



# APPRENTICESHIP SPOTLIGHT

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CCDC ARMY RESEARCH LABORATORY



**HARUN**  
APPRENTICE

HIGH SCHOOL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (HSAP)



**Dr. VanMil**  
MENTOR

## WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE MENTOR RELATIONSHIP?

**HARUN:** Dr. VanMil's constant availability and assistance is the most beneficial and inspiring aspect of our relationship. While working with her, I was able to ask any question at almost any time. This helped me complete my project and allowed me to learn more in the process.

**Dr. VanMil:** It's great when your student understands what you've shown them and can take that information and make the next steps on their own. It shows that they are able to grow beyond what you've taught them.

## ADVICE TO A STUDENT, JUST BEGINNING TO CONSIDER A CAREER IN SCIENCE?

**HARUN:** Regardless of where you are, just keep learning. Learn more about what interests you and what careers align with your passions. If you have that thirst for knowledge, very little can stop you.

**Dr. VanMil:** Make sure you are doing something that interests you. Don't be afraid to look beyond your field or your work and change direction if you want.

## WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN THIS FIELD?

**HARUN:** I had an interest in the sciences throughout gradeschool. Discovering how various facets of the world functioned piqued my interest. Materials science was no exception. Once I started learning more details about the field, I couldn't wait to work in it.

**Dr. VanMil:** This field is fun and challenging