

Sawyer Alston

sawyer.alston.com | sawyer@sawyer.alston.com | [linkedin.com/in/sawyer-alston](https://www.linkedin.com/in/sawyer-alston) | github.com/sawyer.alston

EDUCATION

University of Texas at San Antonio

San Antonio, TX

B.S. Computer Science, GPA: 3.85

May 2028

- Relevant Coursework: Appl. Linear Algebra, Data Structures, Discrete Math, Prog. in C, OOP, Math for CS
- Awards/Honors: 2x President's List, Folds of Honor Award, Honor Roll, MLH Winner

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineering Intern

June 2025 – August 2025

Midwest Commercial Painting

Chicago, IL

- Developed and deployed a new interactive company website, integrating SEO and modern frameworks, and leveraging frontend languages such as HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.
- Led database overhaul and built proprietary bid-automation and data handling software, improving data clarity, reducing workload for 10+ employees, and accelerating the bid process by over **400%**.

Diplomatic Technology Intern

December 2024 – February 2025

U.S. Department of State

Abuja, NG

- Developed and deployed a regional threat-filtration system automating nationwide RSS feed collection, filtration for relevant articles, and compilation into a daily email **serving 7+ key embassy departments**, including OSINT.
- Continue to upkeep and improve this project, recently pushing a full v2.0 revamp, including a 2-step filter leveraging a custom logistic regression model and KNN trained on high-signal, direct embassy data.

PROJECTS

ALERG'Z | *Python, FastAPI, SQL, React Native*

October 2025

- **Won 1st place** at RowdyHacksXI, making an app in under 24 hours helping users identify allergen risks in food products through barcode scanning and ingredient analysis, suggesting allergen-free alternatives for unsafe products
- Built a FastAPI backend integrated with an SQLite database to efficiently store, query, and validate food and allergy data, ensuring accurate, real-time responses

ShelfSense | *Python, Ngrok, Expo Go, RESTful API, React Native*

November 2025

- Built a full-stack mobile app for the biggest 24-hour hackathon in America, HackUTD, using FastAPI with RESTful endpoints for receipt OCR input, SQLite for food-inventory tracking, and automatic expiration detection logic.
- Integrated Llama 3.3-NeMo via NVIDIA NIM for AI-driven recipe generation (with API-Ninjas as a fallback), and leveraged Ngrok, Expo Go, and React Native to deliver a tangible, clean, easy-to-use MVP for judges to explore.

ML vs. DL Notebook | *Python, Jupyter, PyTorch, scikit-learn, NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib*

November 2025

- Built a full-stack mobile app for the biggest 24-hour hackathon in America, HackUTD, using FastAPI with RESTful endpoints for receipt OCR input, SQLite for food-inventory tracking, and automatic expiration detection logic.
- Integrated Llama 3.3-NeMo via NVIDIA NIM for AI-driven recipe generation (with API-Ninjas as a fallback), and leveraged Ngrok, Expo Go, and React Native to deliver a tangible, clean, easy-to-use MVP for judges to explore.

EXTRACURRICULAR

Rowdy Creators (ACM) | *Public Relations Junior Officer, AI Team Lead*

2024 – Present

- Expanding club outreach through endorsements with regional companies, while leading the AI group project as we develop an ASL-to-Text accessibility application for individuals with hearing impairments and those around them.

ICPC (ACM) | *Participant/Student*

2025 – Present

- Active participant in competitive-style programming, solving advanced algorithmic and data-structure problems to sharpen my technical interview skills while collaborating with driven peers on complex, time-constrained tasks.

Table Tennis Club | *Member*

2025 – Present

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Backend/Tooling: Python, FastAPI, PostgreSQL, Git, Docker, BeautifulSoup, openpyxl, Ngrok, Java, C

Machine Learning/AI: PyTorch, scikit-learn, Jupyter, NumPy, Pandas, matplotlib, HF Transformers, FAISS, OpenCV

Deployment/Frontend: HTML, CSS, JS, GitHub, Expo, Swagger, PyInstaller