

Dear [insert boss's name here],

I would like to request your approval to attend Abstractions II, taking place in Pittsburgh, PA August 21-23, 2019.

Abstractions is a multi-disciplinary conference in Pittsburgh, PA that brings together the full spectrum of individuals involved in modern software development--designers, developers, DevOps, managers, quality assurance, support, and community leaders--to teach, learn, and connect. The diversity of topics and individuals that I will encounter over the course of three days will give me invaluable insight and strategies that I wouldn't find anywhere else, and I look forward to bringing them back to share with our organization.

This event is bringing together the best of the best. Some of the speakers at the last Abstractions conference included programming language inventors like **Larry Wall** (Perl), **Joe Armstrong** (Erlang), **José Valim** (Elixir), **Kelsey Hightower** (Kubernetes) and **Aaron Patterson** (Ruby); and individuals leading the way in our industry, such as **Allison Randall** (President of the Open Source Initiative), **Raffi Krikorian** (formerly engineering lead at Uber, now Chief Technology Officer of the Democratic National Committee), **Saron Yitbarek** (creator of CodeNewbie), and **Andrew Clay Shafer** (creator of the DevOps movement). And that was just the first round of Abstractions--this next one is bound to be even more impressive.

Given the topics covered at Abstractions, some lessons I will encounter and potentially bring back to our organization include how to:

- Implement better processes to design, build, debug and deploy faster,
- Improve performance and responsiveness of our web properties,
- Increase web security and reduce our surface area for attacks,
- Enhance accessibility and flexibility of our front-end architecture,
- Set up a proper strategy for maintainable design systems, so we don't have to reinvent the wheel all the time.

My projected costs for attending Abstractions are [insert cost from worksheet]. This includes registration, transportation, lodging, events, and meals. I have attached a worksheet with a full breakdown of the cost estimate.

One of the best things about our industry is that it is always growing and changing, and so it is important for my professional and personal success to seek out new learning opportunities whenever I can find them. Attending this conference will put me in contact with more learning opportunities in one place than many will encounter over a lifetime. I encourage you to take a look at the Abstractions website at <https://abstractions.io> for more information. You can also get an idea of the variety of topics presented at the last Abstractions by checking out the 2016 schedule at <https://abstractions.io/schedule/>

Thank you for your consideration. I truly think this is a great investment for my professional and personal growth, and I look forward to discussing it with you.

Talk to you soon,

[Your name]