

# Shakeer Nawaz

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[github.com/shakeern](https://github.com/shakeern) | [shakeern.github.io/Shakeer-Nawaz](https://shakeern.github.io/Shakeer-Nawaz)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Languages:** JavaScript, Python, Java, SQL (Postgres), C/C++, Elixir

**Frameworks/Technologies:** React, Node.js, Express, HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, jQuery, Quarkus, Spring Boot

**Tools:** Git, Bash, Linux, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, REST, JIRA, Testrail, Oracle SQL, Azure Devops

## EDUCATION

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**Toronto Metropolitan University**

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science — GPA: 3.55*

Toronto, ON

*Sept. 2021 – April 2027*

## EXPERIENCE

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**Software Developer @ Ontario Government** | Toronto, ON

*May 2025 - May 2026*

- Built and maintained Java (Quarkus/JAX-RS) RESTful endpoints for a payment summary control system, integrating with downstream services via typed REST clients.
- Designed and optimized Java JPA/Hibernate ORM mappings and query layer (DTO projections, fetch strategies) against legacy schemas, reducing endpoint response latency and redundant query patterns.
- Implemented a codetable/lookup pipeline (diagnostic, fee schedule, CIHI, hospitals/providers/clinics) with caching and deduplication, cutting redundant remote lookups and speeding up page renders.
- Implemented complex claim edit/save workflows with server-side caching, dirty-state tracking, and conditional persistence to ensure data integrity across multi-tab forms.

**Software QA Analyst @ TheScore** | Toronto, ON

*Sept 2023 - April 2024*

- Ensured high-quality production releases for Penn Entertainment Betting apps by identifying and resolving critical issues through comprehensive cross-platform testing, resulting in defect-free launches.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams of developers, product managers, and designers to prioritize and execute testing tasks across sprints.
- Authored and executed over 2,000 test cases, enhancing coverage and validating complex functionality across multiple platforms.
- Designed and implemented detailed regression test plans, increasing test coverage by 40% and ensuring robust application performance in a fast-paced Agile environment.

## PROJECTS

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**Study Assistant** | *Kotlin, Spring Boot, React, TypeScript, PostgreSQL, OpenAI API*

- Built a full-stack RAG-based study tool enabling users to upload lecture notes (PDF/TXT) and query them in natural language, with answers grounded strictly in the user's own course material.
- Designed a document ingestion pipeline that chunks uploaded text and generates embeddings via OpenAI's `text-embedding-3-small` model, persisting vectors in PostgreSQL for retrieval.
- Implemented cosine similarity search to retrieve the top-5 most relevant chunks per query and feed them into a grounded prompt for GPT-4o-mini, reducing hallucinated answers.
- Developed a Spring Boot (Kotlin) REST backend and React/TypeScript frontend supporting course organization, document upload, and persistent multi-session chat history.

**Meal Simple — EWB UOFT Hackathon** | *HTML, CSS, Javascript, Bootstrap*

- Achieved **1st** place in the EWB UofT Hackathon by designing *MealSimple*, an innovative solution to addressing food insecurity and empowering students with practical culinary solutions.
- Leveraged Google Maps API to seamlessly connect users with nearby food banks, promoting access to essential resources for students in need.
- Integrated TheMealDB API to provide over 300 personalized meal recommendations based on available ingredients, fostering sustainable cooking habits and reducing food waste.
- Utilized GPT-4 to dynamically generate recipe suggestions tailored to user preferences, budget constraints, and time availability, enhancing user experience and promoting culinary creativity.