

# David Essien

Cloud & DevOps Engineer (Full-Stack Software) | AWS, Kubernetes, React, Node.js, Fastapi

**Location:** Calabar, Nigeria (Remote)

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## Summary

Full-Stack Software Engineer with 4+ years of experience building and operating scalable web applications and the cloud infrastructure that powers them. Experience in React and Next.js frontends, Node.js and FastAPI backends. AWS-based cloud architectures. Experienced in DevOps practices including CI/CD automation, containerization, Kubernetes orchestration, and infrastructure as code.

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## Core Skills

- **Frontend Development:** React, Next.js, Modern JavaScript (ES6+), Responsive UI Design
- **Backend Development:** Node.js, Express.js, FastAPI, RESTful API Design
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, DynamoDB
- **Cloud & Infrastructure:** AWS (EC2, VPC, IAM, RDS, S3, CloudWatch), GCP, DigitalOcea
- **DevOps & Platform Engineering:** Docker, Kubernetes (EKS, GKE), Helm, ArgoCD, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, GitLab CI/CD, Bitbucket Pipelines, Terraform, AWS CloudFormation, Ansible
- **Operating Systems & Scripting:** Linux Server Administration, Bash, Python
- **Observability & Reliability:** Prometheus, Grafana, Loki, Stackdriver, Alerting & Incident Response

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## Professional Experience

### DevOps Engineer

Bitmama/Changera | Jan 2021 – Nov 2024 | Remote (Lagos, Nigeria)

- Designed and managed Kubernetes-based production infrastructure on DigitalOcean using Terraform, supporting multiple services, and environments, while managing costs and maintaining a 99% uptime.
- Implemented CI/CD pipelines with GitHub Actions, Helm, and ArgoCD, transforming manual deployment processes into automated workflows and rapid and reliable deployment of frontend and backend applications.
- Collaborated with developers to troubleshoot issues across the stack, from application bugs to infrastructure and networking problems.
- Implemented monitoring and alerting using Prometheus and Grafana, improving system visibility and reducing mean time to recovery (MTTR).
- Automated cluster scaling to handle traffic spikes efficiently, optimising resource usage during quiet periods.

### Customer Reliability Engineer (DevOps)

Cloudkite.io | Jul 2020 – Nov 2023 | Remote (Austin, Texas)

- Supported and optimised cloud-native applications running on AWS and GCP, troubleshooting issues across frontend, backend, and infrastructure layers.
- Improved deployment workflows through CI/CD with Jenkins, GitLab CI, and Bitbucket Pipelines, enabling smooth, frequent code releases.
- Provided incident response, technical support, and postmortems for diverse client infrastructures, maintaining SLA compliance and client satisfaction.
- Worked with Node.js- and Python-based services deployed on Kubernetes, ensuring reliability and performance under production workloads.
- Performed Kubernetes cluster upgrades across multiple environments on AWS and GCP.

**DevOps Engineer**

Goodlight (Andela) | Aug 2019 – Mar 2020 | Remote

- Implemented infrastructure as code across multiple environments using Terraform, streamlining resource provisioning.
- Automated AWS Lambda deployment processes to reduce configuration complexity and minimise deployment errors.
- Developed incident response procedures and failover mechanisms for EC2, ensuring high availability and minimal downtime.

**Software Developer**

Andela Talent Accelerator | Dec 2018 – Mar 2020 | Lagos, Nigeria

- Designed and developed RESTful APIs using Node.js and Express, incorporating caching and performance optimisations.
- Optimised database queries and connection pooling for PostgreSQL, MySQL, and MongoDB.
- Built frontend applications with React, emphasizing performance, usability, and maintainable component design

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**Projects**

**AWS VPC and Autoscaling**

- Built a secure three-tier architecture on AWS VPC with public/private subnets, NAT gateways, and security groups.
- Configured auto-scaling using AWS CloudWatch alarms, optimising resources during variable traffic loads.

**Fullstack Monitoring Setup with Docker-Compose**

- Developed a monitoring system for a to-do app with FastAPI backend and Next.js frontend.
- Leveraged Docker Compose for container management and Terraform for infrastructure setup.
- Integrated Prometheus, Loki, Grafana, and Promtail for logging and monitoring, with Traefik as the reverse proxy.

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**Education**

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science**

University of Calabar, Nigeria (2009–2015)

**Udacity Nanodegree in DevOps**

Completed May 2022 – August 2022

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**Certifications**

- Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) | Dec 2021 – Dec 2024