

Malachi Randall

VP of Engineering - PHP

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📍 Durham, North Carolina 27701

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Hiring Manager
Meridian Learning Systems
Raleigh
North Carolina

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am applying for the VP of Engineering - PHP role at Meridian Learning Systems. I have eight years of software engineering experience, including more than three years leading teams of six to eight engineers. My work has stayed close to the code: I make architecture decisions, review designs and pull requests, help resolve production issues, and translate product goals into technical plans a team can deliver.

In my current role, I lead a seven-engineer PHP team building enrollment and learning-management capabilities for a multi-tenant platform. I clarified service boundaries and API ownership so Product Managers could make sequencing decisions with fewer cross-team dependencies. I also introduced practical controls for AI-assisted development, including secure prompt practices, human approval gates, and PHPUnit coverage checks. This allowed the team to use code-generation and review tools without treating speed as a substitute for engineering judgment.

Previously, I managed a six-engineer team responsible for student-information integrations and educator-facing services. I turned portfolio roadmap themes into sequenced technical plans, identifying capacity limits, security concerns, dependencies, and release risks before commitments were made. To improve quality, I built a monthly dashboard using deployment, defect, support, and incident data, then directed improvement work toward recurring failure points. The result was a clearer basis for deciding where the team should spend its limited capacity.

I would bring the same balance of hands-on technical leadership and thoughtful people management to Meridian. I have used architecture reviews and decision records to keep PHP systems maintainable, coached engineers through design and production work, conducted technical interviews, and supported engineers as they took on broader ownership. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how that experience could help your team deliver reliably while adopting AI in a careful, useful way.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

Malachi Randall

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