless access.
- Developed backend services with Node.js and MongoDB, deployed on AWS using Lambda to explore scalable, cost-efficient architecture.
- Designed a responsive UI with CSS, focused on optimizing mobile usability and engagement.

DragonFlix – [DragonFlix](#)

- Built a fully responsive movie discovery application using React and Firebase with secure authentication and protected routes.
- Created personalized movie experiences by allowing users to manage their own favorite movies.
- Applied React Context API for scalable state management and developed modular, reusable components for long-term maintainability.
- Implemented smooth client-side routing to ensure an optimized experience across all device sizes.
- Rebuilt and upgraded my original MoviesFlix Hub bootcamp project, applying advanced React concepts and real-world authentication workflows.
- Designed the application to be backend-agnostic, currently integrated with Firebase but ready to connect to a custom or newly developed backend for future scalability.

Education and Training

- Completed an intensive Full-Stack Web Development bootcamp through CareerFoundry, with a strong focus on real-world applications, modern tech stacks, and hands-on project work.
- Built full-stack applications from scratch using JavaScript, Node.js, Express, MongoDB, React, and RESTful APIs, with emphasis on scalability and clean code.
- Deployed and managed web applications using cloud services such as AWS and AWS Lambda, with version control handled through Git and GitHub.
- Gained experience in responsive design, authentication, database modeling, and modern development workflows through independently built portfolio projects.
- Developed a polished, job-ready portfolio showcasing end-to-end applications that demonstrate strong front-end design, robust backend architecture, and real-world functionality.

Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences – American Public University, WV | 11/2022

- Leveraged strong analytical skills and keen attention to detail from health sciences to improve debugging, optimize performance, and ensure UI accuracy. Collaborated effectively with cross-functional teams in fast-paced healthcare environments, clearly communicating complex concepts to drive project success.