

Salauat Kakimzhanov

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SUMMARY

Backend/Platform Engineer specializing in **Go**, **Kubernetes**, and **AWS**. Experienced in building distributed systems and developer infrastructure adopted across multiple teams. Proven impact in open-source cloud tooling (**CNCF/KubeVirt**) and AI-driven therapy robotics (**APRIL**, serving 2,000+ children).

EDUCATION

New York University

May 2027

M.S. in Computer Engineering

New York, NY

Coursework: Algorithms, Internet Architecture, Machine Learning, Real-Time Systems, Distributed Systems, Cloud Computing

Nazarbayev University

Jun 2025

B.S. in Computer Science

Astana, Kazakhstan GPA: 3.1/4.0

Relevant Coursework: Data Structures & Algorithms, Operating Systems, Software Engineering

EXPERIENCE

Google Summer of Code 2025 — KubeVirt (CNCF)

Jun 2025 – Aug 2025

Open Source Contributor

Remote

- Improved Kubernetes virtualization reliability across **20+ integration tests** by developing a Go **Custom Resource Definition (v1beta1)** and reconciliation logic; merged **6 PRs** and resolved **6 issues**.
- Increased build throughput by **25%** via new Bazel targets and optimized CI pipelines, reducing feedback cycles for maintainers.
- Partnered with **90+ CNCF contributors** to deliver features used by cloud providers supporting **6K+ GitHub stars**.

ITS Partners, LLC

Aug 2024 – Mar 2025

Software Engineer Intern

Remote

- Collaborated with the **Backend Cloud Security team** at **Signify (Philips) Smart Home Systems**, supporting IoT automation for distributed AWS environments with a global 10-engineer team.
- Reduced manual cloud operations by **94%** by engineering a concurrent Go service for AWS S3 log transfers across **4,000+ IoT objects**.
- Saved **200+ engineering hours** by developing a cloud-based script automation platform (similar to AWS Batch) adopted across multiple backend teams.

PROJECTS

APRIL Project — Multi-robot Autism Therapy Platform

hrilab.kz/home

Software Engineer / Co-Lead

Sep 2024 – Present

- Scaled robot-assisted therapy to **2,000+ children across 7 centers** by co-leading backend architecture and deployment of APRIL's microservice ecosystem.
- Managed **30+ engineers and designers across 5 teams**, coordinating sprints, releases, and architecture decisions.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Go, Python, C++, SQL

Cloud & Systems: Kubernetes, AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda, IAM), Docker, Terraform, Linux, CI/CD (GitHub Actions, GitLab CI), Datadog, OpenTelemetry

Databases & Tools: PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Kafka, Bazel