

Dallas Gallegos

Cover Letter

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Hiring Manager

Redwood Applied Sciences

Raleigh, NC

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am applying for the Staff Cloud Engineer – Cloud Platforms position at Redwood Applied Sciences.

I am a Raleigh-based cloud platform engineer with four years of experience building secure development environments for defense and research programs. I am a U.S. citizen with an active DoD Secret Clearance, Special Access Program access, a B.S. in Computer Science, and CompTIA Security+ certification meeting DoD 8570 IAT Level II requirements.

In my current role, I own AWS platform patterns for 11 defense research application teams working across segregated development and test accounts. I have standardized Amazon EKS clusters, Helm releases, IAM boundaries, and private networking with Terraform and Ansible, replacing one-off console work with repeatable environments. I also rebuilt Jenkins and GitLab pipelines with Python validation, container scanning, artifact promotion, and approval gates, making releases easier to review and less prone to avoidable configuration errors.

The work I find most valuable is the practical work between disciplines: clarifying a hardware constraint, translating it into a platform decision, documenting the tradeoff, and giving the team a reliable way to operate the result. I have partnered with hardware, software, and security engineers on integration issues, and I have turned recurring deployment failures into runbooks, automated checks, and post-incident actions. CloudWatch, Prometheus, Grafana, and Splunk have helped me give teams useful visibility during release windows rather than waiting for problems to become outages.

Redwood Applied Sciences' focus on technically demanding research and engineering work is a strong match for my background. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute on-site in Raleigh, using AWS, Kubernetes, infrastructure as code, and clear technical communication to help build a secure cloud development environment that teams can depend on.

Thank you for your consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience could support Redwood Applied Sciences' cloud platform team.

Sincerely,

Dallas Gallegos

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