

Caitlin Ma - Software Engineer

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BROOKLYN, NY

SUMMARY

Full-stack Software Engineer with 3+ years experience in front-end and backend development.

Languages: Javascript, Typescript, Ruby, Python, SQL, HTML, CSS

Frameworks and Technologies: React, Express, Next.js, Nest.js, Redux, Ruby on Rails, Jest, AWS, PostgreSQL, Figma, Jira, Github, Redis, Docker

Software Engineer - Patra Co.

Mar. 2023 - Present

- Founding developer on Patra's first SaaS product, building both the frontend and backend systems for a sophisticated policy comparison application in the insurance and financial services sector. Developed a React-based frontend with Next.js and a scalable NestJS backend, enabling seamless data flow and system reliability. Accelerated future feature delivery by designing reusable, modular components and scalable API architecture.
- Led the development of an Agency Management system feature, these responsibilities included:
 - Designing and implementing a robust database schema and NestJS API endpoints support dynamic roles and permissions across multiple user types.
 - Writing database migrations to establish and manage permission structures.
 - Building a multi-step UI flow to handle the order of operations for agency creation, user assignment, impersonation, and role-based access control.
 - Optimizing endpoint interactions through a centralized UI hook to ensure consistency and efficiency across the onboarding flow.
 - This feature enabled scalable client onboarding and contributed to increased sales opportunities through streamlined access management.
- Drove the end-to-end development of a major service expansion in collaboration with cross-functional teams, ensuring business alignment through close stakeholder engagement.
 - Designed and implemented complex parent-child relationships that were previously unsupported in the application, updating the API, database, and UI to support deeply nested structures. This included

building reusable components, adding field-level validation, and managing submission state across nested inputs.

- This expansion significantly increased business value by enabling the application to scale and support more complex lines of business requirements, making it a more compelling solution for clients with advanced workflows. It contributed to client base growth, increased adoption, and profitability, and was recognized by stakeholders as a high-impact release aligned with strategic goals.
- Championed and enforced engineering best practices across the team—driving high code quality, robust test coverage, and long-term maintainability through strategic architectural decisions, rigorous peer reviews, and comprehensive integration testing.

Web Developer - Freelance

Feb. 2021 - Mar. 2023

- Improved SEO performance and load times by auditing client sites and implementing lazy loading, async script strategies, and optimized image formats (WebP), leading to 30–50% faster first paint times.
- Integrated AWS Cognito into client dashboards and apps, handling full user auth flows (sign-up, MFA, token refresh) and building secure role-based access components with JWT-based session management.
- Built fully responsive and accessible websites using semantic HTML, modern CSS frameworks (Tailwind, Bootstrap), and media queries to ensure consistent cross-browser compatibility across devices.

Education and Training

Certificate of Completion, Software Engineering

Flatiron School - New York, NY

Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics

SUNY Purchase - Purchase, NY