

### **Statement of Purpose**

I, Shivam Rajput, hereby express my sincere thanks to you for the perusal of my application. I seek to pursue a Master of Engineering program from La Trobe University, Australia.

The current technological revolution has caused significant changes in systems and processes and has altered the way problems are approached and solved. It has led to innovation and change, thus making the world more close-knit than ever. Individuals and companies are ditching their traditional work methods and walking hand in hand with the latest technological inventions that have changed the face of the world. Revolutionizing the present generation is networking; allowing the efficient processing and storage of large mounds of data. This field has paved the way for designing computer infrastructure addressing business needs, by evaluating how information needs to flow within and outside an organization. Charting the flow of data, in response to the growth in the size and complexity of networks has become imperative. It is the very zeal to explore fresh avenues in the domain of networking and cybersecurity and contribute to the sphere of innovation that I seek to solidify by the way of a formal degree.

### **Personal, academic, and professional background**

It is a true adage that in order to accomplish great things in life, we must not only act but dream; not only plan for things but also believe. All my life, I have tried to make the most of all opportunities being presented with, and have grown personally and professionally, despite facing setbacks. What has remained with me throughout is my unwavering spirit to deliver my best and my unending curiosity to learn, which has acted as the ground for all my endeavors.

My fascination with technology is something that has been the epicenter for all my undertakings since a very early age. After completing my matriculation in the year 2012, I opted for the science stream. As I explored the world of physics, I found myself intrigued by the technology behind automobiles. This inclination had me opting for a Bachelor of Engineering program in Automobile Engineering in 2014, soon after completing my intermediate education. The program introduced me to the fundamentals of the design, manufacture, and operation of automobiles, which built my repertoire of knowledge.

The year 2017 brought along a host of challenges that affected my academic curve. My father met with a major accident that put him on bed rest for months. As a result, his business faced issues as he wasn't in a position to manage the operations. So, I had to take over my father's trading business and unfortunately couldn't appear for my semester examinations. I managed the business for three years and was responsible for handling the consignment, shipping, and logistics of the materials. The situation improved

as my father recovered, after which, I completed my undergraduate program and got ready to step into the professional milieu.

In the fall of 2021, I joined Merit Software Solutions as a Visual Analyst, which was when I had my first introduction to networking. While working in the company, I had the chance to observe network engineers resolve issues faced by the company, ensuring hassle-free operations. As I delved deeper, I realized that the firm heavily relied on network and security engineers when it comes to maintaining the safety of their systems. I did my part of the research and was hooked to the intricacies of this domain and was shocked to see the scope and demand of this field.

Another experience that solidified my penchant in the domain of network security was the time our company worked on an important project that was compromised on account of a security threat. Worried that the company might lose the project that it had invested its resources in, the officials put their trust in a Network Security Engineer who cleared all the chaos within two days and retained the project. That was when I realized that there is a huge demand for network engineers and that this field encompasses an unimaginable growth potential. I have found my fondness for this domain and have already begun preparing myself for this field. I am pursuing a National Skill Development Certification course in AutoCAD and a course in CCNA as well.

### **Why a Master of Engineering program from La Trobe University?**

My technical skill bracket, coupled with my past knowledge and work experiences have been the motivating factors behind opting for this course. While my undergraduate course has equipped me with a sound understanding of automobile engineering, my work experience has exposed me to the fields of cybersecurity and networking. I am more inclined to the latter than the former and am ardent to build a career in the same. Through the program, I seek to acquire hands-on experience in dealing with challenges arising in the present engineering landscape. I wish to build sound engineering management skills, develop the knack for problem-solving, identify and analyze potential risks and mitigate failures, and learn the nitty-gritty of modern digital communication systems. Also, I look forward to exploring the realm of data and incorporate the findings towards developing effective engineering systems.

Offered by La Trobe University, this program aligns ideally with my learning objectives, providing ample practical exposure, excellent research facilities, and a broad range of specializations to choose from. I seek to attain expertise in network engineering and hone my skills as per industry standards. La Trobe is among the finest institutes in Australia, offering industry-centric programs that aim to make students ready for the professional world. The programs here are taught by industry professionals, helping students gain insight into the world of technology, specifically networking and cybersecurity.



### Why Australia? Why not other countries?

Australia presents itself as a land of befitting opportunities, providing students with the platform to upgrade their skills and unleash their potential. The country is known for its unsurpassed quality of education, state-of-the-art infrastructure, ample growth prospects, and excellent research facilities. I am certain that an educational degree from this country will add considerable value to my profile and will equip me with the skills and knowledge I need to embark on a flourishing career in my preferred field. The universities nestled in the country are among the top educational institutes around the world, housing programs that cater to the emerging industry trends and needs. While there were similar programs available in my home country, I chose to study in Australia as the universities in India focus more on the theoretical aspect of learning, which is not a priority for me at this stage of my career.

The programs in Australia emphasize practical learning, in the form of projects and internships; which will not only help me develop a strong set of technical skills but give me a glimpse of the professional world. Moreover, Australian degrees are highly regarded in my homeland, which will act as an added advantage for me to be exposed to better, high-paying jobs in the Indian job market.

My research landed me to the websites of many universities in countries other than Australia; such as Canada, the USA, and the UK. However, none of the programs offered by those universities coincided with my learning needs. Thus, I chose Australia to be the ideal destination for me to pursue higher education. In addition to imparting quality learning, Australia is also a melting pot of cultures, welcoming people from multiple ethnicities to be a part of its diversity. My chosen course is at the Bundoora Campus, Melbourne, Victoria State. The state is known to house excellent research infrastructure, trained academic staff holding ample international experience, and unsurpassed services for international students. From health to accommodation, from legal to employment, the state has provisions for assistance in all areas. Attaining education from a place that houses some of the top universities in the world will naturally provide me first-class exposure, which will further aid my overall growth. So, as I make the most of the educational opportunities, I wish to extract every bit of learning being imparted to me, while also building a network of like-minded individuals along the way.

### Future plans

This multidisciplinary course will open me up to a vast spectrum of opportunities, especially in the fields of designing and cybersecurity. The course will bring out the competitive side of me and will instill in me the very art to embrace challenges. Post the completion of this program, I look forward to returning to my home country and securing the position of network administrator at a reputed firm in India. With technology advancing at a rapid pace, network systems are also at the risk of attacks and threats from outside parties. I wish to act in the capacity of a network engineer and protect systems from potential

cyber threats. India is a booming country and encompasses the immense scope of growth in the times ahead. With each passing day, international companies are looking forward to setting their work centers in India. Moreover, new startups are investing in India, which has led to a surge in job opportunities for networking enthusiasts. The average salary of a Network Engineer is around AUD15000\$ in India, which is a great package, to begin with. I seek to attain considerable experience in this field post my return and move up the corporate ladder with my knowledge and efforts.

### **Incentives to return to India**

The advancements in technology have brought the closer, through the connectivity of hardware and software devices. This has brought along ample opportunities for growth for all engineering enthusiasts in India, with more institutions investing in technology, cloud computing, and big data. This has created a huge demand for network engineers who possess the skillset to cater to the demands of the industry and contribute to the sphere of innovation. From designing the network infrastructure to implementing it, from maintaining the network to troubleshooting it; networking has settled itself comfortably into many fields such as Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Computer Application, IT Engineering, and Computer Science. In India, as a result, the demand for Network Engineers is more than the supply, which further sets the ground for excellent job prospects in the domain of Networking. Considering the Australian degree under my belt, I will have a competitive edge over other candidates, which will help me acquire a well-paying job at a reputed company in India. I wish to tap those job prospects and integrate my learning to transform those prospects into accolades. I seek to grow in my preferred field in my home country and will leave no stone unturned in pursuit of the same.

### **Family background**

I am a part of a nuclear family consisting of 5 members; my father, mother, two siblings, and myself. My father is running his Granite business by the name Stone Rock Enterprises, my mother is a homemaker, my elder sister is working as an Engineer at Ericsson India Pvt. Ltd and my younger brother is pursuing his schooling. My family has been quite supportive of my dreams and has always pushed me to chase my dreams. It is because of them that I can look forward to attaining education abroad. Being the elder son, it is my responsibility to take care of my family and extend my support to them. Therefore, after completing the program, I will return to India and stay with my family.

### **Immigration history**

I have traveled to the USA, Canada, Asia, and the Middle East and have had the chance to experience a plethora of cultures along the way.

In the year 2022, my sister was sponsored by her company to attend and present her patent project in the



USA, and I accompanied her during the trip, which lasted two weeks. I also took a 10-day trip to Canada to celebrate New Year 2022. I had applied for a Canada study Visa, which got rejected. Apart from that, I have traveled around Asia and the Middle east to spend my vacation at regular intervals. All in all, my immediate family and I bear a clean travel history.

### Financial details

My father has generously agreed to sponsor my education in Australia and has taken an education loan from ICICI Bank for me to comfortably manage my tuition fee and living expenses. Additionally, we have total fixed assets in India valued at AUD 6,15,827\$. My father has arranged for ample funds to support my education and living expenses in Canada, the proof of which has been attached alongside this application for your kind perusal.

### About student visa conditions

I hereby declare that I am fully aware of the obligations of the Higher Education Visa Subclass 500. I assure you that I will:

- Maintain 80 percent attendance in the course
- Remain enrolled in the chosen course
- Not work more than 20 hours per week
- Maintain my Overseas Student Health Cover during my stay in Australia
- Ensure a minimum score of 50 percent in each subject of the enrolled course
- Pay my tuition fee within the deadline
- Provide my address within 7 days and notify the authorities in case of a change in the same

### Conclusion

The master's program is not just an academic degree; rather, it is an opportunity for me to expose myself to the outer world, see what's in store for me, and give my best shot at whatever I undertake. At La Trobe, I bring along a fundamental knowledge of engineering, ample work exposure, and a strong penchant to grow and excel. Given the chance, I will make the most of the learning imparted to me and will integrate my past knowledge and experience towards adding value to the La Trobe community. I will demonstrate my mettle at the University and prove to be a valuable addition to the campus. I sincerely hope that the admissions committee reviews my application in a positive light and considers me worthy of their prestigious network of incoming graduate students.

Sincerely,  
Shivam Rajput