

Expensify Answers:

- 1) I do not have a personal website. As a junior computer science student, my experience and learning is never static. I am becoming a better engineer every day and having a personal website that would reflect that growth would be impossible to maintain. For my major landmarks as a developer, I have my resume. However, to demonstrate my abilities as a developer and to have fun, I have made websites for myself, rather than about myself. The first big website I worked on was called Caravan. It connected people who had extra space in their cars or trucks with people who wanted to ship things. I worked on this with three other people, and my main role was setting up the backend, including the database and setting up the server. One site that I made over the summer, BetaFeed, which allowed users to read a curated feed of links for startups that recently put out their betas. Both of these projects can be found on my github.
- 2) I was accepted into Washington University in St. Louis as a business student. I initially thought that to be an entrepreneur and to have an impact that I would need to learn about the business world. At the end of my fall semester in my sophomore year, I started to feel like I wasn't learning the right skills and ideas to make my ideas come to life as quickly and powerfully as I had hoped. I spoke to some friends in computer science and saw the kinds of projects that they were able to create without money or help from anyone else. I decided that learning to code would be how I make my ideas come to life. At that point, I had only taken intro to computer science and knew a little bit of java. I decided to take the spring semester off and attend a coding boot camp to learn the fundamentals of programming and web development skills. I am the type of person where if I am not interested in a project, I lost a lot of motivation for it. That is why I wanted to learn the more practical side of programming at the boot camp and then return to WashU to learn more advanced ideas like algorithms and data structures. Today, I am in my first semester back taking 4 computer science courses teaching me algorithms and also lower level programming languages like c++ and java.
- 3) I get genuine enjoyment out of coding a project or a website. Fixing a bug that had me stuck for hours is one of the most satisfying feelings. While I was attending the coding boot camp, it was the first time I got to experience what the computer science work culture was. The teachers were happy and proud to be at work, the students were driven and hungry to learn, and there was a feeling of intense productivity but without the cutthroat competitive feeling that I was so used to in the business school. Besides making strides toward my personal success, in the long term, I would one day like to be responsible for creating an environment like I experienced. I woke up excited to go to the office every morning, even though I knew I had a 10 hour day of work ahead of me. I was excited to see the staff and the students and become a better developer. One day I hope to found my own company and have a work environment where the people I work with are proud to be there and are genuinely happy. I think Expensify will

fit in with my long-term goals. During the WashU hackathon, I was able to speak with the representative from Expensify and he told me about his life there. He was smiling the entire time and I got the sense that he loved his job. He was the most excited about the offshore trip that was coming up and that he was looking forward to becoming even closer with his co-workers. Becoming a part of the Expensify team would allow me to grow immensely as a developer and as a person. Learning how to cultivate a work culture that allows people to be happy is a rare experience. Learning to grow as a developer and as a person is even more rare. I think that at Expensify I would be able to get both.

- 4) I met a representative of Expensify at the WashU hackathon, who told me Expensify did not have a public facing API for us to use but that he was willing to help us with any problems we would run into that weekend. He also told me that Expensify's recruiting process is not traditional and I should try to show my colors in this questionnaire. I hope that I have done so and that I will be able to demonstrate my skills to the Expensify team soon.