

Benjamin Zhang

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Profile: High school senior at Naperville North High School passionate about high tech entrepreneurship

Education: Naperville North High School, Naperville, IL, Senior

Expected Graduation: May 2025 **GPA:** 4.698 weighted, 4.0 unweighted **Test Scores:** 1560 SAT, 1490 PSAT

Experience:

SmartSeat, Chicago, IL

September 2023 - Present

Co-Founder/CEO - Leading independent team in creating a MedTech startup to combat seating related health issues. Lead R&D, researching smart materials and AI systems, and currently developing MVP as well as writing grants and raising funds (\$35,000 raised).

Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

August 2024 - Present

Research Intern - Performed independent research with assistance of Northwestern University on a research project proposed by a professor. Gained experience working with data collection, data and signal processing, and neural networks.

Management & Technology Summer Institute, Jerome Fisher Management and Technology Program

July 2024

Attendee - 1 of 75 students accepted into program globally. Took EAS0028 and gained experience running a small team through the startup process. Engineered MVP for a product concept, performed market research, wrote business plan and financial forecast.

Activities:

DECA:

President

August 2021-Present

Led 100+ member chapter to competition success, helping 60%+ of eligible members to qualify for international competition through competition prep events, community building, and philanthropy events.

Science Olympiad:

Captain

August 2021 - Present

Ran practices, applied for grants, reorganized team structure. Built sensor devices with analog circuitry and materials. Gained experiences working with materials science, chemistry, and electrical engineering.

The Merry Tutor

August 2021 - August 2024

Recruitment and Outreach Committee Chair

Helped to recruit 20+ new tutors and advertised our organization to have over 1700 hours of tutoring

Awards:

Pete Conrad Scholar - 1/5000+ teams from 15+ countries

1517 Medici Grant Awardee - Recipient of 1517 Medici Grant

DECA BSM ICDC Finalist - Top 10 internationally in Business Services Marketing

Illinois Science Olympiad Detector Building 1st Place - 1st place in state in detector building