

Kevin Cowley

Senior Backend Developer
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Profile

Senior Backend Developer with 5+ years of experience building and operating high-volume payment systems in regulated fintech environments. Specialised in PHP (Laravel, Lumen) with production experience in Golang and Node.js. Proven track record of leading payment integrations used daily by thousands of merchants and millions of end users.

Professional Experience

Senior Developer

Cape Town, South Africa

Payfast by Network International

Sep 2023 – Present

- Lead backend development of high-volume payment services in a regulated fintech environment.
- Technical lead for Apple Pay, Google Pay, and Samsung Pay integrations.
- Introduced PHPUnit-based Test Driven Development, increasing micro-service test coverage to 50%+.
- Designed secure, auditable systems aligned with PCI-related requirements.

Payment Methods and Integrations:

Credit Cards, Multi-Currency Payments, RCS Store Cards, Mobicred, Shopify Integration, Capitec Pay, Network International POS devices, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Samsung Pay

Intermediate PHP Developer

Cape Town, South Africa

Payfast by Network International

Feb 2023 – Aug 2023

Junior PHP Developer

Cape Town, South Africa

Payfast by Network International

Mar 2022 – Jan 2023

Software Engineer

Remote

Social Web Tech

Aug 2019 – Jul 2021

- Migrated a legacy PHP system to the Laravel framework.
- Built browser extensions and cross-platform Qt/C++ applications.

Selected Projects

CS Stats Viewer

Independently developed browser extension serving 1000+ active users across Chrome and Firefox. Aggregates competitive Counter-Strike statistics from multiple external APIs and presents them directly within Steam profiles.

Technologies: Angular, TypeScript, SCSS, Playwright, Jest

Volunteering

GirlCode Hackathon - Cape Town

Mentor representing Payfast (2022).

Technical Skills

Languages

- PHP
- Golang
- JavaScript / TypeScript
- SQL

Frameworks

- Laravel
- Lumen
- PHPUnit
- Vue.js
- Angular

Databases

- MySQL
- MariaDB
- Postgres

Tools

- Docker
- Linux
- Git

Languages

English - Native

Afrikaans - Native

German - Elementary (A2)

Work Authorization

South African citizen

Relocation-ready

EU Blue Card sponsorship required