

From the start of my college career at Georgia Tech, I was set on becoming a software engineer as I was captivated by the potential of technology to profoundly impact society. My enthusiasm was further fueled by courses in “Information Security Strategies” and “Privacy Technology, Policy, & Law,” which sparked a deep interest in security and data privacy. These courses, coupled with my Secret Government Security Clearance, have sharpened my focus on cloud technologies and the protection of digital platforms. The mission of Microsoft Security to make the world a safer place for deeply resonates with my personal and professional aspirations which has compelled me to apply for the **Microsoft Security Software Engineer** position.

**Designing and implementing a secure backend API** for an e-commerce platform allowed me to delve into the intricacies of authentication, authorization, and data protection. This hands-on experience solidified my understanding of the importance of safeguarding user information and building systems that prioritize security at every level.

Additionally, my collaboration on a comprehensive **Cloud Security Policy** for a simulated large financial institution exposed me to the unique challenges of securing cloud environments. This experience involved a deep dive into cloud-specific threats and aligning our strategies with NIST recommendations as well as government regulation. This experience in analyzing security risks and ensuring compliance would make me excited for an opportunity to innovate within Microsoft’s state-of-the-art catalog and governance services.

Moreover, my involvement in conducting a **Privacy Impact Assessment** for the North Carolina state Board of Elections has ingrained a thorough perspective on data privacy issues. This experience required me to analyze and align North Carolina’s data handling practices with stringent state and federal regulations. This foundation directly compliments the responsibilities outlined for this role at Microsoft.

In my most recent project, I developed a microservices-based music streaming application leveraging **Microsoft Azure’s cloud services**. This project gave me hands-on experience with Azure SQL Database, Azure functions, and Blob Storage, Azure API Management, Azure Container Registry, and Azure Web Apps. I also implemented a CI/CD pipeline using Azure Pipelines, ensuring secure and efficient deployments. This experience, coupled with my **Azure Fundamentals Certification**, demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of Azure’s cloud ecosystem and my ability to leverage its powerful tools to build and deploy complex applications.

I am eager to bring my technical experience and proactive approach to security and privacy to Microsoft, where I can contribute to safeguarding our digital future and continue to learn and grow within an innovative environment.

Best regards,

Matthew Jinks