



**Q: What is something new you learned at AIS through your internship?**

A: There are a wide variety of skills I've gained as a result of this internship! I've learned how to script in batch and POSIX shell, use GitLab, support compatibility of software across a large range of systems, communicate effectively and learn necessary skills on-the-fly.

**Q: What has been your favorite part of your internship?**

A: Every single day that I work at AIS, I'm learning something new about my field. Whether it's adapting to a new programming language required to get software ready for production or learning about a new cyber-related threat or developing skills in teamwork, every day is a challenge where I walk away better than I was yesterday. I also love the team with whom I've been working. They're extremely supportive and made the experience awesome.

**Q: What advice do you have for those who are going into their first internship?**

A: Understand the following: don't feel guilty when progress isn't immediate but understand the power that comes with determination and work ethic. Be ready to learn as much as possible. School unfortunately doesn't teach you everything you need to be successful in the workforce. Walk into this opportunity with a growth mindset. Your most valuable asset isn't how many programming languages you know or which cybersecurity camp you attended in the summer. Your most valuable asset is your mindset.

**Q: What area of cyber or information security do you want to focus on in your career?**

A: I want to be a generalist in the cyber field so that eventually I can step into the Criminal Justice field as a Special Agent with a background in cybersecurity for the FBI. My desire is to help people, and I believe by learning as much as I can in all aspects of cyber, I can walk into a job for the FBI with a diverse background of applicable skills.





**Q: What is something new you learned at AIS through your internship?**

A: One thing that comes to mind specifically is the proficiency I have gained using IntelliJ in association with GitLab. I have learned more during my 6 months at AIS than I have learned my entire time at school. Thanks to the entire STARGate Team, I have gone from being novice to knowledgeable and it's all thanks to the people in the trenches with me every day. Every single member of the team has helped guide me on this amazing journey. I want to give a special thank you to Jim Reilly who has more patience than anyone I have ever met.

**Q: What has been your favorite part of your internship?**

A: I love being able to get hands on experience with software development. Knowing that the work I do has a direct impact on real world events gives this experience purpose and meaning.

**Q: What advice do you have for those who are going into their first internship?**

A: Patience is something you are going to need. If you can hang in there, though, it is 100 percent worth it.

**Q: What area of cyber or information security do you want to focus on in your career?**

A: My goal is to be a software engineer because I love being able to create something great out of nothing. I have so many ideas that I want to turn into reality from video games to AI applications, and the best part about it is that I am gaining the knowledge right here at AIS. It's because of AIS (specifically the hard work and dedication of Dan Harding) that I am going to reach these goals and gain the career I have been working so hard toward.

