

# Chao Justice Lai

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Bio: A programmer who enjoys working with strongly typed languages such as Typescript, Go. A cat lover who believes that Ruby is garbage not unlike PHP.

## Education

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### Baruch College

Bachelor in Marketing Management

New York, NY

2014/08 – 2019/12

## Work Experience

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### Afficiency

New York, NY

Full Stack Developer

2023/03 – Present

- Contribute to a digital platform (React, Typescript, Go, Python, Flask, MySQL), providing life insurance solutions and building a bridge between retailers, insurance agents, and end users.
- Write microservices in Python & Golang to ship RESTFUL APIs and handle third-party integrations.
- Write raw sql queries, transform into human-readable format, and output most up-to-date data from the database.
- Actively engage in team meetings and brainstorming sessions, rapidly prototype and iterate on new features.
- Work closely with the design team to translate wireframes and mockups into interactive web pages, maintaining a consistently high standard of visual design and user interface.

### August Schools

New York, NY

Software Engineer

2022/06 – 2023/03

- Supported web development (React, Typescript, Ruby on Rails, MongoDB) of note taking services, driving quarterly revenue increases in 18% from public/private school clients.
- Conducted thorough testing and debugging of code to ensure the platform was responsive, scalable, and compatible across different browsers and devices.
- Implemented SSO with Microsoft; leveraged Ruby gem Pundit to restrict certain views/actions to authorized users only.
- Maintained GraphQL API endpoints to enable PDF document generating/collating, image resizing; manipulated YAML config files to support rich text editing.

### Alice Financial

New York, NY

Associate Software Engineer

2021/04 – 2022/06

- Leveraged financial technology (React, Typescript, Ruby on Rails, Postgres) in saving a yearly estimate of \$3.5 million on commuter spending.
- Collaborated with a team of senior engineers to implement new features and enhancements to improve user experience and increase website functionality.
- Contributed to a GraphQL project responsible for handling user's HSA spending logic and validating contribution limits.
- Assisted in maintaining notion docs, including technical specifications, user guides, and troubleshooting resources, enhancing team efficiency and knowledge sharing.

### Scholarship Junkies

Seattle, WA

Junior Software Engineer

2020/08 – 2021/02

- Powered a non-profit mission (React, Javascript, CSS, Node.js) in matching students with qualifying packages.
- Used Git to manage and track code changes, ensuring efficient collaboration and codebase integrity.
- Integrated third-party APIs to automate application submissions and to scan for fraudulent applications.
- Fixed business logo misalignment in email template and email subscription bug.

## Side Projects

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- Wrote a python script for my girlfriend's accounting job to de-duplicate thousands of transactions by parsing two excel sheets, grouping transactions by payment amounts, and fuzzy matching the vendor names.

## Skills

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- Languages: experienced in Typescript/Javascript, comfortable with Ruby, Python, Go
- Framework/Database: React, Rails, Express, GraphQL, Postgres, MongoDB, MySQL
- Developer Tools: VSCode, Git, Docker, Vim