

Joel Santos

Senior Frontend Engineer · React · Next.js · TypeScript · Node.js

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Frontend Engineer with 8+ years of experience building production-grade web applications for US and Canadian companies across health tech, fintech, insurtech, and SaaS. Specialize in the React and Next.js ecosystem — architecting scalable component libraries, driving measurable performance improvements, and integrating LLM/AI APIs into consumer-facing products. Comfortable owning the full frontend lifecycle from design system to CI/CD pipeline, collaborating closely with product, design, and backend teams to deliver polished, accessible experiences. Track record of working in remote, agile environments across US and Canadian time zones.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Core Stack:	React, Next.js, TypeScript, JavaScript (ES2020+), HTML5, CSS3
Styling:	Tailwind CSS, CSS Modules, Styled Components, Sass
State & Data:	React Query, Redux Toolkit, Zustand, Context API, REST APIs, GraphQL
Backend & DB:	Node.js, Ruby on Rails, Express.js, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, MySQL
Testing:	Jest, React Testing Library, Cypress, Vitest
Tools & Infra:	Git, GitHub Actions, CI/CD, Vercel, Docker, Webpack, Vite
AI/ML Integrations:	LLM APIs (OpenAI, Anthropic), AI-Assisted Development (Cursor, Claude Code)
Practices:	Agile/Scrum, Code Review, Component Architecture, Accessibility (a11y), Performance Optimization

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Frontend Engineer

PetScreening · Mooresville, NC, USA (Remote) · Sep 2024 – Feb 2026

- Built and shipped new React + Next.js features for a SaaS platform serving thousands of property management companies across the US, directly improving user onboarding and retention flows.
- Collaborated with Ruby on Rails backend engineers on RESTful API integrations, ensuring reliable data flow between frontend components and server-side services.
- Led component architecture reviews and drove TypeScript adoption across legacy codebases, improving type safety and reducing production bugs.
- Improved test coverage with Jest and React Testing Library, establishing testing standards for the frontend team.
- Modernized legacy React applications by migrating to current patterns (hooks, server components), increasing scalability and developer velocity.

Senior Frontend Engineer

act digital · São Paulo, Brazil · Jan 2024 – Sep 2024

- Developed internal web tooling using React for scientists at Moderna and Surgo Health, streamlining pharmaceutical research and data analysis workflows.
- Built Node.js backend services and RESTful APIs consumed by React frontends in a regulated, compliance-driven environment.
- Delivered features in an agile team following strict pharmaceutical industry requirements (HIPAA-adjacent data handling, audit trails).

Full Stack Web Developer

Youper · San Francisco, CA, USA (Remote) · Nov 2021 – Jan 2024

- Modernized the frontend stack of an AI-powered mental health app used by thousands of users worldwide, improving performance, maintainability, and Core Web Vitals scores.
- Integrated LLM (Large Language Model) APIs into the app's CBT therapy chat feature via RESTful endpoints, enhancing the quality and responsiveness of AI-driven therapy sessions.
- Collaborated with product and UX/UI teams to ship new features that improved user engagement and retention metrics.
- Ensured app reliability for a global user base through comprehensive testing, error monitoring, and backend service integrations.

Frontend Software Engineer

CWI Software (Client: BV Bank) · Brazil · May 2021 – Nov 2021

- Developed Angular micro-frontend architecture for internal financial operations dashboards at BV Bank, one of Brazil's leading digital banks.
- Implemented Jest unit tests ensuring stable, reliable user experiences across mission-critical financial workflows.

Full Stack Software Engineer

Uplify Inc (Client: Boxx Insurance) · Toronto, Canada (Remote) · Dec 2017 – May 2021

- Built and maintained a web portal for selling and customizing digital insurance quotes using the MEAN stack (Angular, Node.js, MongoDB, MySQL).
- Translated a manual Excel-based process into a web tool with PDF generation and real-time quote calculations, used by dozens of insurance brokers nationwide.
- Participated in client meetings, gathered requirements, and onboarded new developers to the team.

EDUCATION

Master's Degree (in progress), Software Engineering

CESAR School · Started Apr 2025

Bachelor's Degree, Information Systems

Facisa – Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Aplicadas · 2016 – 2021

Technical Degree, IT – Networking, Programming & Hardware

ETER – Escola Técnica Redentorista · 2013 – 2014

CERTIFICATIONS & CONTINUOUS LEARNING

- JavaScript: The Hard Parts — Frontend Masters
- React Performance — Frontend Masters
- Design for Developers — Frontend Masters
- Data Analyst Bootcamp
- Oracle Database Foundations

LANGUAGES

English (Full Professional Proficiency) · Portuguese (Native)