JULIAN MERCER

SENIOR NODE.JS DEVELOPER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Node.js Developer with 11+ years leading backend teams and platform work at Netflix, Capital One, and Groupon. Sets technical direction for streaming-scale services, mentors engineers into ownership, and balances delivery speed with operational cost and reliability.

CORE SKILLS

Node.js | TypeScript | System design | Technical leadership | Mentoring | Microservices | GraphQL | Kafka | Redis | PostgreSQL | AWS | Kubernetes | Service-level objectives | Incident management | Roadmap planning | Hiring

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Staff Software Engineer Jan 2023 - Present
Netflix, Los Gatos, CA

- Lead a group of seven engineers building the Node.js layer that serves personalized rows to the TV interface for tens of millions of members.
- Set a service-level objective program for the group and cut customer-impacting incidents by 33% across the following year.
- Drove adoption of a shared TypeScript service template across 14 teams, shrinking the time to start a new service from weeks to two days.
- Negotiated an API contract with the recommendations and device teams that removed a duplicate data fetch and saved about 18% in compute cost.
- Wrote the technical case for retiring a legacy rendering tier, secured funding from three directors, and completed the migration in two quarters.

Senior Software Engineer Mar 2019 - Dec 2022

- Designed a request-coalescing cache for a high-fan-out Node.js service that lowered downstream calls by 45% during premiere-night peaks.
- Mentored five engineers, two of whom were promoted to senior, through weekly design reviews and shared on-call shifts.
- Ran quarterly game days that simulated regional failover and found six gaps in runbooks before a real event exposed them.
- Interviewed over 80 backend candidates and helped write the team's calibrated technical interview rubric.

Senior Software Engineer Feb 2016 - Feb 2019
Capital One, McLean, VA

- Led the move of a card account summary API from a Java monolith to Node.js microservices, sustaining 3,000 requests per second with no downtime.
- Partnered with security and compliance to build audit logging for customer data access, which passed two regulatory reviews cleanly.
- Established code standards and a pull request checklist adopted by 40 engineers across five squads.

Software Engineer Sep 2014 - Jan 2016
Groupon, Chicago, IL

- Built Node.js order notification services that sent 1.2 million emails and push messages daily with automatic retries on provider failures.
- Cut deal page response time by 30% by moving template rendering to a shared Node.js layer with per-region caching.
- Rotated through on-call for two years and led post-incident reviews that produced a standard template used across the engineering organization.

EDUCATION

B.S. in Computer Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL

CERTIFICATIONS

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Professional | OpenJS Node.js Services Developer (JSNSD)