**Carson Shoupe**

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to be considered for a position as a junior software developer. While I am trained as an analytic philosopher and teacher, I am actively transiting to a career in computer science. Since that decision early this year, I have dedicated my time to teaching myself the skills to be a successful software developer. I completed MIT’s *Introduction to Computer Science and Programming* taught in Python, and I read the entirety of *Data Structures and Algorithms in Java* by Goodrich and Tamassia, completing relevant exercises to practice implementing newly learned abstract data types. I recently contributed to TEAMMATES, open-source software that manages student/instructor correspondence in higher education, and I am currently developing a Pathfinder Character Builder. My project repositories, including significant commits, are accessible on my Github (https://github.com/carsonshoupe).

This fall, I enrolled in a Computer Science and Software Development Certificate Program at Forsyth Tech Community College. While my current classes – *Introduction to Programming Logic* and *Database, Computer Programming, and the Web* – are refreshers of my previous reading, I enrolled to ensure I had a firm foundational knowledge of important computer science concepts. My goal first and foremost is to find a development job and begin my career.

In the coming weeks, my short-term goals are to complete my Pathfinder Character Builder and continue to study foundational texts in computer science literature. I designed my character builder to utilize the MVC architectural pattern. I am near completing the backend of my character builder and next plan to implement the frontend and control. I am currently reading sections of *Operating System Concepts* by Silbertschatz, Galvin, and Gagne, and next, I plan to familiarize myself with established object-oriented terminology in *Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software* by Gamma, Helm, Johnson, and Vlissides.

While I do not have a bachelor’s degree in computer science, my master’s degree and self-motivated study speak to my competence as a self-disciplined quick learner with an excellent work ethic. I am passionate about software development and enthusiastic about opportunities to contribute in a development setting. I have enclosed my resume for your review, and I look forward to further discussion regarding this position. If you have any questions or would like to schedule an interview, please contact me at (704) 726-3988 or at carson.shoupe@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

**Carson Shoupe**