

Carolina Alcantar

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Education

University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) - Chicago, IL

B.S. in Computer Engineering | Expected May 2028

Awards: NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing 2021

Technical Skills

Programming Languages: Python, C, C++, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, Ruby

Tools/Software: Git, GitHub, VS Code, Linux, MATLAB, Microsoft Excel

Data & Automation: Pandas, Beautiful Soup, Selenium, n8n, REST APIs, JSON, Data Analysis

AI & Automation: AI Workflow Automation, Prompt Engineering, API Integration

Technical Experience

Investigating AI Laws | Extern - The Home Depot | Remote | September 2026 – Present

- Research emerging AI legislation related to surveillance, algorithmic pricing, consumer privacy, and regulatory compliance.
- Analyze proposed Illinois legislation to assess potential legal and operational risks for The Home Depot.
- Apply legal research and risk assessment frameworks to evaluate how emerging regulations may affect retail business practices.
- Develop evidence-based findings and recommendations to support a final stakeholder presentation.

AI Engineer Intern - Circle.ooo | Remote | May 2026 - Present

- Analyzed and compiled thousands of records across 50+ U.S. cities, expanding the platform's data coverage and supporting broader sponsorship opportunities
- Built and refined Python-based data collection tools, improving the speed and efficiency of gathering information across multiple public sources
- Evaluated 60+ city, tourism, and public websites to identify reliable sources and expand data coverage across major U.S. markets
- Cleaned, organized, and validated collected data to ensure accuracy and consistency before integration into larger datasets.
- Contributed to the development of an AI-powered sponsorship platform, strengthening the data foundation used to support sponsor discovery and matching

Undergraduate Research Assistant - Dr. Kral Research Group - University of Illinois Chicago | February 2026 - Present

Project: Graphene-Based Desalination

- Contribute to computational research on graphene membrane behavior for desalination applications
- Assist in preparing and executing nanoscale simulation experiments
- Analyze structured simulation outputs to evaluate filtration performance
- Collaborate with graduate researchers to refine modeling parameters

Service Desk Specialist - University of Illinois Chicago Technology Solutions | Chicago, Illinois | June 2025 - Present

- Provide frontline technical support for university-managed systems serving students, faculty, and staff
- Troubleshoot account access, software, and system-related issues across campus platforms
- Document and track incidents using enterprise ticketing systems
- Escalate complex cases to specialized IT teams while maintaining clear client communication
- Support operational workflows within enterprise-level IT infrastructure

Projects

Extern Wayfair AI Automation Program | Market Trend Discovery Agent | December 2025 - March 2026

- Designed and developed an automated Market Trend Discovery Agent to analyze emerging product trends
- Built multi-step automation workflows in n8n, integrating RSS feeds and external AI APIs
- Processed structured JSON responses to extract and organize trend insights
- Implemented prompt engineering strategies to refine AI-generated summaries and improve relevance
- Configured webhook triggers and conditional routing logic to automate data aggregation and reporting
- Iteratively tested and optimized workflow performance to ensure reliable trend analysis output

