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David Johnston

Application for Lead Python Engineer

AUGUST 25, 2026

Hiring Manager
Northstar Risk Systems
Chicago, IL

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am applying for the Lead Python Engineer position at Northstar Risk Systems. My background includes 13 years building software for underwriting, reinsurance, risk analytics, and financial operations. In my current role, I lead a distributed team of nine engineers while remaining hands-on with Python and Node services supporting treaty pricing, bordereaux ingestion, and portfolio reporting.

The work has required more than implementing isolated features. I led the decomposition of a monolithic underwriting platform into independently deployable Python APIs, helping engineers work in parallel without losing clear ownership of domain behavior. I also established pull-request standards, contract testing, and production-readiness reviews across 14 customer-facing services. Those changes gave the team a more consistent way to assess risk before releases and investigate problems afterward.

I would bring the same practical approach to Northstar's platform. I have built Python pipelines and REST APIs for submissions, loss records, and exposure schedules; used React and TypeScript to replace spreadsheet-heavy analyst workflows; and delivered Node services for integrations and approval processes. Just as important, I am comfortable working directly with actuaries, claims specialists, finance teams, and product managers to turn treaty terms, limits, and reconciliation rules into tested, maintainable software.

I am interested in Northstar because the role combines technical leadership with a clear insurance and risk focus. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience with reinsurance systems, distributed teams, and dependable delivery could support the continued growth of your platform.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

David Johnston

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