

Pablo Philipps - Junior Developer
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PERSONAL STATEMENT:

If I were to be granted an interview I think you'll find me to be a promising, if new, programmer. I have relevant experience with web development and I have a penchant for learning systems / languages quickly. Furthermore, I'm not averse to working in a support role, and I'm pretty good at talking to customers.

You might consider me a recent CS graduate although I am almost entirely self-taught through practice, asking questions, and online courses. My first love is making fine art, and I only became interested in CS recently as a vehicle to make cutting edge work. But, as soon as I wrote my first line of code I immediately loved it, and I quickly came to appreciate CS for its own sake.

Writing code felt natural. It was an outlet to use my analytical mind without abandoning my creative side. It felt so right, in fact, that after only three months or so of serious learning I decided to quit my service job and dedicate myself full-time to learning.

A few months later, a Saint Louis non-profit called LaunchCode set me up with an interview at Fusion Marketing for an apprenticeship position. I was offered the position. I did well. And after some months Fusion brought me on as a full-fledged Junior Developer.

My experience at Fusion was a whirlwind. I spent the first few weeks asking questions, reading a lot, and built my first website: a tool for internal company use. It was a success. After that I was thrown into the mix. I was given projects with outside clients and real deadlines. As I proved my ability to adapt to projects and learn new technologies, I was trusted with increasingly complex and important assignments.

Of course, I made my share of mistakes, but I learned from them. I got a chance to work on many projects that were above my experience level. I learned how to interact positively with teammates and project managers. I learned how to deploy a product. I went from knowing absolutely nothing about development to knowing a solid something.

I understand that I have a ton yet to learn, and I realize that my skills need time to mature. But I'm proud of how far I've come, and I'm thankful for everyone that has helped me along the way.

LINKS:

LaunchCode Website (I'm one of the featured videos at the bottom):

<http://www.launchcode.org>

My "Learner Story" on eDX:

<https://www.edx.org/blog/edx-launchcode-learner-story-pablo>

President Obama talking about LaunchCode:

<http://www.c-span.org/video/?c4530637/lashana-lewis>