

Andrew K. Woerpel

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Dear SpaceX Recruiter,

I would like to express my strong interest in an opportunity to be a SpaceX intern at either the Cape Canaveral or McGregor facilities. I am a senior at the University of Wisconsin – Platteville pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering, with a minor in Mathematics. I first heard of SpaceX when I saw a YouTube video of the Grasshopper development vehicle approximately two years ago, and have been following the excitement ever since. Additionally, it has become my single goal to be selected to participate in an internship at SpaceX, and as you will see from my Resume and Engineering Design Portfolio, I have been working extremely hard to achieve it.

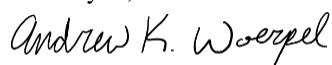
Everything that I have learned about the people who are recruited by SpaceX validates my thinking that I would make an excellent addition to your team. SpaceX values extremely hard working, motivated, and talented individuals, because among other reasons, SpaceX is working on some of the most challenging and important tasks that the human species has ever taken on. I have consistently demonstrated these values through the various internships, design projects, extracurricular activities, and college courses that I have taken part in.

Throughout my college career, not only have I excelled in challenging college courses, but I have done so while being heavily involved in time-intensive activities such as Track & Field, Aero SAE, independent research in Microsystems & Nanotechnology, and helping students as a Peer-Assisted Leader. I elect to participate in so many extracurricular activities for several reasons, the first being that I tend to excel when my time is stretched very thin and I am under high pressure. I have a habit of becoming ultra-focused on the tasks that I need to complete and strive to work as efficiently as possible in such situations. The second reason for my heavy involvement is, bluntly, I seek out every opportunity that will make myself more marketable to SpaceX, as I know they are very keen on hands on engineering experience. While earning the opportunity to work at SpaceX is one of my strongest motivators, I truly do enjoy learning and practicing new technical skills. For example, prior to my sophomore year of college, I had never done any sort of programming, but after gaining some exposure to microcontrollers, I immediately fell in love with software. Since that time, I have greatly expanded my ability to write software, which I have used extensively to tackle the real world problems that I have faced during internships, design competitions, college courses, and personal projects. While I have taken a class on programming in C++, most everything that I have learned has been from self-study and experimentation during my free time.

I am also the type of person who is always up for a new and challenging endeavor. When the SpaceX Hyperloop Competition was announced this summer, I immediately knew I wanted to be involved. Soon after the competition announcement, I joined a Reddit based team now known as rLoop, but soon found that I was dissatisfied with the lack of leadership within the electrical sub team. My initiative and hard work landed me the position of Electrical Team Lead and transformed the electrical team to be viewed internally as one of the most organized and driven teams within rLoop. More recently, the software team lost a series of leaders which threatened to put the whole rLoop team in jeopardy. Despite my lack of professional software experience, I decided to take control of that team as well. Since taking over the software team, we have been busy with tasks such as setting up a remotely accessible mock embedded system and developing flight code for the pod, neither of which had begun prior to my leadership.

I would like to thank you for reviewing my application for an internship position at SpaceX. As you continue to consider me for this position, I encourage you to review my Engineering Design Portfolio and I would urge you to contact me at 920-988-5872 to further discuss my qualifications and answer any questions you may have. I look forward to hearing from you about this opportunity.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew K. Woerpel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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