TRANSFER STUDENT VISIT DAYS

We know you might like to visit campus for either the first time or one more time before you make your decision. While we are unable to host visitors on campus at this time, we have created a virtual campus visit experience just for transfer students. Check out the opportunities to connect with other incoming students and register today...

REGISTER:  https://www.admissions.iastate.edu/visit/virtual_visit.php
For more information visit:  http://www.admissions.iastate.edu/visit/

TRANSFER STUDENT ORIENTATION

Orientation is NOT the same thing as a visit day - it is a vital part of getting ready to be an ISU engineering student. When you attend orientation, you will have a meeting with your academic advisor where you register for your first semester’s classes. After you accept your offer of admission, orientation information and registration details are sent to you. Be prepared to attend orientation by...

1) Knowing which engineering major you want to pursue.
2) Taking the online ALEKS math assessment prior to orientation, if required.

Orientation programs are currently being held online. You will receive additional information from New Student Programs about orientation options once you accept your offer of admission.

https://www.admissions.iastate.edu/orientation/
Iowa State Student Organization Highlight:

Cardinal Space Mining Club

Cardinal Space Mining

The Cardinal Space Mining Club is an engineering competition club that participates in the NASA Robotic Mining Competition (RMC). The goal of the NASA RMC is to challenge college teams from across the country to mine regolith (the type of soil found on the moon and Mars) in a simulated Martian/lunar environment. We are judged on the ability for our robot to mine "icy regolith" which is located about 30cm below the surface of our mining arena. Icy regolith contains water ice, and if it can be mined in space then the water can be used for drinking water, and be split into oxygen and hydrogen for air to breathe as well as made into rocket fuel. NASA hopes that this competition will inspire teams to come up with novel solutions to mining regolith that could someday be applied to future missions to the moon or Mars.

Our club designs and builds a new robot every year to compete in the RMC. We design the entire robot as well as do most of the construction, and we have many different ways that members can contribute. We have 2 main subteams for designing the robot, which is the mechanical team and the controls team. The mechanical team is responsible for the physical parts of the robot like the drivetrain and digging system. The controls team writes the software, designs the wiring, and selects processing boards. There is also the systems team which oversees how these 2 sides of the team integrate their work, as well as planning tests to make sure the robot meets its design goals. Any member can participate on each team, there is no restriction by major on what you can work on.

The club has its general meetings every Thursday at 6:10pm through Microsoft Teams, and holds workdays on Saturdays starting at 10:00 am through Microsoft Teams as well. Links to join the team and the Microsoft Teams page are on the CSMC student organization website.

https://www.stuorg.iastate.edu/spacemining
Company Highlight: Kingland

What do you like about Kingland?

At Kingland I really like the fact that we are a smaller company where everyone knows one another. You may not work with everyone regularly but you still recognize everyone and know who they are, what they do, etc. At larger companies you can get lost in the mix due to there being so many employees. Large companies also tend to be more vertically structured, meaning there is typically several levels up the ladder so to speak between a software developer and a higher level manager or partner. At Kingland we are more horizontally structured and it is not uncommon for software developers to interact with and work directly with our President, CTO, or CEO. For example, a few weeks ago I had a spontaneous one-on-one lunch with our president, Todd Rognes, and I don’t think software developers at larger companies get those types of experiences.

Also, the people at Kingland are great. We have a lot of smart, very talented individuals across several disciplines including everything from software engineers, data analysts, business analysts, test engineers, client executives, solution leaders, project managers, etc. They all are great to work with and we all are working towards the same goal of solving complex business problems for our clients.

What do you find challenging about Kingland?

Being a smaller company, the software engineers are typically not focused on one specific area and are often responsible for several pieces of a solution from a technology perspective which can be challenging at times. With larger companies you may have completely separate teams that handle very specific pieces of a software solution. For example, you might have a team for environment specific activities such as server setup and monitoring, network configuration, a separate front-end Web Application development team, back end Web App development team, a separate software testing team, and even a separate software deployment team. This allows these individual teams to focus on one specific area where they will get very familiar with that piece of the solution which is ultimately their only responsibility. At Kingland it is not uncommon for engineers to be knowledgeable and share some sort of responsibility with every one of these areas, which can be a challenging thing to balance from a responsibility and ownership perspective. On the flip side this is also a good thing as it allows engineers to get familiar with and experience across the entire technology stack and not just one specific area of the software solution. Being a smaller company, the software engineers are typically not focused on one specific area and are often responsible for several pieces of a solution from a technology perspective which can be challenging at times. With larger companies you may have completely separate teams that handle very specific pieces of a software solution. For example, you might have a team for environment specific activities such as server setup and monitoring, network configuration, a separate front-end Web Application development team, back end Web App development team, a separate software testing team, and even a separate software deployment team. This allows these individual teams to focus on one specific area where they will get very familiar with that piece of the solution which is ultimately their only responsibility. At Kingland it is not uncommon for engineers to be knowledgeable and share some sort of responsibility with every one of these areas, which can be a challenging thing to balance from a responsibility and ownership perspective. On the flip side this is also a good thing as it allows engineers to get familiar with and experience across the entire technology stack and not just one specific area of the software solution.
What are you looking for when hiring an engineering intern?
We are looking for students who have high aptitudes, who are inquisitive, can communicate well, are creative, enjoy solving problems, curious about technology, motivated, resourceful, and enjoy working on a team. We like candidates who have a tie to Iowa and want to stay in Iowa to live, but want to experience work outside of the state and embrace the opportunity to travel and see the world while serving our large, international clients. From an education standpoint for our software engineers, we put an emphasis on performance in the following courses: ComSci 227, 228, and 309. Strong performance in 227 and 228 help us determine a student's aptitude for challenging coursework and the projects in 309 are a good representation of what it's like to work on real projects that simulate working on software development in a team environment.

Additional information you’d like to share?
We have three locations at Kingland, our headquarters in Clear Lake, our office in Ames right across from Iowa State University, and also a location in Dalian China where much of our software testing and development occurs. One of the interesting things about the Dalian office is it essentially allows us to work around the clock, which has several efficiency benefits from a software development perspective. For example, we may find a software defect towards the end of the working day in the U.S. and instead of having to work late to resolve the issue, or postpone the investigation until the next day, we can hand the defect off to our Dalian coworkers, or vice versa.

What is unique about Kingland?
One thing that is somewhat unique to Kingland is that the product we produce for our clients is the software itself. If you were to look at a large bank or other financial institution as an example, their end product is typically not going to be a software application. They will employ several dozen, if not hundreds of software engineers to develop internal software for use within the organization, but the end product going out the door is going to be some financial service for their clients.

ON FACEBOOK?
Join our E-APP Facebook group to stay connected to what’s going on in the College of Engineering and across the Iowa State University campus. Highlights include events, awards, class projects, and competitions. We’ll try to post new items at least once each week.

Distributed by Engineering Student Services, College of Engineering, Iowa State University.
If you have questions, please contact engrapp@iastate.edu.
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Because you signed up.

TRANSFER ADMISSION PROCESS CHECKLIST
Keep up on important deadlines -- stay on track by following the guidelines recommended on the transfer application checklist. As an E-APP member, you are one step closer to being admitted to Iowa State, but you must still officially apply for admission. You can complete that first step as early as one year in advance of your intended ISU start date.

https://www.admissions.iastate.edu/transfer/checklist.php