

I am currently a third year student in the Computer Science Program at Carnegie Mellon University, and am looking for a summer internship position in the Cleveland area. In looking at your web site, I was particularly interested in Dakota Software's emphasis on providing technology solutions in the areas of health and safety. As a candidate with a strong academic background, relevant experience, and communications skills, I am confident that I could make a positive and productive contribution to your organization.

My attached resume gives evidence of my strong performance in my coursework. I have been selected to the Dean's List over the past two semesters, and am also a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. My coursework has given me a rich mixture of both the theoretical and practical sides of my field. For example, the discrete mathematics and theory classes of my freshman year contrasted well with Technology Consulting in the Community, an upper-level course that I am enrolled in where I actually am a technology consultant to a non-profit organization in Pittsburgh, helping the organization utilize technology to further achieve its goals.

I also have past experience working in the field of computer science. Last summer, I worked as a web developer at Doveworks, a small Internet company in Messina, Ohio. I was responsible for maintaining and updating several of the company's web applications, and was the primary developer involved with the restructuring of an online solicitation application for the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works. I used Microsoft Access in order to develop these database oriented applications. This internship gave me experience in working closely with end users in developing solutions.

I would like to meet with you to discuss the possibility of an internship position at Dakota Software. I will be in the Cleveland area between March ??--??. I will contact your office a couple of weeks in advance to set up a mutually convenient time for an interview. In the meantime, I may be contacted at the phone number and e-mail address listed on my resume. Thank you for your time and interest. I look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

XXXXXXX

SpiderOak is a company literally like none other. Your organization does not just acknowledge a need for privacy, you are committed to developing tools that can realize this ambitious goal. This is reflected in my academic program's capstone, where I have the opportunity to work closely with some of your best developers on your newest ideas. Fortunately in this same capstone I have also seen how I can be a valuable addition to the SpiderOak collective. Through my training at Carnegie Mellon I have learned how to achieve privacy as a product of laws, security, policy, and usability.

In my resume I highlight many of the projects I have worked on during my time at Carnegie Mellon, as well as some of my career experience outside of academia. In both I found that no system can be considered valuable if it isn't usable - a lesson that I learned while developing systems for FedEx's services team, as well as exploring usability tradeoffs of different password managers. My background also helps me identify privacy threats (as seen with my research into commercial accelerometers) as well as approaches to mitigate these threats (as seen in my analysis of the New York Taxicab dataset). I have learned to design studies, implement technologies, and tackle challenges new to industry and society.

My time in the MSIT-Privacy Engineering program has been nothing short of rigorous. When I decided to go to Carnegie Mellon I had no idea the vast wealth of knowledge I'd learn, or that I would be one of the first to take part in this academic Gauntlet. But it is this same enthusiasm and curiosity for exploring the unknown that has given me the skills, knowledge, and character I need to take on the role of Privacy Engineer. Through this program I have had the opportunity to interact with some of the brightest and most dedicated privacy oriented individuals in this field. For example, I have been guided by privacy leaders like Lorrie Cranor of Carnegie Mellon. I have learned from the Chief Privacy Officers of major organizations such as PNC Bank. And I have discussed privacy issues with members of Google's Red Team and Data Stewardship Team. It is this real world experience and knowledge that I feel make me an excellent candidate for a position with SpiderOak, where I can learn and give back to your organization.

If possible, I would appreciate an opportunity to discuss a future role contributing to SpiderOak. I may be contacted at the phone number and e-mail address listed on my resume. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,