

# Christopher Benson

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(815) 995-4157

<https://github.com/cjb543>

## EDUCATION

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**Northern Illinois University** – DeKalb, IL

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science | GPA 3.66

May 2026

*Minor in Music*

Relevant Coursework: Compiler Design, Operating Systems, Computer Architecture, Assembly Language, Network Programming

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Northern Illinois University** – Dekalb, IL

Teaching Assistant

May 2024 – Present

- Selected by faculty to serve as the teaching assistant for a 30-student course in HLLASM Assembly.
- Provided one-on-one mentorship to students on complex topics, including JCL, packed decimal, and subprograms.
- Developed grading rubrics and provided detailed feedback on assembly projects to ensure consistent evaluation.

## PROJECTS

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**Tire Test Consortium Renderer** – Rust, Slint

- Eliminated MATLAB licensing and platform dependencies by building standalone replacement toolchain.
- Parsed ASCII .ttc files via custom tokenization engine; rendered multi-plot visualizations in Slint UI.
- Validated parser accuracy with unit tests against MATLAB reference outputs across 10+ test file formats.

**Custom Version Control** – C++, GTest

- Developed a lightweight version-control tool inspired by Git with file tracking and commit history.
- Managed metadata with zlib compression and SHA-1 hashing for content-addressable version tracking.
- Wrote 30+ unit tests covering core functionality to catch regressions and document expected behavior.

**Huskie Motorsports Website** – JavaScript, Bootstrap

- Developed a dynamic website showcasing the NIU Motorsports team accomplishments, leadership, and sponsors.
- Integrated Microsoft OAuth authentication with whitelist-based authorization for team content management.
- Ensured accessibility and responsiveness by implementing and maintaining WCAG AA standards.

**PGN Visualizer** – Python, PyQt6

- Developed a cross-platform multi-threaded chess rendering client supporting PGN and FEN formats.
- Integrated Stockfish for advanced position analysis, interactive board editing and file uploads.
- Applied strong UI design fundamentals to build a dynamic, responsive, and accessible interface.

## CERTIFICATIONS

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**American Foundation for the Blind**

Digital Accessibility Fundamentals, Assistive Technology Fundamental Skills

August 2025

- Completed the AFB Talent Lab Bootcamp, gaining hands-on experience in accessibility and digital inclusion.
- Demonstrated proficiency in applying inclusive design principles to real-world development projects through coursework, mentorships, and assessments.

**Clubs:** Association for Computing Machinery, Huskie Motorsports, NIU Wind Ensemble