# Biographical Information/Application

Name: Javed Sikh

First Choice Major: McCombs School of Business - Unspecified

Second Choice Major: College of Liberal Arts - Economics

Do you have family obligations that prevent you from participating in extracurricular activities: N

Pre-professional program?

Teacher Certification? N

Do you have any previous college hours? N

Please list:

Are you Hispanic or Latino? N

Race and Ethnicity: Asian

Languages spoken:

Residency: TX Resident

High School: Large suburban public, middle to high income

Gender: Male

Family Income: $150,000 – 249,999

Household Number: 5

Father’s Highest Level of Education:

Graduate/Professional

Mother’s Highest Level of Education:

Bachelor’s Degree

Test Score: 36

Math: 35 Verbal/ELA: 36

Class Rank: #2 / 855 | .1%

Academic Index: 3.99 /4

Honors: Y

Expanded Resume: Y

Senior Year Course Schedule:

AP Calculus BC | AP Statistics | AP Micro/macroeconomics | AP US Government | AP Physics B | AP Research

# Resume

**BUSINESS LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES**

**Future Business Leaders of America** – *2x National Qualifier & Freshman Representative*

August 2016 – May 2018 | 2 hours/week

* Qualified for the national conference by playing top 4 out of around 30 in the state tournament in the Introduction to Business Procedures event as a sophomore
* Achieved Texas state champion out of approximately 30 students among seven areas in the Introduction to Business Procedures event
* Competed at the national conference in the Introduction to Business written event as the elected freshman representative
* Earned runner-up (2nd) position out of approximately 35 students among seven areas in the Texas state conference in the Introduction to Business event as a freshman

**Steers Investment Club** – *Founder & President*

January 2017 – Present | 3 hours/ week

* Fostered awareness of investment principles among thirty students in the school community by hosting monthly meetings to discuss stock market fundamentals and participate in stock simulations
* Attained affiliation of school club with a national organization by initiating correspondence with Young Investors Society (YIS), a non-profit organization, to secure access to an investment curriculum through my role as chapter founder and president
* Passed the Certified Young Investment Analyst (CYIA) exam offered through the society by studying two financial books

**Young Investors Society** – *Student National Advisory Board Member*

June 2019- Present | 1 hour/ week

* Nominated and elected to the national Student Advisory Board as a voting Member at Large
* Provided activity planning inputs through quarterly conference calls and acted as a liaison between the executive team and approximately 300 registered member schools
* Contributed content to the monthly YIS newsletter by writing articles about stock tips and featuring in the club spotlight sections, streamlining lesson quality to increase student engagement, and arranging meetings with global investors

**Zips Bazaar** – *Inventory and Sourcing Analyst*

January 2017 – Present| 4 hours/ week

* Contributed to inventory management and incoming goods reconciliation from suppliers for my mother’s online business
* Developed new product sourcing proposals for online selling platforms
* Invented the Smart Container product to consistently record inventory levels of product lines and streamline operations

**GE Industrial Motors, a Wolong Company** – *Business Analysis Intern*

July 2019 – Present | 6 hours/ week

* Attained proficiency in app planning, building, and management in the QuickBase enterprise software
* Assumed responsibility of data analysis, input, and maintenance to engage in digital transformation process for the firm

**Business Professionals of America** – *State Qualifier*

August 2018 – Present | 3 hours/ week

* Represented Texas virtual chapter with 75th percentile score at Texas state conference
* Awarded first position at Regionals conference in Banking and Finance written event

**LEADERSHIP AND EXTRACURRICULARS**

**Gurdwara Sahib of Southwest Houston (GSSWH)** – *Lead Youth Volunteer*

August 2016 – Present; 200 hours

* Facilitated donation collection, cash counting, cash reporting, and budgeting at Sikh temple
* Interact with people from many communities and beliefs by serving food in the weekly congregational meal
* Volunteered a cumulative 200 hours under Finance Trustee Madhav (Matt) Rohira verified through the x2vol service tracking platform

**Science Olympiad** – *Regional Champion*

August 2016 – Present | 2 hours/ week

* Secured a first-place medal in the Boomilever building event at the UT Austin Regional spring 2019 competition
* Achieved fourth-place medals in the Codebusters cryptology event and the Geologic Mapping event at the regional level as an eleventh-grade student
* Won a third-place medal in the Remote Sensing event at a Fall invitational competition during tenth grade

**Science National Honor Society** – *Treasurer* 🡪 *Co-President*

August 2018 – Present | 3 hours/ week

* Appointed Co-President of society during senior year out of 10 candidates
* Elected chapter Treasurer out of ten candidates to represent junior and senior members to manage funds for the club
* Planned speaking engagement of physics and astronomy professor Dr. David Alexander of Rice University

**Band** – *Instrumental Principal Chair*

August 2016 – May 2018 | 6 hours/ week

* Performed as principal chair of euphonium instrument section of seven students within the Symphonic Band ensemble during freshman year
* Marched in the UIL Area and Region marching competitions as well as the Band of America Conroe event

**ACADEMIC PROJECTS**

**Knowledge @ Wharton High School Investment Challenge** – *Team Lead*

August 2018 – December 2018; 2 hour/ week

* Selected as the team lead for the online investment simulation through Wharton’s Online Trading and Investment Simulator (OTIS)
* Managed a stock portfolio of $100,000 in virtual cash with six team members that exceeded the class average returns (650+ teams) and the growth of the S&P 500 Index for the entire duration

**Phytoremediation Using Hornwort Plants to Remove Nitrate Nitrogen Pollutants in Water Supplies –** *Team Lead*

August 2017-May 2018; 1 hour/ week

* Identified a method in the research lab to remove the dangerous nitrate-nitrogen pollutant from water supplies in developing countries
* Observed that a particular household plant can absorb the pollutant through its rhizoids (roots) and bring down the contaminant level to safe levels
* Presented findings with a trifold and scientific notebook to industry leaders at the Science and Engineering Fair of Houston (SEFH)

**HONORS**

* National AP Scholar Award (Score of 5 on English Language, U.S. History, Psychology, and Human Geography exams; Score of 4 on Biology, Calculus BC, Microeconomics, Seminar, and Statistics exams)
* Designated as a Commended student in the National Merit Program with a selection index of 218
* School Academic Achievement Award for AP Statistics and English II Pre-AP
* Honorable Mention poetry designation by Scholastic Writing Awards

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Computer Skills:** MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint

**Certifications:** UTD Top Trader Certificates of Basic Investment and Personal Finance Knowledge I & II

**Interests:** Technology, Community Enhancement, Traveling

# Essay A Tell Us Your Story

My mom has an online gift store business called Zip’s Bazaar, that has approximately fifty brands, encompassing hundreds of different products. During my freshman and sophomore years, I grew increasingly interested in how she interacts with customers, procures products, and manages balance sheets. Once, I identified an efficiency issue with her inventory management. She manually tracked inventory levels, a tedious process that impeded her ability to maximize product delivery and customer satisfaction.

I considered different solutions, but nothing seemed obvious until my school counselor recommended a specialized online research and product development course sponsored by our school district. As an inventory and sourcing analyst for Zip’s Bazaar, I’m responsible for evaluating potential product lines and brands to sell. I also reconcile the quantity and pricing of incoming goods from suppliers. The specialized course would teach me organizational skills and how to rectify inventory issues and improve the efficiency of our family business.

I enrolled just in time because my mom’s business was continuing to expand out of the garage and living room. I even amusingly worried that inventory might find its way into my bedroom. I mused, “Mom will inevitably expand her sprawling, overflowing inventory from the garage to my bedroom – certainly, a hostile takeover.”

At the course orientation, they instructed us to work with a mentor to build a product with real-world implications in preparation of the school district-wide Spring Exposition. I connected with a local professional programmer. After researching the automated alternatives to managing a diversifying inventory, I learned that the Radio Frequency (RF) scanner implementation in warehouses was too expensive and intensive. I realized that I had a year to fill the void in maximizing the efficiencies of businesses like my mom’s.

Although I struggled with designing an affordable and functional product, I thought about how saving my mom time would allow her to spend more time with us. Even better, I developed my product in secret. My mom knew that I was enrolled in a business research class, but she was unaware that she would be my inspiration for the product development stage.

After a few months, I conceived the Smart Container idea. It could effortlessly track the quantity of an assigned inventory item rather than manual inputs. It consisted of a concealed circuitry system that stored and recorded pieces of a single time, providing easy accessibility to each product line.

Product weight is critical to my mom’s business; so, I utilized the Arduino microcontroller kit instead of Raspberry Pi, which lacked the required accuracy of a built-in weight tracking functionality. Arduino is an electronics platform for digital projects that would automate my mom’s manual inventory processing. I formulated a mathematical approach that displays the number of items in the container at any moment by dividing the total weight of items in the container by the weight of a single known item. Simple arithmetic ensured a structured method of maintaining accurate and acceptable inventory levels.

I solved the software problem, but the hardware proved more concerning. I scrambled for a load cell, which converts applied pressure into an electrical signal. I also found an HX711 amplifier module that intensifies the signal for output as physical weight. I finally completed the invention and subsequent product testing a mere week before the unveiling at the Project Exposition in April.

At the spring showcase concluding the course, my father, course mentor, and I planned the surprise for my mom. I stood in front of the audience while mom sat in the front row. She was utterly oblivious as she encouraged me to uncover my inventory tracking product.

When I finally revealed my creation at the product demonstration, she inspected the functionality and design. “How thoughtful!” she exclaimed. I grinned sheepishly, slightly embarrassed by the glowing mom-praise. An established business professional in the audience advised me to file a patent and pitch it to nearby emerging companies.

The real test is whether mom would use it. She loves the Smart Container because it saves her tedious Excel inputs and automates her re-ordering invoices from suppliers. I am proud of my technical achievement, but ensuring that my mom and I can spend more quality time together before her only child leaves for college fills me with satisfaction. It turns out that my mom is indeed planning a hostile takeover of my bedroom when I move away next year.

# Major Short Answer

I’m especially interested in the Science Technology and Management (STM) major because it combines my interests in business and science. As a two-time national competitor in the Introduction to Business and Business Procedures events for Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), I’m acquainted with organizational management procedures and business leadership. My experiences as the Science National Honor Society (SNHS) Treasurer help me develop budget skills and make tough decisions for organization fund allocations. As a current co-President, I help ensure that members have access to equipment and resources for laboratory activities and experiments.

The accommodating nature of the STM degree plan ensures that I can comprehensively study financial topics and develop engineering competencies. My favorite activity is serving as a national officer of the Young Investors Society (YIS) organization after serving as President of our local Investment Club chapter. I contribute stock tips and recommendations to the monthly newsletter disseminated to approximately 300 schools worldwide. I hope to explore financial statements and stock valuations further.

I’m especially excited for group collaboration and the case study approach of Business Finance (FIN 357H) honors section with the esteemed Professor Hahn. In addition, my study of distributed loads and equilibrium as a regional gold medalist in the Boomilever structural building Science Olympiad event complements Statics (EM 306).

In conjunction with the STM major, the Canfield Business Honors Program (CBHP) will provide me with the flexibility and personalization to explore different business disciplines in case-based-honors classes. I look forward to joining a community of like-minded peers who share interests in technology, science, and finance.

# Leadership Short Answer

I joined Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and ran immediately for the freshman representative. As the chosen ambassador between the more than 100 combined novices and upperclassmen, I established a buddy system of shared resources and partner feedback options across the age groups that helped a record thirty students qualify for the national competition.

I noticed that FBLA was too broad and didn’t completely capture my interests in finance, so I founded an investment club. In the after-school financial topics discussions, many members expressed an interest in determining stock valuations and components of a diversified investment portfolio. Consequently, I secured a comprehensive financial curriculum by initiating contact with the Young Investors Society (YIS) organization. With access to a valuable educational tool, we jointly learned the specialized methods of the investment field, such as the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) and the Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) model.

After serving as the school representative and liaison to integrate the array of financial literacy programs, such as student brokerage investing and conceptual objective tests, I was elected to a national officer position at YIS. I’m responsible for sharing investment strategies and ideas during our investment seminars to develop proficiency in the fundamentals of stock pitches. Since I’ve received mentorship as a freshman and now serve as mentors for younger students interested in business and finance, I’m excited to connect with the older Business Honors peer mentors when I arrive on campus. Moreover, I look forward to returning the favor when I’m a junior and senior to help incoming Longhorns acclimate to the Forty Acres.

Occupying leadership roles in FBLA, Investment Club, and YIS helps me build collaboration and public speaking skills that will add value to college classroom discussions and campus life. At UT, I intend to join the University Securities Investment Team (USIT), so we can host portfolio discussions and share stock pitch ideas. I hope to transfer my communication skills in the quarterly conference calls with the YIS Executive and Operations team to the class discussions in the BHP core accounting, finance, and management courses.

# Diversity Short Answer

As a practicing Sikh, I attend the weekly Sunday religious services at the Gurdwara Sahib of Southwest Houston (GSSWH). I am a lead youth worship volunteer responsible for reaching out to other area religious communities and helping during the congregational meals. I serve food and water with seva, or the selfless service towards others. The term Sikh translates to a disciple or learner. We seek prosperity for all of humankind. Our religion emphasizes interfaith relations and is less evangelical than other faiths, so we welcome people from all backgrounds interested in peace and equality.

Although Sikhism is the fifth-largest organized religion in the world, most of us live in northern India. I strive to maintain close cultural and religious ties to our heritage. I regularly attend cultural assemblies, and I became the first graduate from the local Punjabi language school at GSSWH. In addition, I facilitate donation collection, cash counting, cash reporting, and budgeting for our 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

As a Longhorn, I plan to join the Sikh Students Association and contribute to the platform of educating others about Sikhism along with giving back to society. Intercultural exchanges are central to my life, so The McCombs Diversity Council (MDC) is my perfect fit on campus. They host events and discussions to build an inclusive community interested in personal growth and professional development.

The McCombs community values of “respect our differences, leverage our diversity” align with Sikhism’s core community-focused Sangat philosophy, which refers to fellowship and the need for a cohesive community. Furthermore, I seek to enter the welcoming network of the Honors Business Association (HBA), which offers academic, social, professional, and philanthropic opportunities so that I can build rewarding ties with members of the student community. I am excited to immerse myself in UT and McCombs’s diverse Sangat.

# Business Honors Program Essay

In April 2019, the U.S. Commerce Department reported a historical milestone for online shopping, especially Amazon: the total market share of online U.S. retail sales was higher than general merchandise sales. In response, CNBC claimed, “Online shopping overtakes a major part of retail for the first time ever.”

Since my mother has an online Amazon business, we recognize the growing importance of e-commerce and staying updated on the evolving consumer landscape. we recently launched a --mto diversify our sales channelsI have gaps in my knowledge, so I realize that a formal business education exploring case studies and providing practical skills will help me anticipate consumer changes and adjust online business operations.

Engaging classroom discussions with peers and seasoned industry insiders will help me examine how disruptive technologies will inevitably reshape global commerce. For example, I am curious about the flaws that led to the sentimental demise of Blockbuster in competition with the online streaming Netflix model. I look forward to exploring topics in information technology through MIS 301H with experienced professors. I hope to apply the topics of supply chain and inventory management in OM 335H in the expanding online sales sector of our family business.

The news piece highlights the theme of change in the retail industry. A premier business education will allow to proactively react to the dynamic needs of a company and contribute to a venture significant to my mom.

# Admissions Results/Analysis

Review thoughts: This applicant is one of the more clearcut cases of a perfect 6 personal achievement review score. I would have been absolutely shocked if they didn’t gain admission to BHP. They weren’t offered a Forty Acres Semifinalist position, which kind of surprised us, but it just goes to show how competitive that full ride program is. They have a variety of national level accomplishments and leadership positions while also demonstrating loyalty and service to their family, which they share in Essay A. Their three remaining essays are effective example of relying on the strengths of the resume and expanding upon their accomplishments as much as possible. Throughout, the reviewer receives a clear picture of how they will be a thoughtful student leader who will excel in the classroom.

Admissions Score Probabilities:

One: 0%

Two: 0%

Three: 0%

Four: 0%

Five: 20%

Six: 80%

Likely score: 6

Decision: Business Honors Admit early

Other notable offers: Rice, UC-Berkeley, UCLA, UT-Dallas Full Ride

Denied: UPenn

Waitlist: Brown, Northwestern