IDS 493

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## Abstract

The following essay will seek to analyze in detail the role of a Digital Engineer II-Pega Data Engineer at Navy Federal Credit Union, including the purpose of the job, key responsibilities, required skills, and industry relevance. This position is open in several locations within the United States, allowing candidates flexibility in choosing a preferred workplace. Moreover, the hybrid work environment balances in-office collaboration with remote productivity, thereby avoiding burnout and increasing overall job satisfaction. The job requires expertise in data engineering, cloud technologies, and security-all of which come under my academic background and professional experience. My coursework has equipped me with the necessary skills to adapt to the data quality analytics, monitoring processes, and cloud integration requirements essential for the role. Furthermore, Navy Federal Credit Union offers an inclusive and diverse workplace environment with a number of industry awards that recognize employees' efforts in the area of development and innovation. From the analysis of this case study, I will be assessing my potential candidacy for this position and readiness to handle its demands. I will also reflect on how my skills and experiences match the expectations of this dynamic, evolving career opportunity.

Data engineering has emerged as one of the most important fields in the modern world of business operations, especially in those sectors with a basic need for handling and processing big data volumes. As organizations increasingly rely on cloud technologies to handle and derive value from their data, so has the role of data engineers become ever more central. The Digital Engineer II—Pega Data Engineer position at Navy Federal Credit Union offers an exciting opportunity to apply advanced data engineering skills in a dynamic, hybrid work environment spanning multiple campuses. This position will offer the opportunity to work on leading-edge projects supporting critical business functions and services. In this essay, I will be discussing the responsibilities and expectations involved in this role, the technical and soft skills required, industry trends that shape its relevance, and how this relates to my professional experience and education. From the analysis of these elements, I will show how this position aligns with my career goals and aspirations in data engineering.

The Digital Engineer II – Pega Data Engineer develops technical solutions for data acquisition, integration, and sharing across the legacy systems, Microsoft Azure, and Pega Cloud on AWS. Key responsibilities include loading customer data into Pega CDH, migrating ETL processes to cloud-based Pega solutions, designing and implementing the Data Framework, ensuring Data Security and Integrity, and performing Data Archival (Navy Federal). The position also involves some collaboration with business leaders and providing technical guidance to team members. Continuous adoption of new technologies and data security measures has to be an inherent part of the role with growing dependence on cloud platforms and move from the use of legacy systems. This is primarily to prevent dated systems from being compromised by outside parties.

This position requires a bachelor's degree in Information Systems, Computer Science, Engineering, or related experience, training, and education. The successful applicant should know about SQL, ETL processes, cloud technologies such as AWS, ADLS, and data warehousing. Experience in PostgreSQL, Cassandra, and data integration tools like Azure Event Hub, Databricks (Navy Federal). Besides, the candidate should have experience in programming languages like Python, Java, SQL, and with REST APIs. The person should also be familiar with CI/CD pipelines, ETL, and reporting tools like Power BI and Tableau. The job requires a high degree of competence in communication and change management skills combined with deep knowledge in data security, compliance, and performance optimization strategies.

Beyond explicitly stated qualifications, additional competencies can be inferred from the job description. Given the emphasis on cloud migration and integration, proficiency in cloud security best practices is likely required. This position also gives indication of strong problem-solving, mentorship, and teamwork skills, with leadership and management aspects. All the more that the regular occurrence of the terms "monitoring data quality and security" gives reasons to believe in the importance of attention to detail and regulatory compliance awareness; that is, the ability to translate complex technical information into action insights for business leaders.

With more institutions moving toward cloud-based data solutions, the demand for expertise in the field of data engineering, cloud computing, and security is going to increase. This trend is even more pronounced with the increased threat of cyberattacks and incorporation of Artificial Intelligence as a tool for sophisticated data breaches. Thus, for a high-volume institution like Navy Federal, the demand for secure and scalable data solutions gives expertise in Pega CDH, Azure Data Factory, and AWS great relevance. The role aligns with current trends

in data-driven decision-making and regulatory compliance, increasing its long-term career value and offering opportunities for advancement. Additionally, as financial institutions continue to build up their data capabilities, the demand for highly skilled data engineers will be strong, which reinforces the stability of this career path.

My academic background and professional experiences have provided a strong foundation in the skills required for this role. I am currently pursuing a degree in Cybersecurity with a couple future certifications in CompTIA giving some value to my resume as well as coursework in database management, cloud computing, and information technology which has thrived my skills in SQL, ETL processes, and principles of data security. Hands-on experience in Python, Java, and cloud platforms like AWS and Azure will further align with the technical requirements of the job. Similarly, past work in developing data pipelines and reporting tools, such as Power BI and Tableau, has prepared me for the data visualization components falling under this role. Beyond technical expertise, my experience as a manager overseeing forty employees and leading multiple projects has developed my communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills, which will be crucial in this role.

Navy Federal has been recognized with numerous best workplace awards for a culture of engagement, career development, and inclusion. Some of these include "Best Companies for Latinos to Work For 2024," "Computerworld Best Places to Work in IT," and "Forbes 2024 America's Best Employers for New Grads" (Navy Federal). The organization values mission-driven professionals committed to innovation and excellence. To be successful in this position, one needs to excel in a collaborative and leadership-driven environment; therefore, superior interpersonal and communication skills are a must. In addition, the focus of Navy

Federal on employee growth and continuous learning matches my personal and professional aspirations, thus making it a great place to work.

Technical expertise dominates the job description, but soft skills like time management, adaptability, and problem-solving are also very essential. However, as mentioned earlier, my past work experience has equipped me with these necessary skills, particularly in managing teams and handling complex problem-solving scenarios. Navy Federal's hybrid work environment and cross-functional collaboration demand strong communication and self-motivation. Another big challenge would be the migration of data in a manner that assures security and compliance, which means always learning and being proactive in solving problems—values highly held at Navy Federal to keep ahead of industry advancements.

The Digital Engineer II—Pega Data Engineer position is an exciting opportunity to apply advanced data engineering skills with a dynamic and mission-driven organization. The responsibilities, required skills, and implicit expectations of this position harmonize with my academic background and professional experience. I have no doubt that I will be able to contribute effectively by applying expertise in cloud computing, data integration, and leadership through job experience and future internships to support the most efficient data engineering initiatives at Navy Federal. This role represents a huge step toward a fulfilling and impactful career in data engineering that I look forward to flourishing within.

## References

Navy Federal. (2025). Digital Engineer II (Pega Data Engineer).

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