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Boston Lighthouse Innovations

Boston, MA

Hello,

# I am writing to place my candidacy as Software Engineer. I'm a Master of Science in Computer Science (MSCS) student at Northeastern University graduating in May 2022. I took an atypical path to computer engineering and believe that my unconventional route will provide your team with a fresh perspective. I began my career in a completely different field as an oncology researcher working for some of the most prolific academic research hospitals in the nation. In my previous professional experiences, I developed a host of soft skills that are essential within CS including three years of project management. My unique background, transferable skills, and MSCS training make me a well-rounded candidate for your role.

# I am currently completing a software engineering internship at Red Hat on their OpenShift Logging team. OpenShift is containerization software built around Linux containers orchestrated and managed by Kubernetes on a foundation of Red Hat Enterprise Linux. I helped develop a RESTful API in Golang which enables users to query historical logs of different Kubernetes pods by leveraging the cluster logging stack of OpenShift (which consists of Elasticsearch, FluentD, and Kibana).

Before joining the MSCS program, I learned a tremendous amount working in biological research. **In my previous position, I was a project manager for a nationwide prostate cancer clinical trial and developed a range of skills that are essential within computer science including time management, organization, excellent communication skills, and strong analytical thinking.** I thrive in team-oriented settings, where collaboration and communication are especially important. I gravitated towards STEM fields because I enjoy analyzing problems and innovating creative new strategies to overcome challenges. It was during this time I found an interest in computer science and made a transition into the field by pursuing an MSCS degree.  
 Within my MSCS program, I have learned a wide range of technical skills that would apply to my candidacy. **Specifically, I have experience developing full-stack RESTful web applications using Node.js (middle tier), React (front end, JavaScript, HTML, CSS), MongoDB (back end), and GitHub (version control system).** I enjoy creating applications that enhance the user experience through increasing back-end performance and building intuitive user interfaces. I'm intellectually curious and hold my work to a high standard, I currently maintain a **3.89/4.0 GPA**. After learning how to create applications in class I went further outside the classroom and started to create more projects including my website -- <https://jennyzhu.herokuapp.com/>. It contains more information about my professional history and working projects. I enjoy learning new tools and collaborating with developers to innovate novel products and hope to contribute my enthusiasm to your team.

Thank you for your time and consideration for my candidacy. I look forward to discussing the internship and my qualifications with you in more detail.

Best,

Jenny