

Jorden Clay

Eta Omega Scholarship Application

18 March 2022

How the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted my college and career aspiration

COVID-19 has hindered my ability to learn in the classroom. Virtual learning is not as efficient as being in the classroom due to a lack of participation. It does not matter how engaged one student is in a lesson because half the class is not engaged most of the time, defeating the purpose of virtual learning. It did not feel like I was learning any new material at all. It felt as if I were completing assignments to get a grade. Besides academically, COVID-19 has also affected me physically due to missing a year of development in sports I love to play. It almost feels like I got held back a grade but in sports terms. I always dreamed of having a stellar season in Cross Country and Basketball after coming off of a season-ending injury for both sports my sophomore year, but being forced into quarantine junior year ruined that. However, on the bright side, COVID-19 also impacted me positively.

COVID-19 encouraged me to think out of the box and think about the new opportunities that have risen, such as working a job or working my own business cutting grass and staying fit, finding ways to workout inside the house even if it had to be stationary. The biggest takeaway has to be that the pandemic has helped me grow more than it hindered me. At the time, I started my college hunt and requirements for the application process early. At the start of my senior year, I did not want any stress, so I made sure to get several complete, such as personal essays or recommendations. Many dreams were brought to mind when I thought of my aspiration to be a

computer software engineer, such as developing software for video games like Electronic Arts or 2K games. But then I asked myself, What can I do now in my community to put myself on a path to greatness? That question is how covid impacted my aspirations to be a software engineer.

Currently, we are in a pandemic for who knows how long. I want to develop software run off of Java that helps engage my generation in online learning. In addition, I want to provide a coding course in my software to give future innovators a jump start into the coding world. My school provides me with multiple classes that teach students the basics of software development—currently, I am taking a course that teaches students to develop software through java code. Java is a script developed from coding. Coding is a system of characters that communicates actions to technology. For example, Minecraft is a video game that introduced me to Java code. Java can do tasks, such as building large enterprise-class applications. For instance, most Amazon applications run off Java, which shows how I can design my own video game and build software that helps my community with Java.

