

Author: Tatyana Vlaskin

Description: Personal information

My name is Tatyana. I finished HS in Ukraine, but I consider myself Russian (for the most part). I moved to US about 10 years ago and have been living in Seattle area since then. I've graduated from UW with BS in Clinical Lab Science and MS in Analytical Chemistry.

Currently, I work as a Medical Lab Scientist in Clinical Genetics lab. The longer I work in the clinical lab, the more convinced I am that I need to learn how to program. Clinical lab is a very a dynamic environment of rapid technological advances and there is a drive for work-flow optimization. Just to give you an idea of what kind of optimization I am talking about, it can be anything from: employing automation to maximize efficiency and eliminate errors, creating new

algorithms for data management and analysis, interfacing of various lab systems, interfacing LIS with EMR, etc. In order to play a role in the optimization, one needs to know how to program and that why I am here.

At the same time, I have a one year old son, Ivan. I'll try my best to convince him to go into engineering and I am planning to be his first Math and CS teacher.

Prior to my current job, I worked as a Generalist Medical Technologist. I performed clinical tests and analyzed results in the following areas of clinical lab: chemistry, hematology, coagulation, urinalysis, toxicology and microbiology.

While in grad school, I've TAed General Chemistry and worked in Analytical Chemistry research lab. My project was to develop a mass spectrometry based clinical assay for detection of neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis diseases. Prior to that, I worked as a Math tutor (calculus, differential equations and linear algebra) at the UW math study center.

I took a class in programming (java) before applying to this program just to make sure that I am getting into the right field and that my brain can handle programming.