

# CALEB WHITTAKER

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## EDUCATION

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### **Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry**

*Saginaw Valley State University*

President's List: Five Semesters

Dean's List: Three Semesters

GPA: 3.95

May 2022

University Center, MI

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Lab Tech Associate**

*University of Michigan*

**May 2022 – Jan 2023**

- Responsible for establishing new genetics stocks for lab members to use for future experiments
- Performed lifespan experiments that produced data to elucidate mechanisms involved in aging
- Maintained stocks for lifespan and imaging experiments
- Analyzed data from lifespans and genetic crosses to plan new experiments

### **Lab Technician II**

*Saginaw Valley State University*

**April 2021 - Present**

University Center, MI

- Contributed to optimization of ddPCR assays for detection of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater
- Performed specialized ddPCR assays with proper aseptic techniques to generate time-sensitive results
- Successfully detected COVID-19 outbreak on SVSU campus from wastewater
- Investigated fecal contamination in Bay County through means of microbial source tracking and reporting results to health department
- Trained technicians in the use of laboratory equipment to perform RT-ddPCR and qPCR assays

### **Lab Technician I**

*Saginaw Valley State University*

**April 2020 - April 2021**

University Center, MI

- Notified local health departments of significant qPCR results which led to beach closures
- Sampled various locations around the Saginaw Bay Watershed in order to perform various PCR analyses
- Performed qPCR assays from a validated SOP for rapid testing of beach water
- Isolated DNA with proper aseptic techniques for ddPCR and qPCR analysis
- Responsible for coordinating and receiving samples from wastewater treatment plants for SARS-CoV-2 pilot study

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Restaurant Server

May 2019 - November 2021

#### *Bavarian Inn*

Frankenmuth, MI

- Served patrons in a friendly and professional manner in order to promote the return of future customers
- Responsible for serving large tables or parties to minimize the workload of fellow coworkers
- Worked long hours without losing efficiency

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- |                                     |                             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Droplet Digital PCR               | • Excel Generated Workbooks |
| • Qiagen Extraction Instrumentation | • Gel Electrophoresis       |
| • Quantitative PCR                  | • Data Analysis             |

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## COMPUTER SKILLS

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- |                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Semantic HTML5    | • Python                    |
| • CSS3              | • Microsoft Word            |
| • Responsive Design | • Microsoft PowerPoint      |
| • JavaScript        | • Excel Generated Workbooks |
| • React             |                             |

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## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### Member, Chemistry Club

August 2021 – May 2022

### Member, American Chemistry Society

August 2021 - May 2022

### Volunteer, Good Samaritan

March 2021 – May 2022

- Organized clothes for donation
- Served food to residents of the homeless shelter

### Volunteer, SVSU Food Pantry

September 2018 – March 2021

### Volunteer, Chemistry Club

August 2021 – May 2022

- Helped facilitate exercises for the Girl Scout's Stemapalooza
- Participated in the clean-up for Adopt-A-Highway

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## HONORS/AWARDS

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### Recipient, Robert & Ellen Thompson Scholarship

August 2018 – Present

- Received scholarship for \$5000 a year based on outstanding academics and work ethic

### Recipient, Founder's Scholarship

August 2018- Present

- Received scholarship for \$5000 a year for outstanding academics

### Recipient, Great Lakes Bay Regional Youth Leadership Institute Scholarship

August 2018 – 2019

- Received scholarship for \$1500 for an active and impactful role in the GLBRYLI program