The Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center [ISTRC]

ISTRC Call for Scholarships 2023-24 תשפ"ד

Call publication: 2.4.2023

Final submission: ~~10.6.2023~~ EXTENDED 20.6.2023

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.

ISTRC's mission 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: https://istrc.net.technion.ac.il/.

ISTRC Vision

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

For this purpose, we define the **Vision of Zero Transportation Externalities** in three dimensions: Zero casualties, Zero delays, and Zero environmental harm (https://istrc.net.technion.ac.il/).

The center collaborates with all academic institutes 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 encourages 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 to encourage students at all levels and from various fields of knowledge.

ISTRC Scholarships are designed to achieve excellence as well as to increase the number of Israeli graduate students and researchers. The valuable research gained by supporting master and PhD students would contribute to **ISTRC's vision of Zero Transportation Externalities.**

Funding scope and duration

The ISTRC intends to publish a "Call for Scholarships" once a year, for the next two years. Students will be welcome to submit applications to extend the grant for another year in the next call, in compliance with budget constraints and ISTRC decisions.

The maximum budget for this year's scholarships is 1,158,000 NIS:
- Master students (Thesis track): 30,000 NIS each, for the academic year 2023-24 (תשפ"ד)
- PhD students: 36,000 NIS each, for the academic year 2023-24 (תשפ"ד)

Eligibility criteria

- An applicant must be a student or a future student (pending starting in שנה"ל תשפ"ד) in one of the academic institutes in Israel whose research is within the scope of smart transportation.

- An applicant can be in one of the following groups:
  1. A **Master** student with an approved thesis research topic
  2. A **Master** student without an approved research topic
  3. A Future **Master** student, pending starting no later than October 2023
  4. A **PhD** student with an approved research proposal (אחרי בחינת מועמדות)
  5. A **PhD** student before general exam (לפני בחינת מועמדות)
  6. A Future **PhD** student, pending starting no later than October 2023

How to apply?

The deadline for Submission to ISTRC is ~~10.6.2023~~ EXTENDED 20.6.2023.

Specifications for submission:

- Please submit your application through the EasyChair system HERE. Detailed information for submission can be found in the Submission Guidelines on the ISTRC website.

- Scholarship applications should be written in English.
- A full application should include:

    1. **Application information**:

        - Full name of applicant, ID number, e-mail address
        - Institute name, faculty/department
        - Research title and keywords
        - Name and e-mail address of supervisor(s)
        - Starting date of current degree studies (mm/year)
        - Expected graduation date (mm/ year)

    2. **CV** (including academic and research achievements, as publications, conference participation, awards etc.)

    3. **Transcripts of all academic degrees**, including final average per degree (גיליון ציונים וממוצע לתואר)

    4. **Approval of the Academic institution** regarding application for the grant (please see Appendix A). Future students (eligibility groups 3, 6) are not required to send this approval.

    5. **Research information** - please follow your eligibility group:

        For students in groups 1, 4, 5 (see above "Eligibility criteria")
        - Abstract and research plan (up to two pages)
        - Research progress report (up to one page – if no progress - then make a statement)
        - Letter of recommendation from the supervisor (s)

        For students in groups: 2, 3, 6 (see above "Eligibility criteria")

        - Research interest and planned studies (up to one page)
        - Recommendation letter from an active faculty member

    6. **Relevance to Zero Transportation Externalities Vision** - the candidate should demonstrate and explain the relevance of the research to the field of 'smart transportation', and the research potential to advance the center's vision of "Zero Transportation Externalities" (up to one page).

Following the submission of an application, further details and clarifications about the student's research may be requested from the student to assist with the evaluation of the application.

Applications must include all the above items. Incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline 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 proposals and results

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

Assessment criteria:
1. Academic achievement of the applicant according to all her/his record of studies, starting with the undergraduate studies
2. Research plan (as required for each eligibility group, see above)
3. Letter of recommendation
4. Relevance to smart transportation
5. Innovation level of the research
6. Research achievements, such as publications, conference participation, awards etc.

The assessment will be conducted separately for each eligibility group.

Results are expected to be sent to the scholarship coordinators in each academic institute by 1.10.23.

All winning applicants will receive the scholarship pending the academic institute's approval. Future students will need to send signed approval of the academic institute (see appendix A).

ISTRC will publish the winners' names and their research title, as well as the supervisors' names, on the ISTRC website and publications.

Academic reporting

Progress report (up to two pages) signed by the supervisor at the end of the academic year (end of August 2024).

A copy of the final / approved research report will be sent to ISTRC. The Research title will be listed on ISTRC list of publications, and the abstract will be published on the ISTRC website.

All publications generated from the research will include acknowledgment of ISTRC funding ([see here](#)). A copy will be sent to ISTRC.

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

Financial reporting

The academic institute will receive budget commitment letter allowing the institute to allocate the grant payment to the grantee.

The academic institute will receive the grant pending budget execution report, signed by the finance manager of the academic institute, no later than 1.10.2024.

ISTRC functions 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 for this grant.

Application Information

The information shared in the process of the application will only be used by ISTRC reviewers for the purpose of evaluation of your application.

The applicant undertakes to protect the intellectual property of his/ her application ISTRC will not be responsible for this.

ISTRC is not and shall not be liable to the content of any application, 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.

The Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center [ISTRC]

טופס אישור מוסד אקדמי להגשת מלגה עבור הקול הקורא:

ISTRC Call for Scholarships 2023-24 תשפ"ד

<u>לתשומת לב המבקש/ת</u>

- אנא קרא/י בעיון את הקול הקורא
- מלא/י את הטופס בדייקנות.
- בקשה שלא תענה לתנאי המלגה או הלוקה בחסר לא תידון.
- יש לצרף את כל המסמכים הנדרשים בהתאם להנחיות הקול הקורא:
  - קורות חיים של המועמד/ת (כולל רשימת פרסומים במידה ויש)
  - גליונות ציונים מכל התארים, כולל ממוצע סיום תואר
  - תקציר ותכנית מחקר (עד 2 עמ') *
  - * (לתלמידי תואר שני ללא נושא מחקר מאושר: יש להגיש Research interest and planned studies)
  - מכתב המלצה מהמנחה או מחבר סגל (במידה ועדיין אין מנחה קבוע)

שנה אקדמית: **תשפ"ד**

מוסד _____

פקולטה _____

1. פרטים אישיים

שם משפחה _____ שם פרטי _____ (עברית)

שם משפחה _____ שם פרטי _____ (לועזית)

תעודת זהות_____

כתובת דוא"ל _____

2. סמן את הסטטוס הלימודי שלך עבור הגשת המלגה הנוכחית:

☐ סטודנט לתואר שני מחקרי, עם נושא מחקר מאושר

☐ סטודנט לתואר שני מחקרי, ללא נושא מחקר מאושר

☐ סטודנט לתואר שלישי, לאחר בחינת מועמדות

☐ סטודנט לתואר שלישי, לפני בחינת מועמדות

3. לימודים אקדמיים

תעודה	מוסד	שנים

4. שמות מנחים וממליצים (יש לצרף מכתבי המלצה)

מוסד	תפקיד	שם

5. התחייבות המוסד האקדמי והמועמד/ת על קיום התנאים בהתאם לקול הקורא של המרכז הישראלי למחקר בתחבורה חכמה תשפ"ד 2023-24 ISTRC Call for Scholarships

אנו הח"מ מתחייבים לעמוד בכל תנאי תכנית המלגות כפי שמופיעים בהנחיות הקול הקורא.

חתימת המועמד/ת _____ תאריך _____ .

מורשה/ מורשי חתימה מטעם המוסד האקדמי:

שם _____ תפקיד _____

תאריך _____ חתימה _____