

Early stage SRI firm cover letter

[Student Name]
[Student Phone]

[Date]

Mr. [Name]
Managing Partner
[Company]
[Address]

Dear Mr. [Name]:

I hope this message finds you well. I am currently working on a project at Columbia Business School for [organization], and this experience is reinforcing the notion that early stage socially responsible investing is not only my passion, but also is the field in which I can make the greatest contribution. That said, I am super excited at the prospect of working with you and [Company] this summer, as I have heard excellent things about both you and your firm.

I can make a significant contribution to [organization]. I cannot think of a better place for me to take advantage of my diverse experiences as a management consultant, two-time entrepreneur and director of business development for a seed-stage investment fund. I have written business plans that helped raise more than \$15 million in capital, and I have advised and/or helped turnaround several early stage ventures. I can screen deals, analyze markets & industries, develop or critique financial models, determine valuations, negotiate terms, work well with diverse stakeholders, and help early stage companies achieve focus and grow. I get excited envisioning being a value-added member of your winning team.

Early stage investing is where I belong. As mentioned above, I have spent most of my young career in the entrepreneurial arena. It is where I always seem to find myself, and it is where I belong. Within this sector, I prefer the investment side because it offers greater variety and the opportunity to help support and/or shape fledgling new ventures.

I am 100% committed to a career in socially responsible business. In the past two years my social and environmental consciousness has been awakened. A year at Johns Hopkins SAIS studying inequality, globalization, and hundreds of years of conquest and oppression certainly played a role in this process. Several personal experiences including a summer spent on a “spiritual journey” of sorts which took me from Bali to a monastery in Burma, also were contributors. Regardless of the particular causes, I know now that I have no deeper desire than to work towards the betterment of the fragile world in which we live.

As a summer associate at [company], I feel I can make a strong contribution while having an educational and personally satisfying experience. I would very much appreciate the opportunity to speak with and get to know you and/or other members of your team.

Best regards and best of luck with your continued success,

[Name]
Columbia Business School, Class of [Year]