

Thomas Ford

 Lubbock, TX, 79403

 +1 (254) 262-5719

 thomasford3344@gmail.com

December 10, 2025

Optum / UnitedHealth Group

RE: Cloud/DevOps Engineering

Dear Hiring Manager,

I'm excited to apply for the Cloud/DevOps Engineering role at Optum. With over eight years of experience building scalable backend systems, designing cloud infrastructure, and automating large-scale deployments, I'm drawn to the opportunity to contribute to a mission that directly supports better health outcomes. The combination of cloud engineering, DevOps practices, and high-impact technology aligns closely with the work I've been doing throughout my career.

In my current role as a Senior DevOps and Software Engineer, I design and maintain cloud-native applications, build CI/CD pipelines, and support distributed systems that require high reliability and secure operations. At Vieaura, I engineered deployment pipelines in Bitbucket, managed Kubernetes clusters in GCP, and optimized real-time, event-driven features for the OPTRIX platform. This involved implementing automation, performance monitoring, and infrastructure-as-code to ensure predictable and repeatable environments.

Previously at RevBits, I developed backend components in Python and Java across cybersecurity products including EDR, Zero Trust, Email Security, and XDR. I translated technical findings into secure code enhancements, strengthened microservices, and improved detection and response functionality. This experience sharpened my understanding of service-oriented architectures, clean coding practices, and performance tuning—core expectations for this role.

I am highly experienced with full SDLC processes, containerization (Docker/Kubernetes), CI/CD automation, Git-based workflows, and cloud platforms including Azure, AWS, and GCP. I have strong familiarity with microservices and event-driven systems, and I've consistently built infrastructure using Terraform and automated pipelines that support rapid product delivery. Collaboration is a core part of how I work; I regularly partner with architecture teams, product owners, and global engineering groups to deliver features efficiently and align technical decisions with business goals.

What draws me to Optum is the chance to contribute my engineering experience to a company that operates at the intersection of technology and healthcare. The scale, mission, and impact of Optum's products make the work meaningful, and I'm motivated by the opportunity to help strengthen systems that serve millions of people.

Thank you for taking the time to review my application. I'd welcome the opportunity to discuss how my background in cloud engineering, DevOps automation, backend development, and large-scale system operations can support Optum's goals. I look forward to the possibility of contributing to your team.

Sincerely,
Thomas Ford

Thomas Ford