

# Nicolas Watkins

## Application for DevOps Cloud Engineer

### Contact

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Hiring Manager  
Northstar Mission Systems  
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am applying for the DevOps Cloud Engineer position at Northstar Mission Systems. I have six years of experience building delivery platforms and operating AWS, Kubernetes, and Linux environments for mission-focused programs. I also hold an active TS/SCI clearance, CompTIA Security+ certification, and a B.S. in Computer Engineering, and I am willing to take a polygraph exam.

In my current role, I rebuilt GitLab CI/CD workflows to use dependency caching, reusable artifacts, and parallelized build and regression-test stages. I also standardized Terraform modules and Helm charts so application teams could promote container services through development, integration, and production with fewer one-off changes. These improvements made delivery work more predictable while preserving release gates and configuration control.

My infrastructure experience includes provisioning EC2, S3, VPC, ELB, CloudFormation, Kubernetes, and Linux environments, along with troubleshooting DNS, load balancing, TLS, certificates, and resource issues. I use Bash, Python, and Boto3 to automate readiness checks, environment validation, log collection, and cloud-account tasks. I have also supported GEOAxis-enabled services with Elasticsearch monitoring and worked directly with architects, software engineers, security teams, and customers to resolve delivery and operational problems.

Northstar's work modernizing infrastructure for demanding technical missions is a strong match for the systems I have supported. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience improving secure delivery pipelines and repeatable cloud environments could support your team in Columbus.

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

Sincerely,

*Nicolas Watkins*

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