

CQ Boston gave me refreshing insight into the job search process -- both giving real, not-sugar-coated advice, and motivating me for my future. The passion and charisma from the employees of Raytheon and the Mayor's Office of Urban Mechanics showed me that your career can be fun and impactful if you understand the value of what you do. The advice and encouragement from Skyword and the Dana-Farber Institute showed me that finding a job and adjusting to adult life can be hard, but the people you work with will make it worthwhile. The interdisciplinary understanding of Google and Wellington Management showed me that companies hire individuals from diverse backgrounds and paths of study and that I shouldn't rule out a company just because their main focus is not my interest. Each company we visited provided valuable insight that I will take with me as I continue my education and look to begin my career.

The biggest lesson I learned during my CQ Boston trip was that it's so important to find a job and a company that you're passionate about. With every company we saw, the employees could not have been more excited to share their work. It made me excited just listening to them be so passionate about what they do, even if it was in a field I was not interested in. There is so much truth in the phrase if you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life, and this was made clear during CQ Boston. When looking to begin my future career, I now know that researching the company's mission, culture, and value is just as important as finding a career relevant to what you want to do. I am incredibly thankful for CQ Boston and the lessons it taught me, and I will cherish the advice and encouragement I received and take it with me throughout my life.