February 2026 – NoleQuest Team – PR/FAQ

Press Release

NoleQuest Launches AI-Powered Platform That Levels the Playing Field for Non-Traditional Students Seeking Internships

First-of-its-kind marketplace uses Generative AI to translate real-world experience into corporate language, helping talented students bypass keyword-filtering systems and get noticed by recruiters

TALLAHASSEE, FL – February 7, 2026 – NoleQuest, an AWS-powered AI marketplace, today announced its launch to help university students with non-traditional backgrounds land competitive internships. The platform solves a critical pain point: students with strong potential but unconventional experience—retail jobs, club leadership, volunteer work—are systematically rejected by Applicant Tracking Systems (ATS) that scan for corporate keywords they've never had the chance to earn.

Today, a student who managed inventory as a retail shift lead possesses the same 'operational logistics' skills that companies seek in supply chain interns—but their resume gets auto-rejected because it doesn't say 'supply chain.' A club treasurer who balanced budgets and tracked expenses has the 'financial planning' capabilities required for analyst roles—but ATS systems never see it. Meanwhile, recruiters are drowning in hundreds of generic applications, unable to identify high-potential candidates buried in the noise.

NoleQuest uses Amazon Bedrock's Generative AI to bridge this gap. The platform translates a student's raw experience—from managing work schedules to leading campus events—into the professional language recruiters understand as 'transferable skills.' Students upload their resume and transcript, and the AI identifies hidden capabilities: problem-solving from coursework, budgeting from club roles, team leadership from volunteer projects. It then suggests career paths they may never have considered ('Your background fits Technical Program Manager roles'), provides a match score for each internship, and optimizes their resume in one click to emphasize the relevant skills. On the recruiter side, companies see a 'High-Signal Dashboard' that ranks candidates by fit score, not just keywords, with AI-generated summaries explaining why each applicant is a strong match despite unconventional backgrounds.

"We built NoleQuest because talent is everywhere, but opportunity is not," said the NoleQuest founding team. "Students working retail to pay tuition are developing real leadership and operational skills every day—but they're invisible to hiring algorithms. Our AI doesn't just reword resumes; it reveals potential. We're using AWS technology to create a fairer future where what you can do matters more than what keywords you have.

Students begin by uploading their existing resume and transcript to the NoleQuest platform, where Amazon Textract automatically extracts their information. The AI then analyzes their background and presents two paths: manually search for specific roles,

or explore AI-recommended career matches based on their transferable skills. The student views internship listings ranked by match score with real-time gap analysis ('85% Match – You have the coding skills, but lack Agile experience'). When they find a role they like, one click optimizes their resume to emphasize relevant skills, and the system automatically identifies FSU alumni at that company to facilitate warm networking introductions. For recruiters, the platform provides a ranked leaderboard of applicants with 'Why They Fit' cards that explain each candidate's potential, plus reverse recruiting alerts when new high-potential students join the platform.

"I've worked as a barista for three years to pay for school, and every internship application got auto-rejected," said Maya Chen, a junior at Florida State University. "NoleQuest showed me that my experience training new hires and managing opening procedures actually translates to 'team leadership' and 'process optimization'—skills companies want. Within two weeks of using the platform, I had interviews at three companies who never would have seen my resume before. For the first time, I feel like my real-world experience actually counts."

NoleQuest is powered by Amazon Bedrock for AI capabilities, Amazon Textract for document parsing, Amazon Personalize for intelligent matching, and AWS Lambda for serverless compute. Students and recruiters can learn more and sign up at NoleQuest.io (demo platform).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Customer FAQs Seb

1. How does NoleQuest help me if I don't have corporate internship experience?

NoleQuest's AI analyzes your entire background—retail jobs, club leadership, volunteer work, relevant coursework—and translates those experiences into the corporate language that recruiters and ATS systems recognize. For example, if you were a shift lead at Starbucks, our AI identifies that as 'team leadership,' 'operational management,' and 'customer service excellence.' The platform then shows you internships where these transferable skills match what companies actually need, and helps you optimize your resume to highlight these connections.

2. What AWS services power the AI features?

NoleQuest is built entirely on AWS infrastructure. We use Amazon Bedrock (Claude Sonnet) for all generative AI features including skill translation, career path recommendations, resume optimization, and recruiter summaries. Amazon Textract handles resume and transcript parsing. Amazon Personalize powers the intelligent matching and ranking algorithms. The platform runs serverless on AWS Lambda with data stored in Amazon DynamoDB, ensuring fast performance and cost efficiency as we scale.

3. How accurate is the 'match score' for internships?

The match score is calculated by comparing your transferable skills (identified by our AI) against the job requirements in the internship posting. The algorithm considers both hard skills (e.g. technical capabilities, software knowledge) and soft skills (e.g. leadership, communication, problem-solving). Each match includes a transparent gap analysis showing exactly where you align and where you might need development. Our testing shows that candidates with 75%+ match scores receive interview requests at 3x the rate of traditional cold applications.

4. Will the AI rewrite my resume with false information?

Absolutely not. NoleQuest never fabricates experience or credentials. The AI only rephrases your actual accomplishments using industry-standard terminology. For example, if you 'managed work schedules for a 10-person team,' the optimized version might say 'coordinated staffing operations and resource allocation for team of 10'—same facts, professional framing. You review and approve every change before it's applied. We're helping you communicate your real value, not inventing fake credentials.

5. How does the automated networking feature work?

After you apply to an internship, NoleQuest uses Google Custom Search API to identify employees at that company, prioritizing FSU alumni for warm introductions. The AI then drafts a personalized connection message (e.g., 'Hi [Name], as a fellow Seminole, I'm excited about the [Role] position...') that you can review, edit, and send via LinkedIn or email. This transforms cold applications into relationship-driven opportunities, dramatically increasing your response rate.

Recruiter/Business FAQs

6. How does NoleQuest help us find better candidates faster?

The High-Signal Dashboard replaces chronological application lists with a ranked leaderboard based on actual fit, not keyword density. Each candidate has an AI-generated 'Why They Fit' card that explains their potential in plain language: 'Although this candidate's resume lists Retail Shift Lead, their experience managing schedules and inventory demonstrates the operational logistics skills required for this Supply Chain Intern role.' Candidate demographic information is hidden by default and only revealed after a recruiter signals interest, ensuring evaluations are based solely on skills and fit. The platform also provides reverse recruiting alerts when students matching your criteria join the platform.

7. What's the business model for recruiters?

NoleQuest is free for students. Companies pay a subscription fee based on the number of active job postings and recruiter seats. Pricing tiers start at $299/month for small businesses (up to 3 active postings, 2 recruiter seats) and scale to enterprise packages for university career centers and large corporations. We also offer pay-per-hire models for occasional users. – how much are companies paying for linkedin listings? Min 1k max 2k per month

8. How do you ensure data privacy and prevent bias?

All student data is encrypted at rest (using AWS KMS) and in transit. We're fully FERPA-compliant for educational records and SOC 2 Type II certified. The blind screening mode explicitly hides names, photos, and demographic information to reduce unconscious bias. Our AI models are regularly audited for fairness across different backgrounds, and we provide transparency reports on match score distributions. Students control their data and can delete their profiles at any time.

Platform Architecture & AWS Services – its just notes fr

NoleQuest Architecture Overview

Frontend (Student & Recruiter):

- React.js hosted on Amazon S3 + CloudFront CDN
- Real-time updates via AWS AppSync (GraphQL)

Backend Services:

- AWS Lambda (Serverless compute for all business logic)
- Amazon API Gateway (RESTful API endpoints)
- Amazon DynamoDB (NoSQL database for user profiles, jobs, applications)

AI/ML Services:

- Amazon Bedrock (Claude Sonnet for skill translation, resume optimization, career recommendations)
- Amazon Textract (Resume & transcript parsing)
- Amazon Personalize (Match scoring & ranking algorithms)
- Amazon Comprehend (Sentiment analysis for company reviews)

Security & Compliance:

- Amazon Cognito (User authentication & authorization)
- AWS KMS (Encryption key management)
- AWS WAF (Web application firewall)

Integration Services:

- Google Custom Search API (Alumni/employee discovery for networking)
- Email via Amazon SES (Notifications & networking messages)

Key Metrics & Success Criteria

Student Success Metrics:

- Application-to-Interview Rate: Target 15% (vs. 2-3% industry average)
- Time to First Interview: Target <14 days
- Platform Engagement: 3+ optimized applications per active user per week

Recruiter Success Metrics:

- Time-to-Review: Reduce from 45 min to <10 min per candidate batch
- Quality of Hire Score: Track 90-day manager satisfaction ratings
- Diversity Hiring: Increase non-traditional background hires by 40%

Platform Performance:

- API Response Time: <200ms for match scoring
- AI Processing: Resume optimization in <5 seconds
- System Uptime: 99.9% availability