Jacob Michael Althen

San Luis Obispo, CA | +1 (805) 441-9468 | Jacobalthenn@gmail.com | github | portfolio

Summary

Computer Science student with 4+ years of hands-on software engineering experience in cloud computing, game development, and aerospace systems. Skilled in building scalable distributed systems and immersive 3D applications.

Education:

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (Expected Graduation: June 2028)

Skills:

- Languages: C#, JS/TS, Python, C++
- Tools & Frameworks: Unity, Misc. AWS tools, F Prime, Git
- Concepts: Agile development, Full-stack web apps, Cloud-native design, REST APIs, CI/CD, Debugging, Performance optimization

Experience:

- **Lead Unity Developer - *California Cybersecurity Institute (Jan 2022 - Present)***
  - Integrated backend services with Unity gameplay systems for seamless platform performance.
  - Collaborated with designers and backend engineers to launch an interactive cybersecurity competition platform serving thousands of students annually
  - Built user-friendly interfaces and seamless backend integrations to support accessibility across diverse hardware
  - Reduced development time 15% by standardizing workflows, implementing version control best practices, and improving CI/CD pipelines.
- **AWS Architect Assistant/Frontend Development – *California Cybersecurity Institute* (***Feb 2025 – Present)*
  - Designed and deployed a serverless backend on AWS to support Unity game interactions, enabling low-latency cloud streaming for low-end devices
  - Collaborated in a DevOps workflow, ensuring alignment across teams.
  - Worked on the website's design and functionality that users interacted with.
  - Improved accessibility and responsiveness of the competition website, reducing load times by 25% and ensuring smooth user experiences across devices
- **CubeSat Satellite Development with Partnership J.P.L. (***June 2025 – Aug 2025)*

- Migrated mission-critical flight software from Arduino C to NASA's F´ framework, enabling reliable CubeSat operations and supporting future aerospace research