1100 Davis St

Evanston, IL, 60201

July 9th, 2022

The Hiring Committee,

Amazon Inc,

Seattle, WA

Sir/Ma’am,

My name is Ruchit Bhardwaj, and I am writing this letter to apply for the position of Software Development Engineer at Amazon. Computer Science has intrigued my interest ever since high school, owing to which I decided to make a career out of it. The very idea of being able to help millions of people, with just a few lines of code, astonishes me to this day and according to me, there is no better place than Amazon to help me realize that dream. I’m sure that I would be a great fit for the company, if I am given an opportunity to work here.

I am currently a 2nd year master’s student studying Computer Science here at the University of Southern California. My decision to complete my grad studies was largely driven by my deep desire to have an opportunity to learn and understand about computer science related technologies in more depths. After completing 2 semesters here, I can definitely attest to the fact that it was one of the best decisions of my life. I have completed relevant courses such as Analysis of Algorithms, Database Systems, Web Technologies and Mobile Game development during my 2 semesters at USC and I sure have learnt a lot – both theoretically and practically.

Prior to coming for my masters, I was working at the Software Development track of ZS Associates, a professional services firm, headquartered in Evanston, IL, for about 2.5 years. During that time, I helped creating an enterprise ETL tool and developed several backend APIs using the Jersey implementation of the JAX-RS framework. I was also tasked at managing the dev-ops for the entire project and was responsible for architecting, configuring and maintaining TeamCity builds to ensure a smooth project deployment. I also spearheaded the effort to build and streamline the testing framework for the application. For my internship for the summer of 2022, I interned for ZS Associates, this time at their headquarters at the Evanston office, and worked on ZS’s PaaS (Platform-as-a-Service) offering – ZAIDYN, specifically, in its Field Performance (Incentive Compensation) vertical.

Owing to my prior relevant experience, I believe that I have the skills that are necessary to be successful at Amazon. One thing that I primarily strive for, is taking ownership of the work that I do, and this is where I believe that I align with Amazon’s leadership principles as well. I would request you to please give me an opportunity to interview for the Software Development Engineer position with Amazon and give me a chance to contribute to this organization.

Regards,

Ruchit Bhardwaj

<https://www.amazon.jobs/en/jobs/2080728/software-development-engineer-2023-us>

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Job posting for currently offered position – Amazon Software Development Engineer

**Writing Sample of Ruchit Bhardwaj**

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about two billion people lack access to safely managed water service and around 1.2 billion of them lack access to safe drinking water across the globe. If we give this a moment’s thought, we will realize how big of a deal this is. Consider any aspect of life, and you will find that water plays an extremely essential and crucial role to play in any task that we undertake. It is the biggest resource tied to sanitation and maintaining a hygienic lifestyle.

I believe that the first way to tackle a problem is to quantify it – to get an exact understanding of what is it that we are dealing with, and what does the situation looks like at the moment. This number above – about 2 billion people not having access to safe and clean water provided by the CDC, is an indicator for the sustainable development goals and the criteria by which the world’s progress on water will be measured. Before, we were never have been able to accurately measure through direct testing drinking water quality, but now we are also looking at whether it is available at the home and now whether is it available when needed.

Now that we have figured out a metric to quantify the impact of our efforts, we also need to identify actions that we can perform to actually make a difference and provide access to safe clean water to places and regions where this basic facility is still lacking. Considering the face that planet Earth is literally called as the blue planet because almost 70% of it is covered with water, one way could be to use all that water. The only problem is that all the water in our natural water reserves and oceans is saline. One way that we could re-use that water is the process of desalination. Two ways that it can be done is using techniques known as ‘Thermal Desalination’ and ‘Reverse Osmosis’. Not diving into the technical details, this solution seems to have divided the population into 2 groups – one, that believe that this is our only way to solve this planet’s water crisis, and two, others who believe that this is an extremely energy consuming process and hence is not sustainable for our environment and has impacts on the marine environment.

But what can you and I do? How can we contribute? All it takes for us to help someone provide safe clean water is that we support charities that do this for us. They bear all the logistics and do all the heavy lifting - all we need to do is support these charities financially as well as we can. Companies, irrespective of their size or scale, have been making dedicated efforts to contribute and give back to the society via their continued efforts. For example, AmazonSmile is a program that undertakes these humanitarian efforts and supports a charity known as ‘charity: water’. Since 2013, Amazon has donated about $377 millions to various charities and they have been making meaningful impacts. All an average customer can do is to visit smile.amazon.com and turn on the AmazonSmile feature on the app. At no extra cost to the customer, somewhere across the globe, a child can get access to safe potable water.

I am sure that continued and persistent efforts like these will definitely reap benefits in the future and the problem of access to safe drinking water will be eliminated.

References:

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3. MacDonald R. Providing the world with clean water. BMJ. 2003;327(7429):1416-1418. doi:10.1136/bmj.327.7429.1416. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC300787/>