

My name is Daniel Foos and I am a third year Civil Engineering student at the University of Cincinnati. I am from NW Ohio and chose to attend UC for their engineering co-op program. I chose Civil Engineering because of my interest in large scale projects and construction. Throughout my life I have prioritized values of hard work, integrity, organization, professionalism, and service. The following paragraphs will describe these characteristics respectively.

Hard work has never been something I have avoided. I started my first summer job on a relative's farm when I was 14. After two summers of vegetable farming I worked two groundskeeping jobs throughout high school. One of the businesses was a golf course and the other was a non-profit kid's summer camp. At the golf course I spent most days doing various forms of manual labor until I learned to run more equipment a few years in. My role at the camp was property maintenance and improvements of 10+ acres as the only groundskeeper. I trained many new young employees, especially at the golf course. My skills and experience made me the go-to person for helping the new people. I learned some valuable lessons and appreciation for how difficult training someone to do a new job is.

Integrity is one of the most important characteristics. Any time I make a decision I consider how it will affect my reputation and character. I value my reputation highly. I do not mean this in a self-centered manor. I do not like the idea of someone thinking I intentionally wronged them. I know every task I complete at work and every assignment I submit at school is a potentially public record that could have long term ramifications.

One of my core strengths is organization. I am a natural planner who keeps a detailed calendar of upcoming events. I make to-do lists almost daily to ensure I prioritize the correct tasks. Almost all of my possessions are stored neatly in a specific location. These traits have been valuable during school and work. Many of my classmates and co-workers will frequently be late to class, work, meetings, assignments, etc. My punctuality has made me a dependable person who always meets necessary deadlines.

My first two co-ops have given me opportunities to display and develop my professionalism. I have learned a lot about making relationships with people in the workplace. I struggled with this concept on my first co-op. I did not know how to approach superiors or what level of relationship we should have. I improved a lot during my second term. I had great relationships with my superiors, and we worked well together. They were willing to mentor me, and I was able to assist them. I feel that I am personable enough to have casual friendships in the workplace while still being focused on the job.

I have served my community and family in many ways. I attended a Catholic high school where I regularly volunteered at our school and church. Money was limited for our small school, so we held countless fundraisers that required student volunteers. I also volunteered at the summer camp that employed me when they had fundraisers. I personally value their mission to get kids to spend summers outdoors very highly. I will be returning to help them again this April

since I am back home due to the virus pandemic. I was a member of the leadership team for a youth group while I was in school. We held events to help students grow in their faith and serve the community. I was a member of group of high schoolers who drove to our grade school campus to play with the younger kids during their recess as someone to look up to. I currently spend a lot of time during my trips back home maintaining my disabled grandparents' property. They made the decision to keep my grandpa at home while he lives with advanced Parkinson's Disease, so I try my best to help as much as I can.

I feel that I have lived most of my life putting others before me. I never turn down someone's requests for help. I received the highest award at my high school graduation for exemplifying the school's values of respect, honesty, dependability, responsibility, justice, and loyalty in my life. It was a great honor. I believe my values parallel those of Tom Coverstone, and I appreciate your time and consideration.