

Leo Zhang

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EDUCATION

University of Waterloo

Systems Design Engineering Student

Waterloo, ON

Sep 2025 – Apr 2030

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, Java, C++, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML, CSS

Frameworks & Libraries: React, Next.js, Flask, FastAPI, REST API, Tesseract OCR, PyTest, Jest

Tools & Platforms: Git/GitHub, Cloudflare, Docker

Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite

Other: OpenAI API, Agile/Scrum, CI/CD Pipelines, Load Balancing, Excel (Pivot Tables, VLOOKUP)

WORK EXPERIENCES

Software Engineer

Incendium Academy

May 2025 – Aug 2025

Toronto, ON

- Built a scalable full-stack web platform with **Next.js**, **Flask**, and **PostgreSQL**, serving **1,000+ active users**
- Optimized backend queries and implemented **Cloudflare caching** to reduce system latency by **30%**
- Delivered product features across **4 Agile sprints**, using **Git**, **CI/CD pipelines**, and automated testing
- Built **unit and integration pipelines** with **PyTest** and **Jest**, cutting pre-production defects by **40%**

Rink Guard

City of Toronto

Oct 2024 – Jun 2025

Toronto, ON

- Monitored the safety of **100+ weekly skaters**, enforcing rink rules and executing emergency response protocols
- Collaborated with a team of **5 staff members** to coordinate patrols, reducing incident response time by **15%**

Ski Instructor

Uplands Golf and Ski Club

Dec 2022 – Mar 2025

Toronto, ON

- Delivered **300+ personalized lessons** using **CSIA methodologies**, accelerating student progression by **25%**
- Mentored **15+ apprentices** and trained **10+ new instructors**, standardizing lesson and operational procedures
- Collaborated with a team of **12 instructors** to adapt teaching plans for diverse learners and snow conditions

Administrative Assistant

Mckee Public School - Afterschool International Languages Program

Sep 2022 – Jun 2023

North York, ON

- Built Excel dashboards with formulas, **pivot tables**, and **VLOOKUP**, reducing errors by **12%** across datasets
- Generated and formatted **50+ reports** with visualizations in **Word** and **PowerPoint**, improving staff efficiency
- Coordinated communications for **200+ students**, ensuring accurate information flow between staff and parents

PROJECTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Preppin' Nutrition | *CSS, HTML, JavaScript, Python, Tesseract OCR, Git*

Jul 2024

- Built a **Flask backend** with **LLM prompt design** on the **OpenAI API** to handle **5,000+ recipe queries**
- Integrated **Tesseract OCR** to parse nutrition data from images, reducing manual entry times by **80%**
- Led a 4-person team through the **SDLC** at StarterHacks, delivering a functional prototype within **36 hours**
- Created a responsive **React frontend** with load balancing, scaling access to **100+ concurrent users**

Chess Engine | *Python, PyGame*

Feb 2023

- Implemented **minimax search** with **alpha-beta pruning** to improve evaluation depth, achieving **1600 rating**
- Optimized computation efficiency via code profiling, modular design, and iterative debugging

SOCIETIES AND EXTRA-CURRICULARS

Hack Club Chapter Leader |

Jul 2024

- Organized and ran **10+ coding workshops**, boosting member project completion rates by **50%**
- Guided **30+ students** in **Python**, **Java**, and **C++**, enabling members to ship functional projects
- Planned and hosted **10+ tech events**, growing club engagement and collaboration by **60%** across the club