Solution Architecture Document (SAD)

Version: 1.0

Owner: Architecture & Platform Team

Date: 23 Aug 2025

1) Overview & Architectural Drivers

Business drivers: accelerate resume screening; improve match quality; reduce fake resumes; provide explainable Top-20 results and downloadable profile reports.

Technical drivers: AWS-native, secure PII handling, scalable RAG retrieval, fast vector search (FAISS/

Chroma), low-latency APIs (FastAPI), modular services on ECS/EC2, and a React/Next.js UI.

Constraints: US-only data residency, 99.9% availability, cost efficiency, RBAC, auditability.

2) High-Level Architecture

Logical components: - **UI Web App (React/Next.js)** – JD intake, filters, results, reports, admin. - **API Gateway / ALB + FastAPI Service (ECS)** – Auth, request routing, orchestration. - **RAG Service (ECS)** – Query builder, retrieval (hybrid), re-ranker, explanation. - **Vector Index (FAISS/Chroma on ECS/EC2)** – k-NN search; shards and snapshots. - **Parser/Embedder Services (ECS + Lambda)** – Ingestion pipeline (parse → normalize → embed). - **Metadata Store (DynamoDB or RDS)** – Resume/JD metadata, statuses, feedback, fraud scores. - **Object Store (S3)** – Landing, Curated, Snapshots buckets with KMS. - **Report Generator (ECS)** – HTML/PDF profile reports with provenance. - **Security & Edge** – Cognito (OIDC), WAF, IAM, KMS, CloudTrail.

Diagrams

- VPC/Network Topology: diagram_vpc_network_topology.png
- CI/CD Pipeline: diagram_cicd_pipeline.png
- See FRD for ingestion and RAG flow diagrams.

3) Deployment Topology (AWS)

- **VPC** with public subnets (ALB), private app subnets (ECS tasks), private data subnets (vector nodes, DB).
- ALB (HTTPS) terminates TLS; AWS WAF applies managed + custom rules; Route 53 hosts zone.
- ECS on EC2 (capacity via Auto Scaling Groups) for stateful vector shards and compute-heavy services.
- Lambda for event-driven orchestration on S3 object puts.
- **S3** buckets: resumes-landing , resumes-curated , vector-snapshots (SSE-KMS).
- DynamoDB (on-demand) or RDS PostgreSQL (Multi-AZ) for system metadata.
- Cognito for SSO; Secrets Manager/SSM for secrets/params.
- CloudWatch for logs/metrics; OpenTelemetry traces.

4) Component Design & Responsibilities

4.1 Web App (React/Next.js)

- JD input (text/file), skill chip editor, filter drawer (must-have, years, geo, auth, clearance, pay).
- Results grid (Top-20), evidence tooltips, fraud badge, download/report, comparison up to 5.
- Uses **Cognito Hosted UI** → retrieves JWT → calls FastAPI with bearer token.

4.2 API Service (FastAPI on ECS)

Endpoints (excerpt): - POST /jd/parse - extract skills/constraints from JD. - POST /search - JD query \rightarrow Top-K \rightarrow re-rank \rightarrow Top-20 (scores + reasons). - GET /candidate/{id} - candidate profile (PII-masked). - POST /report - generate HTML/PDF profile(s); return S3 pre-signed URL. - Admin: POST /weights , POST /taxonomy , GET /audit . **Cross-cutting:** JWT validation (Cognito JWKs), request quotas, audit logging.

4.3 RAG Service

- Query Builder: JD → normalized skills, years per skill, domain, constraints.
- Retriever: hybrid search (vector + BM25 keyword) across sub-indexes (skills, experiences, summary).
- **Re-Ranker:** weighted scoring (semantic similarity, exact skill matches, years, recency, domain, geo, auth fraud penalty).
- Explainer: evidence snippets with offsets + missing-skills list.

4.4 Vector Index Layer

- Choice: FAISS (HNSW/IVF-PQ) or Chroma (for management features).
- Sharding: \leq 2M vectors per shard; shard by job family (e.g., data, cloud, backend) or hash.
- **Replication:** 2× across AZs for HA; reader replicas for heavy query loads.
- Snapshots: Nightly shard dumps to S3; warm-start on deploy.

4.5 Ingestion Pipeline

- S3 Landing → S3 event → Lambda Orchestrator queues jobs.
- Parser (ECS): Textract/PyPDF/DOCX extraction; entity normalization (skills, titles).
- Embedder (ECS/EC2): batch/text chunk embeddings; store in index service; write curated JSON to S3.
- Metadata (DynamoDB/RDS): ingestion state, hashes, fraud signals.

4.6 Report Generator

- Templated (Jinja/Handlebars) HTML; server-side PDF (headless Chromium).
- Includes match score, breakdown, skills timeline, evidence; outputs to S3 with short-lived pre-signed URLs.

4.7 Fraud Detection

- Signals: date overlap checks, impossible seniority, clone detection via fuzzy hashes, LLM-style verbosity ratio, geo inconsistencies, unverifiable employers.
- Aggregated **Fraud Risk Score** used only for **re-ranking** and UI flagging.

5) Data Model & Storage Mapping

- S3 (raw & curated): original files + parsed JSON; KMS, versioning, Object Lock for audit logs.
- DynamoDB/RDS: Resume, Experience, Skill, JDQuery, MatchResult, Feedback.
- **Vector store**: Embeddings per resume chunk and per skill/experience chunk; index metadata (version, shard) in DB.
- Logs/metrics: CloudWatch; traces in X-Ray/OTel backend.

6) Sequence Flows

6.1 JD → Search → Top-20

- 1. Recruiter logs in via Cognito; UI gets JWT.
- 2. UI POST /search with JD and filters.
- 3. API validates JWT \rightarrow calls RAG Service.
- 4. RAG builds query \rightarrow vector Top-K (e.g., 200) \rightarrow keyword retrieval \rightarrow merge/dedup.
- 5. Re-ranker scores; Top-20 returned with explanations + fraud flags.
- 6. API writes search event to audit; UI renders results.

6.2 Ingestion

- 1. Resume uploaded to S3 (UI/bulk).
- 2. S3 event triggers Lambda; job persisted to DB.
- 3. Parser extracts text/fields → Curated S3 + metadata.
- 4. Embedder computes embeddings → upserts vectors into FAISS/Chroma.
- 5. Index snapshot scheduled nightly; statuses updated.

6.3 Report Generation

- 1. UI selects candidates \rightarrow POST /report.
- 2. Service assembles context & HTML \rightarrow PDF \rightarrow stores in S3.
- 3. API returns pre-signed URL \rightarrow auto-expires.

7) Security Architecture

- Identity: Cognito user pool; groups map to RBAC roles (Recruiter, Lead, Admin).
- **Network:** Private subnets for services; S3/DynamoDB via VPC endpoints; NAT for outbound.

- Edge: ALB + WAF (managed rules + custom patterns); TLS 1.2+; HSTS.
- Encryption: KMS-CMKs for S3/EBS/RDS; TLS in transit.
- Secrets: SSM/Secrets Manager; rotation 90d; no long-lived keys.
- Audit: CloudTrail + app audit tables; Object Lock for logs.
- PII Controls: Mask PII by default in UI exports; DSAR and deletion workflows.

8) Observability & SRE

- **Logging:** JSON logs, correlation IDs, request/response sizes.
- **Metrics:** API latency/throughput; vector query time; ingestion queue age; fraud signal rates; report latency.
- **Tracing:** OpenTelemetry across API → RAG → vector shards.
- Dashboards: per-service plus business KPIs (Precision@K, Recall@K, nDCG).
- Alerts: P95 search > 3s; error rate > 1%; queue age > 10m; shard memory > 80%.

9) Availability, Resiliency & DR

- HA: Multi-AZ ECS & RDS; vector shards spread across AZs with replicas.
- Snapshots: Nightly FAISS/Chroma dumps to S3; DB PITR.
- Degradation: If generator fails, still return Top-20; if reports fail, CSV export fallback.
- **DR:** Warm standby in us-east-2; RTO \leq 4h, RPO \leq 24h.

10) Performance & Scalability Plan

- Targets: | / search | P95 \leq 3s up to 5M resumes; \leq 6s at 20M (roadmap).
- **Scaling:** Horizontal ECS scaling on CPU/latency; shard vector index by job family; cache hot results per JD for 10–30m.
- Indexing: IVF-PQ or HNSW for recall vs. latency trade-offs; offline recall tests.

11) Technology Choices & Rationale

- FAISS vs Chroma: FAISS for performance and control; Chroma if needing simpler ops/metadata.
- DynamoDB vs RDS: Start with DynamoDB (on-demand, flexible); RDS if complex joins/analytics.
- FastAPI: async support, OpenAPI native; easier performance.
- ECS on EC2: control over instance families for memory-heavy vector shards.

12) Data Governance & Privacy (Mapping)

• Classification: PII vs operational data; tag resources.

- Retention: 2 years inactive; configurable per client.
- **Deletion:** Propagate deletes to S3, DB, vector store (tombstones + re-build).
- Access Reviews: Quarterly RBAC audits; least-privilege IAM.

13) CI/CD & Environments

- · Branches: trunk-based with feature flags.
- CI: GitHub Actions lint, type-check, unit tests, container build, vulnerability scan.
- Artifact: push to ECR; SBOM published.
- IaC: Terraform/CDK plans; change sets reviewed.
- CD: ECS blue/green with ALB; canary 10%; automatic rollback on alarms.
- Envs: Dev → Staging → Prod (separate AWS accounts).
- · Diagram: see diagram_cicd_pipeline.png.

14) Capacity Planning & Sizing (Initial)

- Vector shards: 3 shards × 1 replica (≈ 6 nodes) for 5M vectors (IVF-PQ), c7i.2xlarge (32 GB).
- API/RAG: 3-6 tasks, c7q.large; autoscale on CPU 60% or P95 latency.
- Parser/Embedder: spot c7q.xlarge for batch; target 120 resumes/min/node.
- RDS (if used): db.r6g.large Multi-AZ; or DynamoDB on-demand with auto-scaling.

15) Integration Points

- Cognito (Auth), CloudWatch (obs), S3 (storage), DynamoDB/RDS (metadata), ECR (images),
 Route53/WAF/ALB (edge), optional SQS for ingestion queues.
- Future: ATS (Greenhouse/Lever) via REST, Slack webhooks for share links.

16) Risks & Mitigations (Architecture)

- Index drift / taxonomy changes: versioned embeddings; rolling re-index jobs.
- Stateful vector nodes complexity: automate snapshots & restore; pre-warm on deploy.
- Cost spikes from embedding: schedule windows, batch, and cache embeddings; use Spot for batch.
- Fraud false positives: keep as rank penalty; human confirmation required.

17) Testing Strategy (Tech-Facing)

- Contract tests for APIs; IR eval (Precision@K, Recall@K, nDCG).
- Load tests: k6 profiles with JD mixes; target P95 \leq 3s.
- · Chaos drills: kill a shard; confirm degraded yet functional search; restore from snapshot.

• Security tests: IAM least privilege, WAF rules, file sanitization.

18) Operational Runbooks

• Deploy & rollback steps; index restore; PII purge flows; hotfix protocol; DR failover checklist.

19) Cost Model (Initial Estimate)

- Compute for ECS vector shards/API: baseline \$2–4k/month.
- S3 storage + data transfer: \$200–600/month at 5M resumes.
- DynamoDB/RDS: \$200-500/month.
- Misc (WAF, NAT, CloudWatch, snapshots): \$300-800/month.
- **Unit costs target:** \leq \$0.05/resume ingest; \leq \$0.01/search at 5M scale.

20) Acceptance & Handover

- Architecture review sign-off by Product/Engineering/SecOps.
- Successful completion of load, chaos, and security tests.
- Runbooks and dashboards handed to on-call.

Appendix A - Diagrams

- VPC/Network Topology: diagram_vpc_network_topology.png
- CI/CD Pipeline: diagram_cicd_pipeline.png
- (From FRD) High-Level, Ingestion & Indexing, Matching/RAG flows.