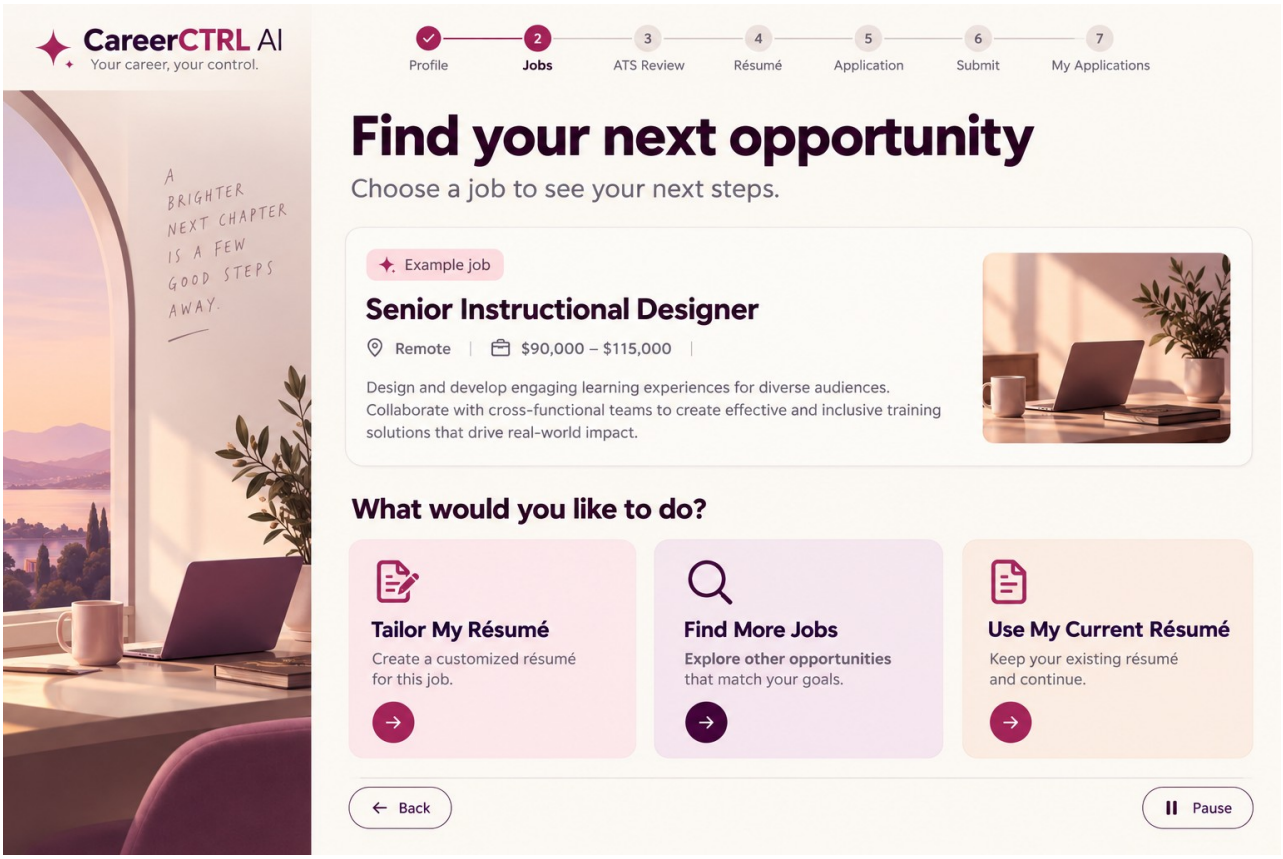
PORTFOLIO CASE STUDY 03

CareerCTRL AI

Designing a clearer path from job search to application

A career search concept and interactive design prototype



Jobs screen concept. Job details are illustrative.

I created CareerCTRL AI to help job seekers move through a complicated application process with clearer choices, visible progress, and control over the decisions that matter. The project currently includes a chat-based beta workflow and a separate interactive design prototype; the two are not yet connected.

The challenge

Job seekers often move between job boards, résumés, application forms, and their own tracking systems. It can be difficult to remember what has been reviewed, which résumé belongs to which role, or whether an application has actually been sent. For people who are less comfortable with technology, unclear button labels can add another barrier.

Scope and needs analysis

I used a walkthrough of the career-search process to identify where a user might lose context or need a clearer decision. These findings are design observations and hypotheses; they have not yet been validated through a formal user study.

Audience and needs

The intended audience is job seekers managing applications across multiple sources, including people who may be less comfortable with technical terms. They need to understand where they are, what information is missing, and what will happen when they select an action.

Project goals and scope

The beta scope covers profile onboarding, job discovery, an evidence-based résumé and ATS review, résumé approval, application preparation, a separate submission checkpoint, and an application tracker. The visual prototype demonstrates the flow using examples; it does not yet connect to live job data or process résumés.

Constraints and success measures

The design must keep personal information separate between users, avoid unsupported résumé claims, and distinguish prepared applications from confirmed submissions. In future testing, I would observe whether participants can identify their current stage, choose and approve a résumé, and explain whether an application was sent. No usability outcomes have been measured yet.

My role and approach

As the project creator and experience designer, I defined the workflow, tested it in conversation, identified friction points, and directed the visual design. I used AI-assisted prototyping to explore the interface and turn the approved concepts into a separate click-through demonstration.

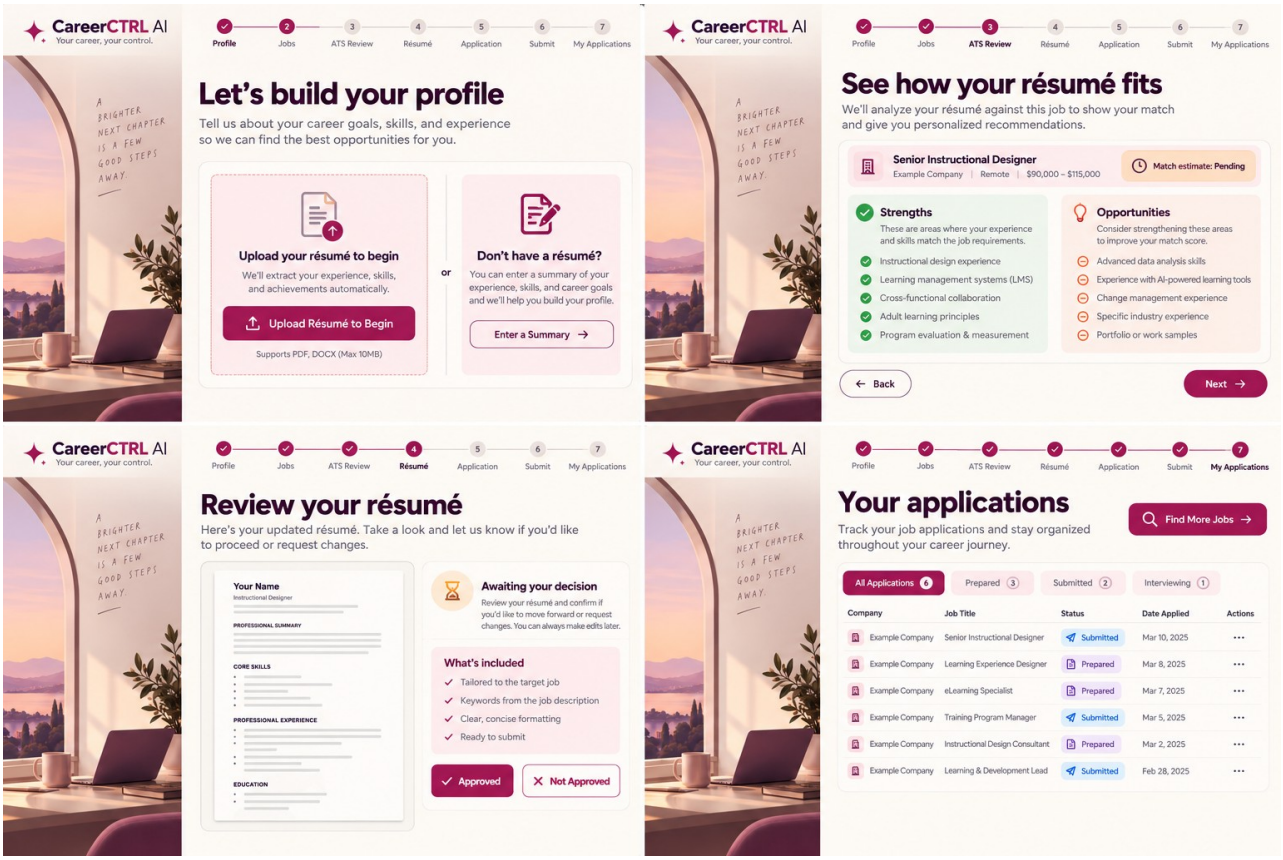
- Audience: job seekers who want help organizing and preparing applications.
- Focus: plain language, visible progress, accessible choices, and user approval.
- Project stage: private beta workflow and design prototype; live integration is planned.

Design decisions

I organized the experience into seven visible stages: Profile, Jobs, ATS Review, Résumé, Application, Submit, and My Applications. During testing, I noticed that the ATS review was easy to lose in the process, so I made it a named step in the progress indicator.

I replaced unfamiliar actions with direct choices such as “Tailor My Résumé,” “Find More Jobs,” and “Use My Current Résumé.” Each choice tells the user what happens next.

From first step to résumé approval

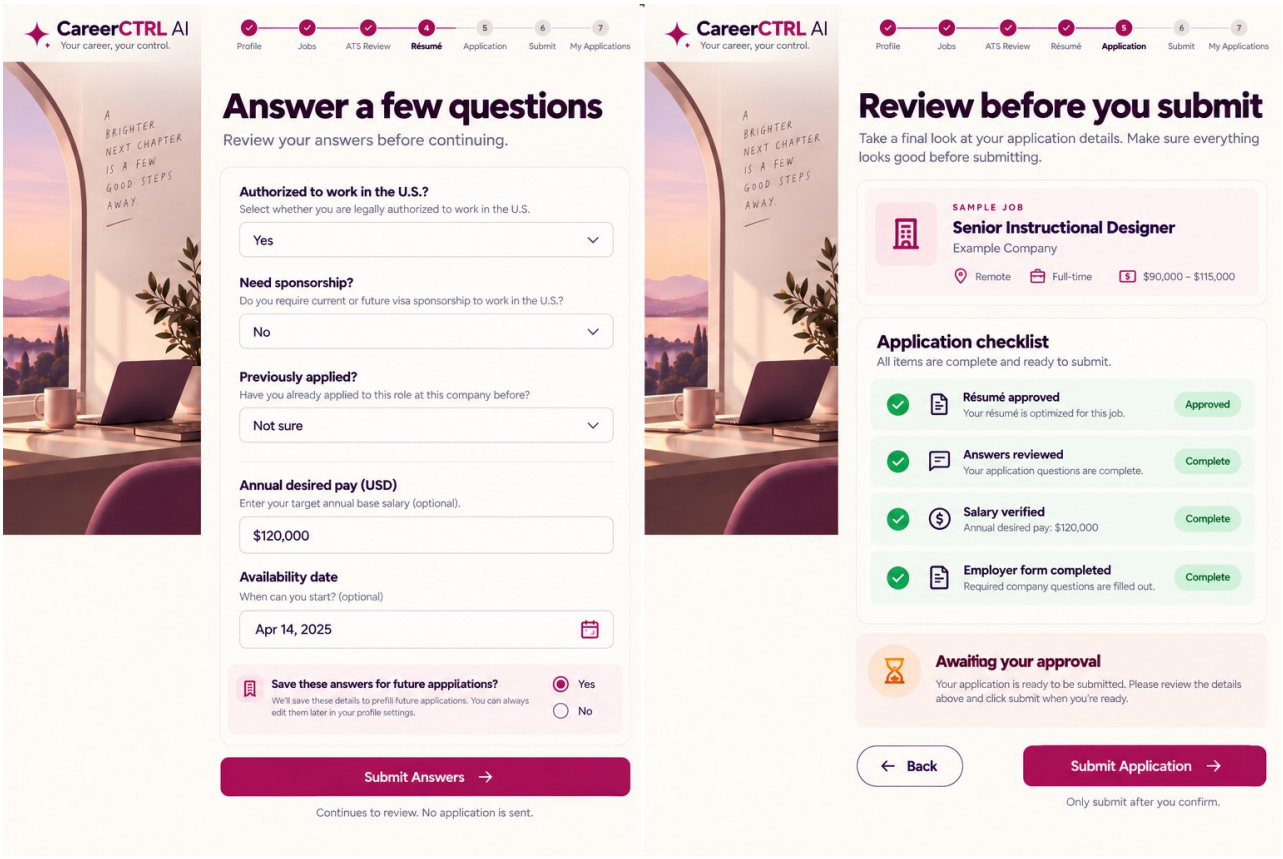


Concept screens for onboarding, ATS review, résumé approval, and application tracking.

The onboarding concept offers two starting points: upload a résumé or enter a summary. The ATS review identifies strengths and opportunities while labeling any estimate as an estimate—not an employer's score. When the evidence is insufficient, the score stays pending.

Before continuing, the user sees prominent Approved and Not Approved choices. A revision returns the résumé to review. This checkpoint gives the job seeker a chance to decide which version represents them.

Application review and user control

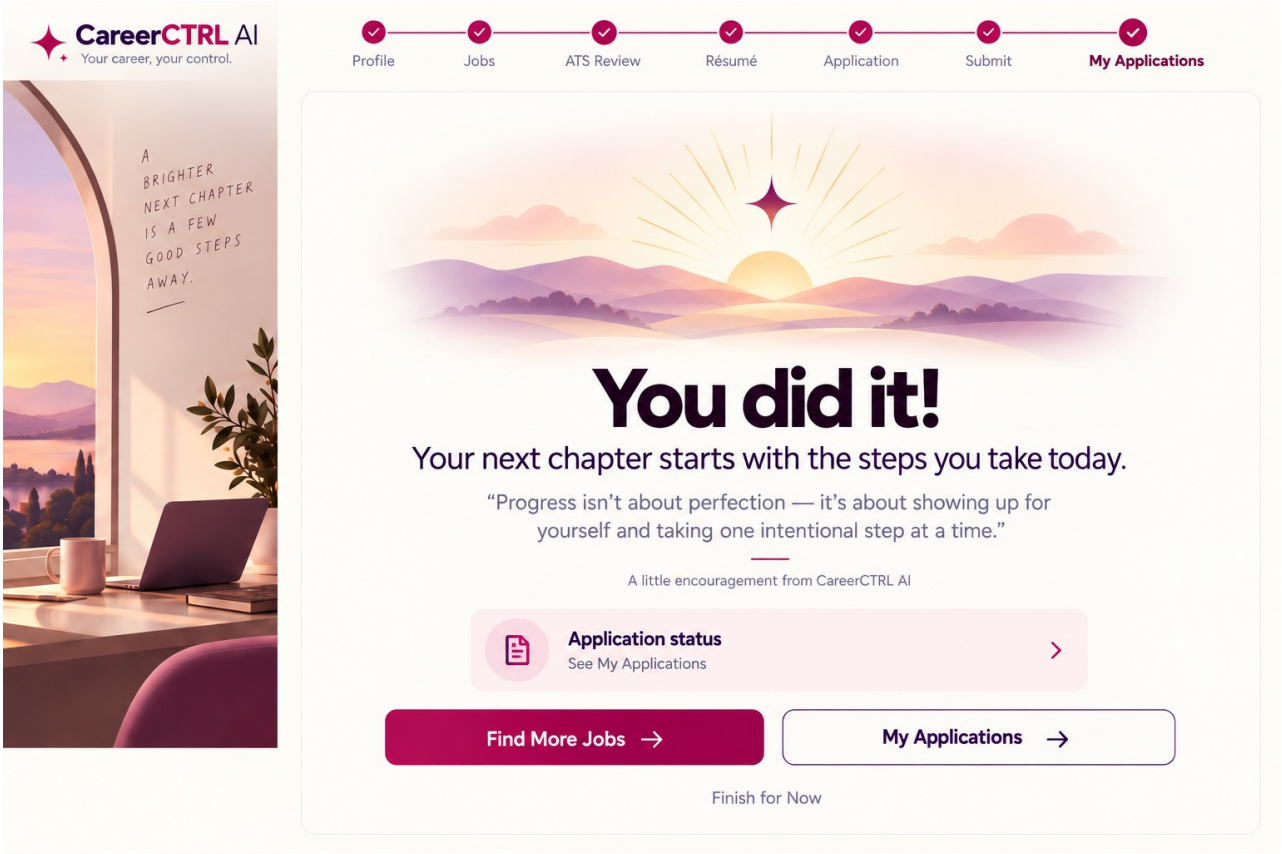


Application question and final review concepts. Example responses and checklist statuses are illustrative.

The questionnaire uses simple selections for common questions and gives users a choice about reusing answers. “Submit Answers” moves to review; it does not send an application. A separate final review shows the job, résumé, answers, and outstanding checks before any employer submission.

A tracker distinguishes prepared, awaiting submission, submitted, and later stages. The experience must show an application as submitted only when there is actual confirmation or the user reports it. Simulated submissions are labeled as tests.

A supportive finish



Finish screen concept with encouragement and clear next steps.

I added an encouraging Finish screen after testing the flow. Rather than ending abruptly, it gives users a moment of recognition and a choice to find more jobs, review applications, or finish for now.

What I learned and what comes next

The walkthrough made small language and navigation issues visible: users needed an obvious upload starting point, an ATS step in the tracker, and clear choices after viewing a job. Those observations shaped the next iteration. This was a design walkthrough, not a formal usability study; no performance or hiring outcomes have been measured.

Next, I plan to connect the interface to real résumé processing, current job sources, and user-specific tracking, then test the complete experience with users. Employer submission will remain a separate, explicitly authorized action.

Live product link: To be added when available.