# PRESTON SCHLAGHECK

Guilford, CT  |  +1 (959) 333-0277  |  schlaghp@email.sc.edu  |  linkedin.com/in/preston-schlagheck  |  prestonsch.com

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## EDUCATION

**Darla Moore School of Business, University of South Carolina**                                *Columbia, SC  |  May 2028*
B.S. Business Administration  |  Finance & Business Analytics  |  GPA: 3.79/4.00  |  President's List, Dean's List

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**AI Strategy & Automations Intern**  |  Direct Journeyline Holdings, LLC                *Knoxville, TN  |  May 2026 - Aug 2026*
- Incoming role building AI-driven process automation systems, KPI reporting pipelines, and construction budget management tooling across a multi-company holding portfolio.
- Scope includes competitive market analysis, vendor negotiation support, and presenting findings to executive stakeholders.

**Co-Founder & Lead Engineer**  |  DPJ Media, LLC (Diffuse.AI)                            *Remote / PA  |  Feb 2026 - Present*
- Built and deployed Diffuse, a generative AI SaaS platform that converts audio recordings, documents, and web inputs into publication-ready articles through automated transcription, LLM generation, and direct CMS publishing in under 5 minutes.
- Architected a multi-tenant platform with organization workspaces, member roles, project sharing, and subscription plan gating on a Next.js and Supabase stack, growing to 40,000+ monthly views and operational profitability within 4 months.

**Generative & Agentic AI Integrations Intern**  |  US HealthConnect, Inc.          *Fort Washington, PA  |  Sep 2025 - Present*
- Designed and deployed LLM agent workflows using n8n and OpenAI APIs, automating document drafting and operational tasks across finance, compliance, and operations teams, cutting turnaround time by 35%.
- Replaced manual content review cycles with a prompt-engineered AI generation pipeline that reduced drafting time by 20% and was adopted across both technical and non-technical teams.

**Co-Founder, AI Strategy Consultant**  |  CogNodes, LLC                                  *Freehold, NJ  |  Oct 2025 - Present*
- Run end-to-end consulting engagements for 3-5 paying clients across SaaS, e-commerce, and professional services, covering discovery, quantitative analysis, product roadmap development, and go-to-market execution.
- Build and hand off custom AI automation systems, API integrations, and full-stack products for clients ranging from early-stage founders to established small businesses with defined operational needs.

**Web Developer**  |  Direct Journeyline Holdings, LLC                                        *Knoxville, TN  |  Jul 2025 - Present*
- Redesigned site architecture across multiple portfolio companies, cutting average click-path length by 50% and implementing analytics tracking to capture user behavior data for marketing and budget decisions.

**Member Services & Operations Associate**  |  Madison Country Club                    *Madison, CT  |  Apr 2022 - Jun 2025*
- Oversaw $10,000+ in daily financial transactions with full accountability for accuracy and compliance across high-volume service operations.
- Coordinated logistics for 12+ annual tournaments and managed teams of 8-12 staff through planning and day-of execution.

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## LEADERSHIP & EXTRACURRICULAR

**President**  |  Sigma Phi Epsilon, SC Alpha Chapter                                        *Columbia, SC  |  Nov 2025 - Present*
- Lead executive board operations and IFC compliance programming for USC's largest chapter, which holds the #1 GPA ranking out of 30 fraternities.

**Alpha Fund Chair**  |  Alpha Kappa Psi, Beta Upsilon Chapter                            *Columbia, SC  |  Mar 2025 - Dec 2025*
- Managed a $23,000 student investment portfolio that returned 12% over 3 months and 18% over 12 months through DCF modeling, sector research, and analyst team leadership.

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**AI & Automation:**  Large language models (LLMs), prompt engineering, generative AI, agentic AI systems, n8n workflow automation, robotic process automation (RPA), API integration, OpenAI, Cursor
**Development:**  Python, SQL, JavaScript, TypeScript, React, Next.js, Node.js, Supabase, Postgres, cloud infrastructure, Git, Vercel
**Strategy & Finance:**  Financial modeling, DCF valuation, business intelligence, KPI development, digital transformation, data-driven decision making, stakeholder management, go-to-market strategy
**Certifications:**  UBS M&A Finance Accelerator (AmplifyME, 2025)  |  Aboveboard for Student Leaders (Plaid LLC, 2026)