

Ed-Co Alumni

Eric Gleason - Class of 2007

Written by Addy Kirby



Eric Gleason graduated in the class of 2007. Eric graduated from Iowa State University with a Mechanical Engineering degree. He now works in engineering and marketing at John Deere. Eric resides in Dyersville, Iowa, his reasoning being, "My family lives in this area and I wanted to stay close to them. Bigger cities may offer more dining and entertainment options but once you are a little older and have a family of your own, you can really appreciate the simplicity, safety, and lower cost of living in a smaller town." When asked how he got where he is today he replied, "During college I had summer internships with XL Trailers in Manchester, IA; Ag Leader Technology in Ames, IA; John Deere Des Moines Works in Ankeny, IA; and John Deere Harvester Works in Silvis, IL. Upon graduation I was hired full-time by John Deere Dubuque Works. After several years as a test engineer, I recently took a new role in marketing where I help dealerships with their technical questions about construction and forestry equipment." His favorite part about Ed-Co was, "With a tight knit community and smaller class sizes it always felt like everyone knew each other, cared about each other, and that we were all on the same team - this positive mindset stays with you for life!" When asked what advice he would give to high school students he commented, "A traditional 4-year college degree can be a pretty expensive investment... before going this route look ahead at what specific job and salary your degree is going to earn you in the future and consider whether or not you will get a financial return for your investment. Money cannot buy you happiness... but lack of money and massive amounts of student loan debt can definitely lead to unhappiness as well!" This Viking has gone far, and is still going strong! He is a Viking for life.