

Seth McGathey

Senior QA Automation Engineer/Lead

PROFILE SUMMARY

Results-driven QA Automation professional with 9 years of experience designing test frameworks, writing automated test cases for web and mobile apps, and leading large-scale automation initiatives. Proven ability to boost team performance through strategic mentorship, process improvements, and data-driven automation strategies. Skilled in building QA practices from the ground up, transforming underperforming teams, and consistently exceeding KPIs.

SKILLS

Playwright	Cypress	Typescript	Javascript	SQL
Selenium	Appium	Java	HTML	PHP
Scrum/Agile	Git/GitHub	Bitbucket	Jira	Jenkins

WORK EXPERIENCE

QA AUTOMATION LEAD

Datassential | Chicago, IL | Jun 2023 - Present

Solely responsible for choosing, building, and developing Datassential's first automation project. Simultaneously trained, organized, and planned work for the other QA members, tracking Jira tasks through the development life cycle, managing TestRail test cases, and creating and updating Confluence documentation.

- **Built and implemented Playwright automation framework from the ground up** to support testing across all of Datassential's projects, establishing a scalable foundation for future automation efforts and handling the data of 80 countries and 11 million locations and translations into 4 languages: English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese.
- **Defined and drove QA goals, standards, and processes** to optimize resource allocation and promote consistency across cross-functional teams.
- **Integrated Playwright with TestRail** to automate test result updates, significantly streamlining regression cycles and improving visibility into test coverage.
- **Upskilled manual QA team members in test automation**, accelerating automation throughput, reducing regression time even for teams I didn't directly support, and elevating the QA team's overall effectiveness.
- **Led onboarding and training for new automation engineers**, enabling full productivity within their first month and fostering a cohesive, high-performing QA automation team.

QA AUTOMATION LEAD

Milwaukee Tool | Milwaukee, WI | Apr 2019 - Jun 2023

Administered and ensured seamless operation of customer-facing OneKey web and mobile apps at the highest level by identifying and correcting QA policies that were causing poor performance. Collaborated regularly with other leads, managers, and OneKey members to ensure unified visions and processes for high efficiency, maximizing the app's success.

- **Built and deployed Protractor and Cypress automation frameworks from the ground up**, enabling scalable end-to-end testing coverage and empowering the QA team with reusable testing infrastructure.
- **Improved test traceability and reduced duplication of effort** by standardizing the structure and formatting of manual test cases to ensure alignment across manual, automation, and regression suites.
- **Led a globally distributed QA team across web and mobile platforms**, implementing process improvements that overcame time zone and communication challenges to maximize output and team cohesion.
- **Transformed an underperforming automation group into a top-tier team** through targeted mentorship, technical upskilling, and structured guidance, resulting in measurable gains in test coverage and velocity.
- **Spearheaded the development and rollout of automation processes that cut regression cycle time** from 4 weeks to under 3 days, exceeding team KPIs and accelerating release cadence across projects.

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QUALITY ASSURANCE DEVELOPER

Skygen USA | Milwaukee, WI | May 2016 - Apr 2019

Coached, supported, and motivated new automation hires to quickly get up to speed on automating test cases, decreasing onboarding time, and increasing productivity. Collaborated with team members to identify areas for improvement and develop solutions to increase efficiency, productivity, and success.

- **Designed and implemented Selenium-based automation** for Skygen's B2B SaaS platform using C#, establishing a robust framework that improved test reliability and accelerated test execution across modules.
- **Initiated and led internal productivity programs** focused on workflow optimization, driving measurable gains in both individual and team efficiency.
- **Authored comprehensive documentation and training resources for the QA automation process**, ensuring consistent onboarding and enabling team-wide adoption of best practices.
- **Trained and mentored manual QA team members in automation**, expanding the team's technical capabilities and increasing overall test automation coverage.
- **Continuously evaluated and enhanced the automation pipeline** to streamline execution and maximize QA team performance, aligning testing efforts with evolving business needs.

IT JUNIOR PROGRAMMER

Market Probe | Milwaukee, WI | Dec 2014 - May 2016

Oversaw and navigated database updates for customer needs to keep database current and satisfy clients' changing needs.

- **Improved the performance and usability of a client-facing web application** by identifying and resolving front-end bugs, resulting in a more seamless and reliable user experience.
- **Developed and optimized SQL stored procedures** to enhance database efficiency, streamline data retrieval, and support accurate, accessible reporting and analytics across teams.

ADDITIONAL INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE:

IT SUPPORT TECHNICIAN INTERN

Milliman Inc. | Milwaukee, WI | Sep 2014 - May 2015

EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE | Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, WI

2014