

Benjamin C. Ward

(330) 440-3605 • benjaminward9@gmail.com • New Philadelphia, OH • <https://www.linkedin.com/in/benjamin-ward9>

EDUCATION

Kent State University at Stark

Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science

North Canton, OH

Expected: August 2025

- Cumulative GPA: 3.59/4.00 | Major GPA: 3.85/4.00
- Choose Ohio First - Computer Science Scholar & Smart Communities and Internet of Things Research Lab Student
- Dean's List: Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 | President's List: Fall 2024

Associate of Arts

December 2023

- GPA: 3.40/4.00
- Dean's List: Spring 2021 & Exceptional Community Engagement Group Award: May 2022

SKILLS

Languages: C++, Java, Python, JavaScript (React, Node.js), HTML/CSS, MIPS Assembly

Frameworks: Flutter, Angular, Spring Boot

Development Tools: Git, Jenkins, AWS, Azure, Kubernetes, MARS

Software Engineering: Agile Methodologies, Test-Driven Development, Continuous Integration, RESTful API design

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer Intern

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company (through Innosource)

May 2024-Present
Columbus, OH (Remote)

- Assisted in development on the Flagship Mobile team using Flutter, JavaScript, Postman, and Jenkins.
- Supported test automation strategy, created test plans, and executed test automation frameworks.
- Created and implemented ten Maestro tests to automate regression testing scenarios, ensuring screen features were operating correctly and reducing manual testing time by eight hours per week.
- Applied secure software engineering practices throughout development lifecycle to protect data and system vulnerabilities.
- Utilized Microsoft Copilot and GitHub Copilot to streamline code development and review processes, reducing project planning time by 20% and improving code quality through AI-assisted debugging.
- Led engagement initiatives as a member of the Nationwide Intern Council, organizing networking events that significantly increased intern participation.

Frontend Developer Intern

Nuubi

September 2023-December 2023
Miami, FL (Remote)

- Assisted in backend and frontend development using PostgreSQL, Node, Express, JavaScript, and React Native.
- Debugged and worked on issues related to backend and frontend development, working towards timely resolutions.
- Integrated APIs, services, and third-party libraries to enhance app functionality.

RESEARCH

Undergraduate Researcher

Kent State University

September 2023-Present
Kent, Ohio

- Presented three AI-focused papers at the 2025 IEEE CCWC conference in Las Vegas, NV, advancing research on text generation and detection systems, neural network interpretability via layer-wise relevance propagation, and AI-driven academic performance analysis.
- Led research using Empatica E4 wearable sensors to measure physiological stress responses across driving sessions under varying risk conditions.
- Analyzed VR-induced cybersickness symptoms using SSQ assessments across varying interaction levels.
- Developed a Canvas integration AI chatbot that provides personalized assignment deadlines and grade updates for current and recent courses using API authentication.
- Developed a comprehensive academic advising AI chatbot for Kent State University during my capstone project, facilitating student inquiries regarding academic programs, course offerings, institutional calendar, and campus resources.

CERTIFICATIONS

Career Essentials in Generative AI, Microsoft, May 2024

Career Essentials in Software Development, Microsoft, May 2024

Six Sigma White, Yellow, Green Belts, The Council for Six Sigma Certification, March 2025

LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Volunteer

ENGIN

July 2023-Present
Kyiv, Ukraine (Remote)

- Facilitated English language development for two Ukrainian adults through regular conversational practice sessions, supporting Ukraine's post-war reconstruction by connecting citizens to the global community.