

BRIAN SAUNDERS JR

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EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Aug 2023 – Dec 2027

Master of Science in Cybersecurity, Accelerated Early Entry Program | Expected Dec 2027

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Concentration: Cybersecurity | May 2027 | GPA: 3.4

Dean's List (4x) and Chancellor's List (2x) for semester academic achievement

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages & Databases: Python, Java, JavaScript, SQL, C, C++, PostgreSQL, MySQL

Frameworks & Libraries: React, Spring Boot, FastAPI, SQLAlchemy, REST APIs, microservices

Cloud & Infrastructure: AWS, Google Cloud Platform, Supabase, Terraform, Linux

Developer Tools: Git, GitHub Actions, CI/CD pipelines, Docker, Agile (Scrum/Kanban), AI-assisted development (Claude Code, GitHub Copilot)

Security: IAM least-privilege policy design, identity lifecycle and access provisioning, OIDC federation, Kali Linux, Burp Suite, Nmap

EXPERIENCE

UNC Charlotte OneIT Service Desk | Student Technical Analyst

Sep 2026 – Present

- Provide multi-channel technical support by phone, email, live chat, and walk-in for faculty, staff, and students, diagnosing issues across workstations, mobile devices, software installations, and NinerNet account management.
- Manage support requests end to end in Team Dynamix (ITSM), documenting troubleshooting steps and resolutions, and escalating to professional IT staff through Slack when an issue moves past first-line resolution.

BitStack Technologies | Application Development Intern

Jan 2026 – Jul 2026

- Built an end-to-end leave request workflow in React and Spring Boot, supporting PNG and PDF attachments and approve/reject actions routed to the correct approver.
- Developed dashboard widgets for pending approvals, employee leave summaries, and task-card actions, backed by SQL queries served through REST APIs.
- Implemented approved-absence views filterable by date, team, and department, with role-based access separating Employee, Manager, Supervisor, HR, and Admin permissions.
- Debugged defects across the front end, API, and database layers, delivering fixes through Git branching, pull requests, rebasing, and code review in Agile sprints.

YouCanTech | Technology Coach

Dec 2025 – Present

- Coach middle and high school students in programming through hands-on robotics, mentoring them through debugging and iterative development by breaking complex problems into steps they can work through independently.

PROJECTS

Cloud Resume Challenge – Serverless Portfolio Site

2026

AWS (S3, CloudFront, Route 53, ACM, Lambda, DynamoDB, API Gateway, IAM), Terraform, Python, GitHub Actions | bjsaunders.com

- Deployed a static site to Amazon S3 served through CloudFront with Origin Access Control, keeping the bucket fully private with Block Public Access enabled, and configured HTTPS with ACM certificates and a custom domain through Route 53.
- Built a serverless visitor counter using API Gateway, a Python Lambda function, and DynamoDB with an atomic update that avoids read-modify-write race conditions, and authored least-privilege IAM policies scoped to individual resource ARNs.
- Defined all backend infrastructure as code in Terraform and automated deployments with GitHub Actions authenticating through AWS OIDC federation scoped by trust policy to a single repository and branch, eliminating stored access keys, with automated unit tests gating every deployment.

OptionScope – Options Analytics Platform

2026 – Present

FastAPI, Python, PostgreSQL, SQLAlchemy, Docker, REST APIs, Alpaca API

- Building a full-stack options analytics platform that ingests and processes real-time market data through the Alpaca API, handling authentication, rate limits, and inconsistent upstream data to produce reliable outputs.
- Designing relational data models in PostgreSQL with SQLAlchemy, containerizing the application with Docker, and writing automated backend and frontend tests covering API behavior, input validation, and application logic.

Cloud Identity & Access Audit – Contract Engagement

2026

GitHub, Supabase, Google Cloud, Render, Python, gitleaks, SSH, IAM policy design

- Audited identity and access configuration across four cloud and developer platforms for a private client using read-only credentials, documenting findings by severity with recommended remediation rather than modifying production systems.
- Scanned full commit history across nine branches and 455 commits with gitleaks, confirming no live credentials in version control, and documented least-privilege onboarding and offboarding procedures per platform.

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

49th Security Division, UNC Charlotte

Aug 2025 – Present

- Participate in student-led sessions on security tooling, vulnerabilities, and current threats.

AWS Student Builder Group, UNC Charlotte

Aug 2026 – Present

- Build hands-on cloud projects and attend technical workshops in a student AWS community.