



**Name:** Jake Bernier

**Major:** Electrical Engineering

**Hometown:** Becker, MN

**Why did you choose NDSU?**

I chose NDSU because I heard about the quality and affordability of the engineering program. Other major factors included having family in the areas and having high school friends also attend this school. I absolutely love NDSU and am incredibly satisfied with my decision!

**Why did you choose your major?**

I had always been strong in math in high school, yet I didn't know what I wanted to do until my senior year. During senior year, I joined our new robotics team and gained hands-on experience with electrical wiring, programming, and troubleshooting. This made for an easy transition into electrical engineering!

**What extra-curricular activities/organizations are you involved in?**

I am heavily involved in Bison Robotics. Through our robotics club, I volunteer to help run regional high school competitions, I participate in our Robot-in-3-Days competition, and I coach 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders in First Lego League. I used to be heavily involved in residence life as a resident assistant. I thoroughly enjoyed connecting with new students and helping them get adjusted to college life. I am also an engineering ambassador and enjoy sharing my college experiences with others.

**How has NDSU prepared you for your future?**

I owe much of my success to NDSU's career fair. I was lucky enough to acquire one co-op and one internship through these fairs. I was able to gain valuable insight into what electrical engineers do in different fields. These experiences helped me determine that I want to specialize in control systems and robotics. NDSU also helped me learn that soft skills such as communication and organization are just as important as having a technical background.

**What are your future plans?**

At the end of my 3M internship this past summer, I was fortunate enough to receive a full-time job offer. Upon graduation this May, I will be a control systems engineer in St. Paul. This is the perfect position for me and I already know I enjoy the company and the job due to my previous internship. I'm excited to start my career!

**What are your thoughts about Fargo?**

I enjoy Fargo because there is so much more to do than my hometown. People are friendly and willing to help—especially when you have car issues in the winter. My experience has been positive despite the winter's wind chill!

**What advice would you give to a prospective student?**

It's a cliché, but it's true: get involved! With the incredible number of clubs, you are bound to find at least one that interests you. I highly encourage students to get involved in extra-curricular activities and organizations. This is how you meet new people with similar interests! I am heavily interested in robotics and my experiences with the robotics club have been the highlight of my college career.