



Director of Software Engineering



JUSTINE FOX

Director of Software Engineering

WHAT IS A DIRECTOR OF SOFTWARE ENGINEERING?¹

The director of software engineering is a leadership role within a company. This individual leads a team (or several teams) and helps connect the upper management with team members in order to complete projects, gain insights, and solve problems. In addition to designing quality computer programs that are safe and efficient, a Director of Software Engineering provides the experience, leadership and communication skills to help a company achieve its goals.

WHAT DOES JUSTINE DO?

Justine serves in a technical advisor role for the teams that report to them, seeking to facilitate their work and make it more efficient. A day in Justine's life may involve receiving problem statements and helping understand and solve them. They also simplify the problem so everyone understands it clearly and create an illustration to provide a visual explanation. Justine also reviews current software designs, recommends actions, prepares reports, and meets with various stakeholders. They also supervise and train new staff. Justine works with many departments within the company, including public policy, marketing, sales, and customer success. Justine contributes to the company in many different ways, such as giving talks on their own or as part of a panel, writing articles, and supporting teams as new projects are created. Justine often works with stakeholders on the product front to collaborate on product development roadmaps, create business case supporting materials, and help with product operations (scaling the business).



CAREER PROFILE

Director of Software Engineering

JOB OUTLOOK²

Directors of software engineering are projected to be in high demand over the next decade, primarily because software engineers continue to be in demand. Employment is projected to grow 21% between 2018 and 2028, which is much faster than average. The reason for this projected growth is the expected need for new and innovative software and applications to keep up with developing mobile technologies.

MEDIAN SALARY³

\$196,432/year

HOW DID JUSTINE BECOME A DIRECTOR OF SOFTWARE ENGINEERING?

Justine earned a bachelor’s degree in technology, network security, and administration from British Columbia Institute of Technology. They worked as a systems administrator before joining NuData Security (a Canadian Mastercard company) in 2014. Justine joined the company as a systems/DevOps administrator. Later, they switched to a software engineering manager role to tackle platform scalability, security, and reliability concerns—typically partnering closely with various teams in order to motivate and facilitate product improvements. In 2018, Justine moved into their current director role and initiated three development teams over four months. They continue to work hard to lead and support the teams they manage to ensure the company is doing the best work it can and solving problems effectively.

¹ <https://www.zippia.com/director-of-software-development-jobs/>

² https://learn.org/articles/Software_Engineer_Career_Definition_Occupational_Outlook_and_Education_Prerequisites.html

³ https://www.salary.com/research/salary/benchmark/software-engineering-director-salarySRCH_KO0,32.htm

