**Cover Letter**

**# cover-letter-snippets**

Angular/MongoDB/Node.js Express local application for easily composing a cover letter that contains important keywords and technology on the job listing(s) that you provide. You can use this application to figure out the frequently appearing words in a in a job description, and append paragraphs from your previous cover letters.

**## Install and Run Snippets**

**To install and Run Snippet:**

1. Run `npm i cover-letter-snippets`

Note: Some users may have to install globally `npm i -g cover-letter-snippets`

1. Run `snippets`.

A browser opens automatically with a localhost server that will serve the application on `localhost:3141`.

**## Using Snippets**

You can use the application in three ways:

**## Save Cover letter snippets in a JSON file:**

If you plan to use the application on your local machine ,the straightforward way to save your cover letter snippets is to store them in a JSON file. Click "Connect to JSON File" to create a file that you can read from/write to.

**## Save the snippets in your Mlab database**

If you'd like to use Cover Letter Snippets across computers, store your data in an Mlab Database.

**#### Setting up a database**

Snippets uses a MongoDB database on Mlab.com to store your cover letter snippets data.

1. Go to mlab.com and sign up or log in.
2. Click **"Create New"** under deployments.
3. Choose “**AWS”** and the Free Sandbox plan.
4. Pick a **region** and name your database.
5. Follow the prompts to submit and create your database.
6. Click on your new database.
7. Navigate to the users tab and click the button to create a new user.
8. Fill out the username and password.
9. Copy/paste the MongoDB URI for your database and enter your username/password in the

appropriate place in the URI.

**## Save the snippets in existing Mlab database.**

1. If you wish to proceed without creating a database, there is an existing database URI string in the form field.
2. You can Add Snippets to your database or Build your cover letter in the existing database.

**## Adding Snippets**

To add a Snippet to the database:

1. Navigate to \*\*Add Snippet\*\* tab
2. Copy/Paste a small snippet of a previous cover letter covering one or more related skills, and fill out the categories field with the keywords that you want to match to the job description. (Comma Separated, no spaces.)
3. It's also important for you to add an 'intro' and 'outro' category, so that you can add intro and outro snippets easily.

**## Editing Snippets and Categories**

1. On the "Database" page, you'll see a table with a list of all of the cover letter snippets in your database.
2. Click on the relevant snippet to edit them. Finally click off the table to save.

**## Build Cover Letter**

1. First, copy/paste a job description into the textarea field and click "Parse Job Description". The application will check if any of the words in the job description match any of your snippet categories.
2. A table of results will be returned where you can see how many times a category has been mentioned.
3. Click on the "Show Snippets" link to see the snippets that match those categories. ie. If you're applying for a Java Developer position, you should probably see a lot of matches for the category "java", and those are the important snippets that you want to add to your cover letter first.
4. Once you see snippets from a category, you can add those snippets to your cover letter, and also see the intro and outro snippets you added earlier.

Once you're done arranging your snippets in the cover letter table, you can press the export button.

**## Export Cover Letter**

Congratulations. You have created your cover letter. You can edit the text in the textarea, and you can copy/paste your cover letter that you're submitting with an application.