

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING INDUSTRY INSIGHTS



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- B.S. Chemical Engineering, Minors in Biomedical Engineering & Operations and Supply Chain (2019)
- Current Title: Specialist, Engineering
- Industry: Pharmaceutical Manufacturing
- Company: Merck



Tell Me About Your Job

I support commercial vaccine manufacturing. This includes project management, technical documentation, hands-on shop-floor support, technical presentations, employee business resource groups (EBRG) involvement, lots of communication, and wet lab skills.



How did your major or classes at CMU help prepare you for your job?

The application-based classes helped prepare me for the technical skills of my job. The leadership seminar in CIT really helped me prepare for the communication/leadership aspect of my job which has been a key enabler in my career.



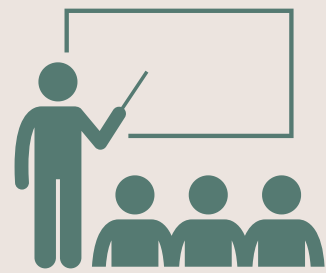
What other activities, hobbies, or experiences helped to prepare you for a job in your industry?

CMU athletics and doing on campus research taught me a lot about time management because I was so busy. I had to learn how to balance my commitments across classes, research, and athletics.



What classes would you recommend to a student who is interested in a job in your industry?

Bioprocess Design, any chem/bio grad elective that focuses on the pharmaceutical industry (biotech/pharmaceutical engineering masters), supply chain classes, and basic business classes. Diversity in academic experience is helpful.



What advice would you give to a student who is in the early stages of considering a career in your industry?

Reach out and talk to as many people, alumni, connections as possible. Be curious and learn what people do on a day-to-day basis, experiment and see if that is something that you would potentially like. Don't come in with a preconceived idea of what you like without having tried it!



What advice would you give to a student who is preparing to apply for an internship/job in your industry?

Tell a clear story about what you're interested in and why. Show that you're involved in things outside of just academics because we are looking for students that are passionate in the things they are involved in. We don't expect a student to have everything figured out, but if they've showed they've sought out experiences and can convey Merck is somewhere they want to pursue an experience then we can provide them with an opportunity.

