

Lucas Krenn
46 Lonestar Crescent
Brampton, Ontario, L7A 2G7

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Science Career & Cooperative Education
Burke Science Building, Room 127
1280 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario, L8S 4K1

Dear co-op hiring manager,

In an ever-changing industry that is specializing more and more each year, accepting students who will work hard and represent McMaster in the highest regard benefits not only the student but upholds the reputation of the science co-op program as a whole. I am able to do both of the aforementioned tasks and for this reason, I am applying for a position in McMaster's Actuarial and Financial Mathematics Co-op Program. My hard work and focus on success is justified by my work both inside and outside of the classroom.

Studying actuarial and financial mathematics has helped me develop the strong analytical, conceptual, and results-driven skills sought after by every employer. I am challenged on a daily basis to solve new problems and draw conclusions from diverse sets of data both by hand and computationally. Of the programming languages listed on the attached resume, I have learned Python, R, and VBA via curriculum, and I was able to utilize them effectively enough to earn successful marks in each of their respective classes (see MATH 1MP3, MATH 2FM3 in the attached transcript). I am also capable of, and always eager to try, thinking abstractly to tackle less tangible, theoretical mathematical ideas as demonstrated by my successful grades in the areas of calculus and linear algebra (see MATH 1X03, MATH 1XX3, MATH 1B03, MATH 2X03, MATH 2R03 in the attached transcript). These skills allow me to think laterally when attempting to solve problems both inside and outside of the curriculum.

However, what makes me truly unique from those who have similar success in school is what I do outside of it. Each and every one of my jobs and clubs demands time management, strategic planning, and a strong will when running concurrently with the school year. The jobs listed on my resume all require strong social abilities and allow me to personally develop my own communication skills. My interest in the capital markets is what drove me into the position at TMX and it has improved my knowledge substantially about options, their behavior, and trading strategies involving them—all of which are considered impressive by many employers. Outside of work, the McMaster Investment Council has taught me to research, develop, and deliver presentations on equities, commodities, currencies, and interest rates effectively and punctually. It has taught me how to read and analyze many key indicators that are widely used as industry standard. As a relentless learner, I noticed that there was not yet a quantitative finance club at McMaster so a colleague and I decided to found our own: the Mathematical Investment Research Council. Founding a club presents many new challenges and obstacles, but the MIRC has had perfect attendance each week since ratification; a testament to the engaging and interesting presentations held on a weekly basis.

As an extremely motivated student fuelled by my passion for learning, I see co-op as an opportunity to do what I do best and learn everything there is to know about not only my job, but the industry as a whole—all while being able to work hard and represent my school as it should be represented. I look forward to meeting and being able to discuss my application further. Feel free to contact me at (647) 287-2546 or by email at krennl@mcmaster.ca.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Lucas Krenn