

Fast Track Student Biography

My name is Julian Mendel and I am currently a first-year electrical engineering student at UCLA. I grew up in the Bay Area and graduated from Homestead High School in Cupertino, California.

While in high school, I had a very limited exposure to engineering. I enjoyed the math and science classes I took, and developed an interest in physics. The summer before my senior year, I interned as a student researcher in the radiation physics department in the Stanford University School of Medicine. The focus of my research was to code a program in C++ that would use statistical modeling to perform the energy calibration of a CZT detector, which is a medical imaging instrument that measures x-ray fluorescent signals.

Although I just recently arrived at UCLA, I have been impressed by the ease of finding engineering-related activities as an undergraduate student. I joined IEEE and became involved in the OPS program, which has allowed me to explore multiple facets of the electrical engineering field through numerous projects. In addition, I am now a member of an Engineers Without Borders team that is planning to build a library for a community in rural Ethiopia.

I am not yet certain of what I want to pursue after graduating from UCLA. Right now, I am very interested in the applications of electrical engineering on biomedical systems, specifically ones involved in cancer treatment. Another option that I am considering is going to law school to become a patent attorney.

In my free time, I enjoy watching TV, volunteering, and playing the alto saxophone.