The Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center (ISTRC)

ISTRC Call for Prizes 2022

Call publication: 17.5.2022

Final submission: 15.7.2022

Background

The Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center (ISTRC) at the Technion, in collaboration with Bar-Ilan University, was established jointly by the Smart Mobility initiative in Israel's Prime Minister's Office, and the Council for Higher Education. The aim is to encourage research and development, entrepreneurship, and industry in the field of smart mobility in Israel. You can learn more about the center from ISTRC website.

ISTRC Vision

The vision of the Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center is to unite the academic and R&D community and various stakeholders to initiate and leverage Interdisciplinary and Intersectoral research activities that would contribute to smart, efficient, and green transportation, and position Israel as a world leader in the field.

For this purpose, we define the Smart Transportation Zero Externalities Vision in three dimensions: Zero casualties, Zero delays, and Zero environmental damage.

The center collaborates with all academic institutions and researchers in Israel to promote cutting edge research and insights as well as empower and develop human capital in the field.

As Smart Transportation is interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary in nature, ISTRC encourage students and researchers from different fields and academic departments to promote ideas and research in this field.

Objectives of this Call

ISTRC aims to develop human capital in Israel in the field of smart transportation and encourage students at all levels and from various related fields of knowledge.

ISTRC prizes are designed to achieve excellence and to increase the number of graduate Israeli students and researchers, through supporting students at all levels from a wide range of academic institutions in Israel, whose research can contribute to **ISTRC's Smart Transportation Zero Externalities Vision.**

ISTRC aims to encourage students and young researchers to generate cutting edge knowledge and insights in the field of Smart Transportation.

Several prize categories were defined targeting Bachelor, Master and PhD students:
- A1: Excellent Project / Seminar Prize for Bachelor Students
- A2: Excellent Project / Seminar Prize for Non-Research Master Students
- B1: Best Refereed Paper Prize for Master Student
- B2: Best Refereed Paper Prize for PhD Student
- C1: Student Teams Competitions Prize (2-4 students)
- C2: Student Teams Competitions Prize (5-10 students)
- C3: Student Teams Competitions Prize (more than 10 students)

Category A: Excellent Project Prizes

The prizes allocation for **Category A** in this Call is up to 42,000 NIS including the following groups:

A1. **Excellent Project / Seminar Prize for Bachelor Students**
First prize: 5,000 NIS, additional prizes up to 3,000 NIS each (in case of more than one student per project the prize will be divided equally between all applicants).

A2. **Excellent Project / Seminar Prize for Non-Research Master Students**
First prize: 5,000 NIS, additional prizes up to 4,000 NIS each (in case of more than one student per project the prize will be divided equally between all applicants).

Eligibility criteria

Applicants should be students in their last year of studies in an Israeli academic institution during the 2021/2022 academic year (תשפ"ב) while applying to the Call. Receiving the prize after completing studies is subject to the academic institution approval.

How to apply?

Applications will be submitted in English (Attachments can be in Hebrew) through the EasyChair system (see Page 5).
For your application, you will need the following details and documents:

1. Applicant information:
   - Full name of applicant, ID number, e-mail address; in case of more than one student participating in the project / seminar, details of all applicants are required
   - Institution name (organization), Faculty/department
   - Estimated graduation date (MM/YEAR)
   - Name and e-mail address of supervisor(s) or project instructor
   - Title of project / seminar
2. CV (up to 2 pages) of all applicants
3. Study certificate of the academic institution for the current semester
4. Recommendation of the supervisor(s) / project instructor
5. Project / seminar **summary** (up to 3 pages)
   - Project/ seminar title
   - Goal
   - Methodology
   - Findings / Conclusions (or progress report if the project / seminar is not completed)
   - Contribution to Smart Transportation (Smart Transportation Zero Externalities Vision)
   - Innovative aspect of the project / seminar

Category B: Best Refereed Paper Prize

The prizes allocation for **Category B** in this Call is up to 15,000 NIS and includes the following groups:

B1. **Best Refereed Paper Prize for Master Student**: 5,000 NIS

B2. **Best Refereed Paper Prize for PhD Student**: 10,000 NIS

Eligibility criteria

Applicants should be students in their last year of studies in an Israeli academic institution during the 2021/2022 academic year (תשפ"ב) while applying to the Call. Receiving the prize after completing studies is subject to the academic institution's approval.

How to apply?

Applications will be submitted in English through the EasyChair system (see Page 5).
For your application, you will need the following details and documents:

1. Applicant information:
   - Full name of the applicant, ID number, e-mail address
   - Institution name (organization), Faculty/department
   - Estimated graduation date (MM/YEAR)
   - Name and e-mail address of supervisor(s)
   - Title of the paper
2. CV (up to 2 pages)
3. Study certificate of the academic institution for the current semester
4. Recommendation of the supervisor(s)
5. The paper (The applicant should be listed as one of the Authors, preferably as the first author.)
6. Evidence of paper acceptance or publication in a high-level refereed journal during the current academic year (תשפ"ב).

Category C: Prizes for Student Teams in International Competitions in the Smart Transportation domain

The goal of this category is to encourage student teams to compete in international student teams competitions in the Smart Transportation domain.

The prizes allocation for **Category C** in this Call is up to 100,000 NIS and includes the following groups:

C1. **2-4 students**: team prize of up to 8,000 NIS
C2. **5-10 students**: team prize of up to 20,000 NIS
C3. **More than 10 students**: team prize of up to 60,000 NIS

❖ Priority will be given to teams participating in the competition for the first time.

Eligibility criteria

- Bachelor student teams from an Israeli academic institution accepted to an international competition in the Smart Transportation domain.
- Applicants should be Bachelor students in an Israeli academic institution during the 2021/2022 academic year (תשפ"ב) while applying to the Call. Receiving the prize after completing studies is subject to the academic institution's approval.
- Applicants should be part of a competition team, registered in the acceptance document of the competition.

How to apply?

The Student Team Leader / Representative ONLY will apply to the Call on behalf of the team. He / She will add the list of all team members (other applicants) as part of the team application in a file attachment.

Applications will be submitted in English (Attachments can be in Hebrew) through the EasyChair system (see Page 5).

For your application, you will need the following details and documents:

1. Applicant information (Team Leader / Representative only)
   - Full name, ID number, e-mail address
   - Institution name (organization), Faculty/department
   - Estimated graduation date (MM/YEAR)
   - Name and e-mail address of Team supervisor(s)
   - Title: International Competition name + Student Team name
2. CV of the Team Leader / Representative (up to 2 pages)
3. List of all team members participating in the competition as listed in the Competition acceptance document (please add Excel file including the following fields: First name, Last name, ID number, E-mail address, Faculty/department).
4. Study certificates of the academic institution for the current semester for ALL team members (applicants).
5. Recommendation letter for the team from the team Supervisor(s).
6. Competition project summary:
   - Title of the International Competition, date, location, and website
   - Evidence of acceptance to the competition
   - Describe the competition goal, the team mission in the competition and acceptance process (up to 1 page)
   - Contribution to Smart Transportation (Smart Transportation Zero Externalities Vision)

When and Where to submit the application?

Applications should be submitted until 15.7.2022
Applications submitted after 15.7.2022 will not be considered.

Full application should be submitted through the **ISTRC website**.
This submission link will direct you to the EasyChair system.

After submitting the application, please make sure you receive a confirmation mail from EasyChair after submitting your application.
In case you do not have an EasyChair account, please create one, following the EasyChair system instructions.

Following the submission of an application, further details and clarifications may be required from the student to assist with the assessment of the application.

Applications must include all the items requested above. Incomplete applications might not be reviewed**.**

For questions and clarification, please see the Call and Q&A page on the ISTRC website or contact the Center Coordinator: Ms. Smadar Amir through istrc@technion.ac.il.

Assessment of applications and results

Eligible applications will be reviewed by a review committee established by ISTRC with at least five faculty members from at least five different institutions in Israel. Each application will be assessed by (at least) two experts.

Assessment criteria:
1. Letter of recommendation from the supervisor
2. Contribution of the project / seminar / paper to Smart Transportation (Smart Transportation Zero Externalities Vision)
3. Innovation level of the project / seminar / paper
4. Quality level of the project / seminar / paper / competition
5. Research achievement (for research Master and PhD students: papers, presentations in conferences, and others)

Results will be sent to the academic institution by the end of September 2022.

ISTRC will publish winners' names and project / seminar / paper titles, as well as supervisors' names on the ISTRC website.

Selected studies will be presented by the researchers at the center's workshops or conferences, if requested.

Financial reporting

The academic institution will receive a budget commitment letter allowing the institution to allocate the prize payment to the grantee.

The prize will be allocated to the academic institution after receiving the budget execution report (meaning that the institution has transferred the prize to the student), signed by the institution's finance manager, no later than 1.10.2023.

ISTRC is working under the terms and conditions of the Council for Higher Education Call. According to The Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC), no institutional overhead will be charged from this prize.

Application Information

The information you share in the process of the application will only be used by ISTRC reviewers for the purpose of assessment of your application.

To the extent that proposals include unique knowledge, the applicant undertakes to protect the rights arising from it in a timely manner. ISTRC will not be responsible for this.

ISTRC is working under the terms and conditions of the Council for Higher Education Call.

ISTRC is not and shall not be liable to the content of any proposal, to the performance of any research that has received funding from the ISTRC and for any implementation or use of the results generated in such research, either by the applicant or by any third party.