

# Lynda Foster

[lyndabrf@gmail.com](mailto:lyndabrf@gmail.com) | [Phone](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | Burbank, CA

[Github](#) | [Portfolio](#)

## SUMMARY

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Cloud Engineer with a Bachelor's in Computer Science, a professional client-facing background in Finance, and a proficiency in .NET web application and microservices development.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Languages:** Python | Bash | SQL | MySQL | PostgreSQL

**Web/API:** .NET/C# | JavaScript | HTML | CSS | Bootstrap | Regex | Postman | Swagger | XML

**DevOps:** AWS | Terraform | Jenkins | Ansible / Ansible AWX | Kubernetes | Ubuntu | Docker

## EXPERIENCE

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Smoothstack - McLean, VA (Remote) | Cloud Engineer | 11/2022 - Present

- Worked within a **scrum** team to deploy a highly scalable, available, and fault-tolerant 3-tier online banking application using the Fibonacci story point estimation method, daily standups, sprints, and retrospectives
- Architected and developed reusable infrastructure modules with **Terraform** and **Ansible** to deploy applications to **ECS** and **EKS**
- Executed cost-benefit analysis of tech stack and proposed new software architecture that incorporated **CloudWatch** implementation, resulting in improved cost-monitoring
- Designed and maintained a robust **CI/CD** pipeline using **Jenkins** and **GitLab** to streamline the deployment of **Java Spring Boot** microservices, **React/Angular** UI, and **MySQL** database to AWS, including automated tests with SonarQube and Terratest
- Produced code that adheres to established security standards and quality control protocols using the Atlassian Suite (**Jira/Confluence**) and Git Flow in an agile setting
- Initiated Spring Boot microservices and React/Angular Node applications using Dockerfiles and Docker Compose to generate **Docker** images for cloud deployment
- Automated service operations and application installation using **Python** and **Bash** scripts
- Initiated documentation efforts for CI/CD tool integrations in **Confluence**, ensuring clear and concise communication across the organization and facilitating knowledge sharing and collaboration among team members
- Developed gray box smoke tests using Python for Java Spring Boot microservices to validate basic functionality before integration into a CI/CD pipeline

AWS Environment: IAM, EC2, ECR, ECS, EKS, ELB, Lambda/Boto3, S3, VPC, RDS, DynamoDB, Subnets, CloudFormation, CloudWatch

Environment: Terraform, Jenkins, Ansible, Ansible Tower, Kubernetes, Ubuntu, RHEL, Docker, MySQL, Python, Bash, Java, Angular, React, GitLab

Vermont Idea Company - Shelburne, VT (Remote) | Systems Software Engineer | 10/2022 - Present

- Extracted project requirements from Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to document design concepts, manage integration work, and enable effective communication with software and business teams
- Maintained and managed systems documentation, including **Software Design Description** in **Confluence**

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- Implemented and converted existing **MATLAB** scripts to **Python**, adjusting the architecture to conform to an object-oriented programming environment
- Analyzed algorithm performance, identified opportunities for optimization and efficiency improvements, and proposed solutions

Environment: Python, MATLAB, Confluence, Jira, XML

Benefit Plans Inc - Los Angeles, CA | Employer Services Analyst | 03/2019 - 09/2022

- Eliminated 40% of the processing time needed to reconcile discrepancies by automating the conversion of raw data to readable format using **Python** scripts, **PowerShell**, and **Excel** macros
- Developed, implemented, and maintained digital operational procedures that managed \$100M+ in monthly contribution payments to pre-taxed PH&W (pension, health, and welfare) benefit accounts
- Participated in continuous process improvement initiatives by identifying opportunities for streamlining processes or increasing efficiency within existing workflows/processes using root cause analyst techniques when applicable
- Trained and managed a team of 3 employees while producing training documentation that expedited onboarding to the department; implemented **Kanban** to enable collaboration
- Responsible for cultivating and maintaining long-term business relationships with diverse teams among key networks, payroll companies, employers, and local unions to ensure benefits packages complied with contract, ERISA, & other federal guidelines
- Resolved escalated client issues by collaborating with interdepartmental teams to ensure solutions were in compliance with company guidelines and HIPAA regulations

Environment: Python, PowerShell, Kanban, OpenVMS Alpha

## CERTIFICATIONS

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Terraform Associate (002) | Splunk Core Power User | ITIL Foundation in IT Service Management | Oracle Database SQL Certified Associate 1Z0-071 | SAS Certified Statistical Business Analyst

## EDUCATION

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MSc in Data Analytics | Western Governors University | Salt Lake City, UT

BSc in Computer Science & Accounting | Western Governors University, Salt Lake City, UT