

DeShawn Williams

Full Stack Developer | Self-Taught → 15K+ App Users | React, Node.js, Python | Building NeighborHood 📱 | Georgia Tech OMSCS

Atlanta, Georgia

[412 connections](#)

Engineering roles

DW

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I taught myself to code while delivering DoorDash orders. Now my apps have 15,000+ users.

My path wasn't traditional. No CS degree (yet—working on it at Georgia Tech). No bootcamp. Just 1,200+ hours of freeCodeCamp, The Odin Project, and building real things that solve real problems.

What I learned managing a \$12M Target store for 4 years: how to lead teams, solve problems under pressure, and understand what actual users need. Those skills translate directly to building software.

My proudest project is NeighborHood, a community safety app I built from scratch that now has 15,000+ downloads and a 4.6 star rating. It was featured in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution as a "grassroots tech solution." I handle everything: React Native frontend,

Node.js backend, PostgreSQL database, push notifications serving 50K+ daily alerts.

I'm also an active open source contributor. Merged 23 PRs to ShiftSwap, a scheduling tool for retail workers—a problem I know intimately from my Target days.

Currently:

- Pursuing Georgia Tech's OMSCS (M.S. Computer Science) part-time, specializing in Machine Learning
- Freelance development: 8 client projects delivered, \$45K in contract revenue, 100% satisfaction rate
- Contributing to open source projects that help working people

I'm looking for my first full-time engineering role at a company that values grit, self-starters, and diverse perspectives.

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Featured

NeighborHood App

Personal Project • React Native, Node.js

[15,000+ downloads](#) • [4.6★ rating](#)

"Grassroots Tech Solution for Community Safety"

Atlanta Journal-Constitution • 2024

ShiftSwap - Top Contributor Q2 2023

Open Source • 23 PRs merged

From Retail to React: My Coding Journey

DEV.to Article • 2023

Experience



Freelance Software Developer

Self-Employed

Mar 2022 - Present • 2 yrs 10 mos

Atlanta, Georgia

Building web and mobile applications for small businesses.

- Delivered 8 client projects generating \$45K in contract revenue
 - Tech stack: React, React Native, Node.js, Python, PostgreSQL, Firebase
 - 100% client satisfaction; 6 of 8 clients provided referrals
 - Notable project: BudgetBuddy finance tracker with Plaid API integration
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NH

Creator & Lead Developer - NeighborHood App

Personal Project

Jun 2023 - Present • 1 yr 7 mos

Atlanta, Georgia

Community safety app enabling neighbors to share real-time alerts.

- 15,000+ downloads on iOS and Android with 4.6 star rating
 - Push notification system handling 50,000+ daily notifications (99.2% delivery rate)
 - RESTful API with JWT authentication; 200+ unit tests at 87% coverage
 - Featured in Atlanta Journal-Constitution as grassroots tech solution
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Store Manager

Target

Aug 2018 - Feb 2022 • 3 yrs 7 mos

Atlanta, Georgia

- Managed \$12M annual revenue location with 45 team members across 5 departments
 - Built inventory tracking tool (self-taught Excel VBA) reducing stockouts 23%
 - Promoted from Sales Associate to Store Manager in 3 years (typical timeline: 5+ years)
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Delivery Driver (Part-time while learning to code)

DoorDash & Instacart

Mar 2020 - Dec 2022 • 2 yrs 10 mos

Atlanta, Georgia

- Completed 2,800+ deliveries with 4.98 rating while learning to code nights/weekends
- Built personal route optimization tool in Python, increasing hourly earnings by 18%

Education

GT

Georgia Institute of Technology

Master of Science - Computer Science (OMSCS)

2023 - 2026 (Expected)

Specialization: Machine Learning. Completed 6 of 10 courses. GPA: 3.8

fCC

freeCodeCamp & The Odin Project

Self-Directed Learning

2020 - 2022

1,200+ hours of structured learning. Certifications: JavaScript, React, Node.js, Responsive Web Design

Skills

JavaScript

TypeScript

Python

React

React Native

Node.js

Express

Django

Vue.js

PostgreSQL

MongoDB

Firebase

AWS

Docker

Git

RESTful APIs