

Abhay Harpalani

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Urbana, IL

Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering

Expected Dec. 2026

Dean's List (Top 20% of class)

GPA: 3.85

Courses: Data Structures & Algorithms, Operating Systems, Distributed Systems, Database Systems

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer Intern

May 2025 - Present

Savvly - FinTech Startup

Boulder, CO

- Introduced and built the company's first comprehensive JUnit test suite, increasing test coverage from 0% to 70%
- Developed REST API endpoints using Java and SpringBoot to interact with core company PostgreSQL Database
- Refactored code using Controller-Service-Repository pattern to reduce technical debt and streamline development

Undergraduate Research Assistant

May 2025 - Present

UIUC International and Area Studies Library

Urbana, IL

- Wrote Python script to remove stale/duplicate web index entries, cut index size by 50% to improve search quality
- Documented key processes and workflows, creating reusable resources and presented findings to library leadership

Web Developer and Lab Monitor

Oct. 2023 – Present

UIUC OpenLab Makerspace

Urbana, IL

- Redesigned website with a modern, responsive interface, enhancing OpenLab user experience
- Serve as OpenLab board member, giving weekly tours to ~30 students and teaching about equipment safety
- Designed advertising posters and electronic billboards, resulting in 2x increase in student usage of OpenLab

EXTRACURRICULARS

Tech Lead and Web Developer

Apr. 2024 - Present

Illinois Global Review

Urbana, IL

- Spearheaded development of a scalable news website using Python, HTML, and CSS
- Implemented user authentication, article upload, and editing workflows using the Flask web framework
- Collaborated with editorial teams to ensure seamless content management for administrators

Vice President

Jan. 2024 - Present

Out in STEM

Urbana, IL

- Directed outreach and networking events, growing membership by 5x
- Managed chapter operations, coordinating board meetings, event logistics, and promoting diversity and inclusion

Project Lead

Sept. 2023 - May 2025

Vex Robotics Club

Urbana, IL

- Trained reinforcement learning models to play Blackjack, Pong, and Lunar Lander using Deep Q-Network methods
- Built an Arduino-based drone, implementing C++ control systems algorithms to achieve autonomous flight

Project Manager

Aug. 2019 – Jan. 2022

Eagle Scout Project

Fremont, CA

- Led the design, approval, and construction of an arbor and planter for the Quarry Lakes Demonstration Garden
- Supervised team of 15 scouts and adults, coordinating materials, logistics, & construction efforts for project success
- Earned Eagle Scout rank, demonstrating leadership, project management, and community impact

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, C, C++, Java, Go, SQL, JavaScript, HTML/CSS

Programs: Ghidra, Fusion 360, Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop

Clubs: Out in STEM, VEX Robotics, SIGPwny Cybersecurity Club, Synton Amateur Radio Club