

Dear [REDACTED] [REDACTED] recruiters,

I am a doctoral student in the department of chemical engineering at MIT. In graduate school, I have been driven by my passion for translational medicine to develop an innovative diagnostic medical device for monitoring the immune system that will be a valuable addition to the toolkits of the lab-based researcher and the practicing clinician alike. Upon graduation, I would like to carry the skills and experiences I have gained, in graduate school as well as in my technical consulting internships and entrepreneurial ventures, into a life sciences consulting role at an organization that is renowned for its actionable strategic insights in the healthcare industry. My conversations with several of your colleagues have led me to believe that [REDACTED] is adept at this, and so I would love to be part of your team.

Mentions how networking helped this person in deciding that this organization would be a great fit. Mentioning names of the employees they networked with could have made this stronger.

My first exposure to consulting came in [REDACTED] as part of technical consulting projects at [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. As part of, and on occasion, while leading, three-member student teams, I tackled complex technical problems, liaising with industry experts in the course of four one-month projects, and offering innovative solutions and approaches to the problems they were facing. I was amazed at the change I could affect in that short time, in the way that I needed to quickly grasp the domain knowledge necessary to make valuable, concrete recommendations for changes in the methodologies and production methods of these established organizations. I was inspired by these projects to, in the summer of [REDACTED], participate (and win third prize) in the Harvard vs MIT consulting case competition. I was also selected to attend the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] workshops which gave me closer look at the world of consulting. While I found general strategy consulting to be an interesting exercise, what I valued most was the mindset for adaptive problem-solving that my team and I used as we dealt with new information. In all of these experiences, I enjoyed using my scientific skills in a business setting most, and this is why I feel joining [REDACTED] would be a fitting career choice for me.

Refers back to their career goals and why that would be the best fit for them.

As a co-advised researcher in the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] labs, I have focused on developing a first-of-its-kind medical device that can help diagnose diseases as well as monitor the immunological status of patients with long-term diseases. I also envision this platform as aiding the long-term biotechnology goals of designing precision immunizations for existing diseases, and creating new vaccines for HIV and cancer. During my graduate career, I have learned to ask questions more effectively, design experiments that give us more clarity into why systems work the way they do, and synthesize materials that behave the way we want them to. I have worked with various mouse models and different biomaterials, grasped various experimental assays and become familiar with assorted fields related to human health. My research, along with my coursework in medical science and innovation at Harvard Medical School and MIT, has instilled in me a keen interest in healthcare that I would like to convert into a career in life sciences consulting.

Both the depth and the breadth of their training would be invaluable for a life sciences consulting position, thereby showing that they would be a great fit for the company as well.

I firmly believe that my scholarly achievements in undergraduate and graduate school, and my professional success as a technical consultant and an entrepreneur are byproducts of me following my curiosity. As I begin to think beyond graduate school, I find my curiosity drives me to seek a business perspective: why do some products and strategies succeed in changing millions of lives while others remain consigned to academic journals? On multiple occasions, several of your colleagues have all stated that their time at [REDACTED] is characterized by being intellectually challenged to acquire the insights and the acumen of the business world while staying rooted in science. It is with the same hope, of being able to impact important healthcare-related decisions and innovations while leveraging my scientific skills, that I believe a career at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] would be a perfect fit for me. I would, therefore, be grateful to be considered for the opportunity of working as a senior associate at [REDACTED]

Summarizes why the company and the applicant would be a great match for each other. Also conveys a high level of excitement and enthusiasm regarding the job.

I look forward to hearing back and I thank you for your time in considering my application.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Good opening paragraph where the applicant introduces their background in healthcare and also clearly states what they want for their future career.

This person is applying for a technical consulting position and has gained experience in this field. They were able to thrive in a fast-paced environment and deliver impactful results in a short time, similar to what would be expected of an employee in the organization they are applying to.

Demonstrates strong background in healthcare research. Also demonstrates a vast breadth of knowledge in this field.