Taylor Dickson

Senior Backend Engineer · Platform Architecture & API Integration

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Procurify

October 5, 2025

Engineering Team

Application for Senior Backend Engineer, Platform & Integrations

Dear Procurify Hiring Team,

I am excited to apply for the Senior Backend Engineer position on your Platform & Integrations team. With 7+ years of experience building scalable APIs and integration platforms for critical government systems, I'm drawn to Procurify's mission to modernize spend management through robust, API-first architecture. Your focus on creating seamless connections to accounting and ERP systems aligns perfectly with my expertise in building resilient data pipelines and third-party integrations.

In my current role as a Data Engineer with a Platform and Integration focus at the Ontario Public Service, I've developed the exact capabilities you're seeking. I recently architected and implemented a Python-based data platform that eliminated over $300K in annual licensing costs while processing millions of rows of critical court data. This experience translates directly to your need for scalable, observable systems capable of handling high-volume data from thousands of customers.

My hands-on experience with Flask and RESTful API design matches your technical requirements well. I've built API-based data cleaning tools that transformed weeks of manual processing into automated workflows—the kind of seamless integration experience that drives customer satisfaction. While my cloud experience has been primarily with Azure, the core principles of containerization (Docker), CI/CD pipelines, and infrastructure as code (Terraform) apply directly to your AWS environment.

Third-party API integrations have been central to my work. I've successfully integrated multiple data sources through Python and SQL, creating automated document generation systems that process 7,000+ customized reports. I've also eliminated high-risk legacy systems by building modern, maintainable replacements—experience that will be valuable as you expand your ecosystem of accounting and ERP integrations. My work with entity resolution algorithms and data transformations has given me a solid understanding of the challenges that arise when connecting disparate systems.

From an architectural perspective, I focus on making pragmatic decisions that balance immediate needs with long-term scalability. I've implemented protected main branches with automated testing, designed data warehouses supporting reporting across Ontario's entire court system, and consistently built the infrastructure that keeps complex organizations running smoothly. This approach ensures systems remain maintainable and scalable as they evolve.

As a team lead, I've mentored 5 engineers through complex technical challenges while maintaining delivery standards during organizational changes. I believe strongly in thorough code reviews, collaborative design sessions, and fostering engineering excellence. My goal is always to help elevate the capabilities of the entire team through knowledge sharing and practical guidance.

Procurify's recent Series C funding and commitment to AI-enhanced procure-to-pay experiences represents an exciting growth opportunity. Your remote-first culture and focus on personal development resonate with me, and I'm particularly interested in your API-first strategy and the opportunity to work with modern frameworks like FastAPI at scale. Building integrations that directly impact how organizations manage their spending is exactly the type of meaningful technical challenge I seek.

I would welcome the opportunity to bring my expertise in building resilient backend services and scalable integrations to help Procurify strengthen its position as a leader in modern spend management. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to discussing how my experience eliminating costly legacy systems and building modern API platforms can contribute to your Platform team's success.

Best regards,
Taylor Dickson
Attached: Resume

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Summary

Senior Backend Engineer with 7+ years building scalable APIs and integration platforms that connect critical business systems, eliminating $300K+ in annual licensing costs through modern Python-based architectures. Deep expertise in FastAPI, RESTful services, and third-party API integrations, with proven success designing resilient data pipelines processing millions of records for government decision-makers. Experienced technical leader mentoring engineering teams while architecting cloud-native solutions on Azure, implementing CI/CD pipelines, and transforming legacy systems into maintainable, API-first platforms.

Skills

Backend & API Development	Python, FastAPI, Flask, Django, RESTful APIs, Microservices Architecture
Integration & Data Pipelines	Third-party API Integration, ETL/ELT Pipelines, DBT, Azure Data Factory, Entity Resolution
Cloud & Infrastructure	Azure, Docker, CI/CD Pipelines, Linux Administration, Terraform (IaC), Shell Scripting
Architecture & Design	API-first Design, Distributed Systems, Data Modeling, Performance Optimization, Scalable Services
Leadership & Mentorship	Team Leadership, Code Reviews, Technical Mentoring, Cross-functional Collaboration, Agile

Experience

Data Engineer — Platform & Integration Focus

Toronto, Canada

Ontario Public Service — Ministry of the Attorney General

2024 — Present

- Eliminated $300K+ in annual IBM Cognos licensing costs by architecting and implementing Python-based DBT data platform, providing maintainable, modern solution that feeds critical reporting for government decision makers including courts and legislators throughout the 7-year, $160M+ court system migration.
- Optimized Azure cloud infrastructure (Databricks, ADF) through performance tuning and configuration management, reducing data pipeline build times and improving processing efficiency for millions of rows of court data.
- Built analytics system processing judicial data from centralized court reporting systems, serving as the critical data layer that enables government decision-makers to track case flow across 150+ provincial courts.
- Implemented CI/CD with Azure Dev featruing protected main branch, automated testing, and feature-based workflows, reducing senior staff workload while ensuring code quality and safe deployments.
- Designed data warehouse supporting reporting across Ontario's entire court system, enabling executive and public reporting that directly informs multi-million dollar investments in court operations.

Data Engineer/Team Lead

Toronto, Canada

Ontario Public Service — Treasury Board Secretariat

2019 — 2024

- Developed RESTful API-based data cleaning tools using Python/Flask and Vue.js that saved weeks of manual processing for 5 users, dramatically improving data quality for critical government operations.
- Led team of 5 engineers through complex organizational changes, maintaining team productivity and technical delivery despite shifting stakeholder priorities.
- Architected Azure cloud infrastructure serving hundreds of internal government users, ensuring 100% availability for critical data access and analytics operations.
- Eliminated high-risk legacy MS Access databases and manual data replication previously managed by single person, creating scalable automated pipelines for multi-million dollar union contract negotiations.
- Transformed unusable government data through entity resolution algorithms (Levenshtein, NLTK), making previously unworkable datasets actionable for policy and decision-making.

Workforce Analyst

Toronto, Canada

Ontario Public Service — Ministry of Government & Consumer Services

2017 — 2019

- Developed automated document generation system processing 7,000+ customized reports by integrating multiple data sources through Python and SQL, reducing manual processing time by over a month.
- Built comparison tools analyzing 1,400+ job classification documents, identifying and eliminating duplicates that posed legal risks and preventing conflicting classifications across government positions.
- Maintained critical MS Access database serving 20 concurrent users, implementing corruption recovery procedures and ensuring continuous data availability despite frequent network interruptions.