PAIDEN NICKS

Aerospace Engineering Student | Software Engineer

Ames, IA

(319) 329-7891

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Engineer

SKILLS

3D Printing

ADA

Agile Management

AutoCAD

Autodesk Inventor

C

Git

Github

JIRA Software

JAMA Sofware

Landscape Architecture

LaTeX

Linux/Ubuntu

MATLAB

Project Management

Python

Software Development

Solidworks

TortoiseSVN

Web Development

EDUCATION

BACHELOR'S DEGREE
Iowa State University
Aerospace Engineering
2021 – 2026

HIGH SCHOOL
Linn-Mar High School
2017-2021

SUMMARY

I am a senior in aerospace engineering at Iowa State University searching for **Full-Time Employment** this upcoming Summer 2026. I have over a year of industry experience as a software engineer with Collins Aerospace. I am open to **Aerospace, Software and Mechanical engineering positions**, and have an interest in project management.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING COOP/INTERNSHIP   MAY 2024 – PRESENT
Collins Aerospace

I started a software engineering coop at Collins Aerospace in May 2024. Here, I was able to work full-time for 7 months, gaining valuable industry experience that I could not have gotten with just an internship. I continued my employment as a part-time software engineer through the Spring 2025 semester and returned for an internship Summer 2025. At Collins, I have been able to work on developing, testing and maintaining the Flight Management System (FMS) for a variety of commercial aviation programs.

- Helped develop API and tasking features for a new FMS program in ADA
- Wrote high- and low-level software verification tests
- Developed a Python tool with a team to edit databases within a high-level testing environment to expedite the testing process
- Used flight-rigs and other tools to investigate and solve software bugs
- Followed the DO-178C process with an AGILE team

LANDSCAPER   MAY 2022 – FEB 2024
Joe Whitters Landscape Inc

I worked as a seasonal general laborer for a landscaping company between college semesters. While this did not teach me many specific engineering skills, these Summers had as great impact on my life. It was undoubtedly the most difficult job I have worked. I learned perseverance, gained grit, and above all, I was constantly reminded why I am working tirelessly to pursue a higher education.

PROJECTS

DESIGN/SYSTEMS ENGINEER, SME   JAN 2024 – PRESENT
M2I: ARES

The Affordable Rocketry Engineering Services (ARES) is a project-based learning opportunity provided by the M2I program at Iowa State. We develop rockets of varying speeds and sizes with a focus on serving customers.

- Co-developed SCYLLA, the ARES organization's first successful 3D printed rocket, from scratch.
  - SCYLLA is currently being launched multiple times per semester with a payload containing various sensors used by a software class at Iowa State.
- Subject matter expert (SME) for the SCYLLA program
- Designed avionics bay for fleet of 6in diameter rockets
- Explored leadership roles stemming from position as team systems engineer