

DEREK BEST

DOE Q Clearance/DOD Secret Clearance - Active

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Creative and tech-savvy Senior Web & UI/UX Designer with 15+ years of success crafting Section 508 compliant, visually appealing, and user-friendly websites. Passionate in the Frontend development of responsive designs which improve the user interface (UI)/user experience (UX) providing a seamless digital experience. Developed 100+ websites for federal government, federal healthcare, national energy, and defense agencies. Leverages communication and organizational skills to thrive in collaborative settings.

Core Competencies:

Technical Skills

HTML5, CSS3, PHP, Basic Scripting in JavaScript (Dom Manipulation & jQuery), XML, Adobe (Photoshop, Illustrator, XD, Dreamweaver, Premier), Lunacy (Sketch), WordPress, Angular, VS Code, API, Siteimprove, Agile, Scrum, DevOps, Git, Balsamic, Confluence, ColdFusion, Perl/CGI, Mura Content Management System, Artificial Intelligence (AI) (ChatGPT/Bard)

Functional Skills

Project Management, Website Design, Responsive Design, User-Centered Web Interfaces, User Interface (UI)/User Experience (UX), Agile/Scrum Methodologies, Content Creation, Section 508 Compliance, Search Engine Optimization (SEO), Graphic Design, Branding, Training, Communication/Interpersonal/Analytical/Organizational Skills, Problem-Solving

Professional Experience:

Desert Oasis Healthcare- (Freelance, contract)

Digital Content Coordinator | Current

- Create assets and new features within CMS
- Direct efforts to update content

The Life Change Institute- (Freelance)

Website Design and Development | Current

- Redesign and development of company's website
- Content consultation and SEO optimization

Sandia National Laboratories- (Contractor)

Edgewater Federal Solutions (Previous contract held by SAIC) | Albuquerque, NM

Senior Web & UI Designer | May 2015 - June 2023

- Appointed the principal designer and front-end developer for the laboratory's internal/external website presence

- Confirmed compliance with client requirements by interpreting and modifying user experience (UX) testing previously performed by testing team for the development of final wireframes and mockups

Projects:

- Redesigned and developed frontend assets and interface elements for www.sandia.gov
- Principle member of both public facing and internal design system
- Designed and developed internal Lab Operating system website
- Leveraged knowledge and experience to develop state-of-the-art frontend solutions by applying graphic design trends and utilizing HTML5, CSS3, and jQuery
- Collaborated with 10+ team members in both an Agile and Scrum environment to train designers and ensure projects were completed on time
- Worked with clients and Product Owners to narrow and focus requirements while project deliverables remained within budget

Indian Health Service (IHS)- (Contractor)

Phacil Inc. (Previous contract held by Chickasaw Nation Industries) | Rockville, MD

Web Designer | April 2004 - February 2015

- Consulted with clients and developed/designed websites for federal clients within the Indian Health Service (IHS) and complied with Section 508 regulations
- Administered 20+ customer web accounts and worked closely with key stakeholders to define requirements and create engaging content
- Tracked graphic design trends and developed front-end solutions using HTML4-5, CSS2-3, and jQuery for both desktop and mobile environments
- Created mockups, wireframes, graphics, and final templates using HTML4-5, ColdFusion, CSS2-3, and jQuery and which were integrated utilizing the Mura Content Management System
- Spearheaded the redesign of the ihs.gov website and developed/delivered in-house training programs on advanced CSS3 techniques to improve performance

Highlights:

- ❖ Raised Section 508 government requirements from 70 to 100% compliance

Education/Certifications:

Bachelor of Arts in Film & Media Studies
University of Utah

Web Programming Certificate
San Diego State University