JULIAN MERCER

EXPRESS NODE.JS DEVELOPER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Express Node.js Developer with 6+ years building secure, well-tested REST APIs and middleware for payments and marketplace products at PayPal and Yelp. Strong in routing design, authentication, validation, and keeping Express services fast under steady production traffic.

CORE SKILLS

Express | Node.js | TypeScript | REST API design | Middleware | JWT and OAuth 2.0 | Joi | Passport.js | Redis | MongoDB | PostgreSQL | Supertest | OpenAPI | Docker | Helmet | Pino

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer May 2022 - Present
PayPal, San Jose, CA

- Designed Express routers and middleware for a merchant payouts API that processes 2.4 million requests a day with a p95 response under 180 milliseconds.
- Standardized error handling and request validation with Joi across nine Express services, removing inconsistent responses that had slowed partner integrations.
- Added JWT verification and scoped API keys to merchant endpoints, closing five findings from an internal security review ahead of its deadline.
- Introduced Supertest integration suites that run on every pull request, catching routing regressions that unit tests had missed.
- Reduced cold response times by adding compression, connection reuse, and response caching to read-heavy reporting routes.
- Wrote an internal guide on Express project structure and middleware order that four teams used when creating new services.

Software Engineer Feb 2020 - Apr 2022

- Built webhook delivery endpoints in Express with signed payloads and retry scheduling, reaching a 99.9% successful delivery rate for subscribed merchants.
- Moved session handling from in-memory storage to Redis so services could scale across instances without logging users out.
- Added rate limiting per API key on public routes, which stopped an abusive client from degrading service for others.
- Fixed memory growth in a long-running reporting service by removing leaked listeners found with heap snapshots.
- Versioned the public payments routes under a path prefix and documented deprecation dates, giving partners a six-month window to upgrade.

Backend Developer Aug 2019 - Jan 2020
Yelp, San Francisco, CA

- Developed Express endpoints for business owner replies to reviews, with pagination and moderation checks, serving about 150,000 owners.
- Wrote OpenAPI definitions for the review routes so mobile and web teams could generate clients and stop hand-writing request code.
- Added structured request logging with correlation identifiers, which let support engineers trace a failed owner reply in minutes.

EDUCATION

B.S. in Computer Engineering, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA

CERTIFICATIONS

OpenJS Node.js Application Developer (JSNAD) | AWS Certified Developer - Associate