

# EDMONDS COLLEGE TESTIMONIAL

## Seonjun Mun, from South Korea

Graduated Edmonds College in Winter 2017

Majored in Computer Science

Transferred to the University of Washington



### How did you learn about Edmonds? What made you decide to attend?

When I decided to study abroad in the USA, I did a lot of research on all the colleges in Seattle. I decided to attend Edmonds College because it seemed to provide the best experience for international students among the colleges in Seattle.

### What was your impression of the campus? Location? People?

As an international student, I would say Edmonds College always provides the best experience for international students. The campus is located in a safe and convenient area, and people are always there to help international students enjoy the school life.

### How did you like your academic experience? Teachers? Classes?

I had a lot of fun taking courses that I wanted. I found the classes to be well organized. I sincerely think every teacher in the college is awesome. I also felt very supported by the international student advisors at the Office of International Programs.

### Any favorite memories of Edmonds? How were you involved on campus? Did you have a job? Join a club? Receive a scholarship?

My best memory at Edmonds for me is working at OIP. I learned a lot and gained a lot of applicable job skills. I loved that I was able to work in an office where I could help and connect with other international students.

### What did you do after you graduated from Edmonds College?

After graduating from Edmonds College, I did OPT for one year working at Microsoft. I then transferred to the University of Washington to complete my Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. During my time at UW, I was job hunting and applying for many internships. I think I applied to over 200 internships. While I was in university, I did two internships, at F5 Networks and Salesforce. They were both great experiences and I really appreciated that I was able to continue my internship remotely during COVID.

During my internships, I kept applying to openings at other companies, and finally in 2022 I started full time at Google as a Software Engineer. It was quite the experience transitioning from student to full time work. I spent a lot of time and energy job hunting

and applying, on top of that we were coming out of a pandemic. But in all I am enjoying what I do as I am utilizing what I learned from school and I love the independence of full time work.

### What would you tell other students about Edmonds? What is your advice to students preparing to transfer?

I wouldn't be where I am today without the Edmonds College community. It was a friend from Edmonds who helped me figure out that my interests were in Computer Science. After I landed on that as my major, the advisors at OIP helped me research and apply to universities with good computer science programs.

They helped me so much and also connected me with alumni that I could ask questions about my major. I highly recommend all students to get involved on campus. The teachers, advisors, and your classmates are incredibly helpful in many ways. I got a part time job working at OIP and Housing Office and it helped me gain important social, career, and speaking skills.

I know many students when they are planning to transfer they want to get into the highest ranking school as possible but I would recommend researching more for the schools with well established programs of your major. They may not be a well known school but maybe they have a great program for Engineering, Computer Science, etc. I also recommend that once you are on their campus to attend all the job fairs and connect with their alumni network for companies you are interested in.

### What is your advice to students preparing to enter the workforce?

Be proactive but also be realistic. While I was in school, I was applying to many internships and positions in fields I was interested in. Once I was interviewing, I realized that while your degree helps, they definitely assess you on your experiences and skills. For example, I had an intensive skills test in computer science when I interviewed for Google.

Stay realistic. Remember that you are entering the workforce with thousands of other classmates with the same degree so what will set you apart? Think also of not just the industry you want to work in but also the location and its work environment. I reached out to alumni through LinkedIn when I was applying to jobs. That is a great resource for networking! Don't be afraid to reach out to them as they were once in your shoes too.