

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, UI/UX design, and back-end development, with a strong foundation in Agile methodologies and cloud deployment. Developed an AI-powered CFO Agenda Creator designed to reduce executive planning time by up to 50%. Collaborative and client-focused, consistently delivering high-quality, user-centered solutions.

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.