

Zach Schmidt

Bachelor of Science Mechatronics & Robotics Engineering

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Experience

Organizations

August 2023 - Present

- Research with Dr. Peter Lin—I research design, control, and components of 4-legged robots using ROS2 Humble and other software.
- Supermileage—I gained experience with SolidWorks, Arduino, PCB design, engine assembly, Haltech engine tuning, and Can Bus.
- Honors Program

Engineering Internship at Vanvoorst Lumber and VanFab R&D

May 2025 - August 2025

- I designed, assembled, and modified parts and systems with power tools and lathe for proper operation of the real machine.
- I wired up electrical components, adjusted sensors, and verified the correct behavior of the machine.

Engineering Internship at Not Dead Yet, Bonfield, IL—Design Engineer

June 2024 - August 2024

- I designed and redesigned various parts for a variety of applications via SolidWorks.
- I assisted in the machine shop and installed specific products after fabrication.

Schmidt Family Farm - Farm Worker

Toddler-Present

- I help my family run our small farm. When home, I do daily chores with our small beef and sheep herds, as well as help with our production of corn, soybeans, wheat, and hay.
- I have mechanical experience with our older tractors, baler, and other equipment.

Community Service - Various Roles

Junior High-Present

- I run the sound system for our church services at Zion Lutheran Church in Bonfield. I record and make copies of services for our shut-in members.
- I help build wheelchair ramps for needy families with our church group.
- I have been elected to be a peer minister, which is a leadership position in the college group at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Dekalb.

Education

Northern Illinois University

May 2027

I have completed Engineering Mechanics I, Engineering Circuit Analysis, Computer Programming in C++, Physics I Mechanics, Physics II Electromagnetism, Calculus II, Calculus III, Ordinary Differential Equations, Engineering Graphics, Engineering Economy, acquired a SolidWorks Certificate, Computer Engineering, Engineering Mechanics II, Mechanics of Materials, and Programming for Mechatronics. I am currently enrolled in Signals and Systems, Electronic Circuits, Fundamentals of Mechatronics, and Mechanism Design and Analysis.

Herscher High School, Herscher, IL - Diploma

August 2019 - May 2023

I have been involved in National Honors Society, Student Council, Class Officers as Treasurer, Soccer, Powerlifting, Peer Tutoring, and Robotics while maintaining a high GPA (5.2) in Honors, AP, and dual credit classes. I have earned Illinois State Scholar, Honor Roll, Kiwanis Leadership, and 2023 Salutatorian awards due to my academic achievement.

Skills

I have some experience with MS Office, 3D software, Arduino programming, ROS2 Humble, Ubuntu 22.04, Python and C programming. I also have experience with electronics, including successfully wiring my own aftermarket car radio, amplifier, and subwoofer. I have experience with stick and mig welding.