**Microsoft HR Screen Notes 2023**

1. What is your full given name?

Brian Tran

1. Have you been in contact with anyone in the last 90 daysat Microsoft regarding employment? (*If “yes”:*In what capacity/who?)  
   No.

1. Where do you currently reside? (City & State, Province or Territory)  
   Escondido, CA

1. Are you open to relocation and if yes, what are your relocation preferences?  
   Yes! Though I have a slight preference for the West Coast or Colorado, I have no strong preference and am open to considering opportunities anywhere.
2. What is your highest level of Education and completion date?   
   Bachelors of Science, June 2016.

1. What is your current timeline for considering new opportunities?   
   I'm highly interested in this software engineering position and am eager to secure it as soon as possible. I'm actively exploring opportunities, and this position aligns perfectly with my career goals and aspirations.

1. Who is your current/or previous employer?   
   My current employer is ICW Group, a workers compensation insurance carrier.

1. What is your current/or previous job title?   
   My current job title is Intermediate Actuarial Analyst, but I also split my time working as a Software Engineer I within the same company on a different team. This unique arrangement allows me to leverage my experience and skills in programming, data analytics, and actuarial science simultaneously. I find great satisfaction in combining these areas of expertise, as it enables me to approach problem-solving from a holistic perspective and deliver comprehensive solutions.
2. What programming languages, tools, or technologies are you most comfortable working with? How many years have you worked with each?

Programming Languages:  
Microsoft VBA – 7 years  
Microsoft SQL Server – 7 years  
Java – 3 years  
Python – 3 years  
R – 3 years  
JavaScript – 1 years   
  
Frameworks:  
Java SpringBoot – 2 years  
Python Flask – 1 years  
  
Tools:  
Postman – 2 years

CLI – 2 years  
Git – 4 years

1. Where is most of your experience focused (Frontend/Fullstack/Backend)?   
   My primary experience is in backend development, specializing in Python, Java, SQL, and Java SpringBoot. I have also worked on personal projects involving HTML, CSS, and JavaScript for frontend development. I consider myself a well-rounded full-stack developer with a strong focus on backend experience.

1. On average, what percentage of your workday do you spend coding versus other tasks/activities?  
   I spend approximately 50% to 70% of my time coding. The rest is allocated to performing analyses, meetings, collaboration, planning, code reviews, researching, testing, and documentation.

1. Elaborate on an engineering project(s) you have recently and/or currently worked on, including your role/responsibilities?

I am currently working on a software engineering project focused on redesigning a complex pricing application that was originally developed using Excel and VBA. In this project, I have taken on multiple responsibilities:

1. My primary role is to redesign and code ten of the 40+ Excel engines into separate APIs using the Java SpringBoot framework. This involves analyzing the logic and structure of each sheet, identifying the key functionalities, and implementing them as RESTful APIs.
2. In addition to the API development, I am actively involved in designing the user interface (UI) for my Actuarial team to interact with the pricing application. My role includes gathering requirements, assisting with UI design, and conducting thorough testing. By collaborating closely with the Actuarial team, I ensure that the UI meets their specific needs and provides an intuitive and seamless experience when interacting with the pricing system.
3. Another significant aspect of this project is the design and development of an Extract, Transform, and Load (ETL) application. This application will enable the extraction of data from over 50 Excel tables, apply necessary transformations, and load the data into a SQL database. By automating this process, I aim to streamline data management, improve data integrity, and enable efficient data retrieval for the pricing application.

In summary, my role in this software engineering project encompasses reprogramming Excel engines into APIs, designing the UI, and developing an ETL application. This comprehensive approach allows for the transformation of the monolithic pricing application into a more scalable, user-friendly, and data-driven system.

1. What type of roles/specific teams/projects are you most interested in?  
   I am most interested in roles, teams, and projects that allow me to actively engage and collaborate in building applications and services. I thrive on the opportunity to contribute to projects that are highly visible, as it provides a sense of fulfillment to see the impact of my work on users' experiences.   
     
   Additionally, I’m continuously seeking opportunities for learning and self-improvement, whether it's through exploring new technologies or acquiring new skills. I am excited to be part of teams that foster growth and provide an environment that encourages continuous learning and personal development.
2. In thinking about your next position, what are your top 2-3 priorities when accepting a potential offer? *(e.g., title, compensation, geographic location, new challenges, seeing what's out there, company reputation, etc.)*My top priorities when accepting a potential offer are company culture and values, team dynamics and collaboration, and growth and advancement opportunities.
3. What are your compensation expectations? (i.e., salary, bonus, stock, etc.)   
   *(No specifics are required, and you won't be held to any specific numbers, but the more information you can provide, the better we can calibrate)*  
   Considering the specific role and responsibilities, my salary expectation is in the range of $90,000 to $120,000.
4. Do you have any additional comments to add?   
   As a lifelong Windows user and Microsoft supporter, I am very excited to apply for this Software Engineering position! With experience as an Actuarial Analyst and proficiency in Python, Java, SQL, and SpringBoot, I believe I’m well-equipped to contribute to building platform and infrastructure services and tools.  
     
   Your mission to deliver a dependable, safe, and secure commerce infrastructure aligns perfectly with my passion for creating innovative and user-friendly experiences. I thrive in collaborative environments and have a passion for delivering high-quality software solutions. Let's join forces to build something amazing together!