The Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center [ISTRC]

**ISTRC Call for Scholarships 2023-24**

**Call publication:** 2.4.2023  
**Final submission:** 10.6.2023

**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/](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/](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 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.

Specifications for submission:

- Please submit your application through the EasyChair system HER. 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 (ג.ones לולא)

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 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.
Appendix A

The Israeli Smart Transportation Research Center [ISTRC]

Call for Scholarships 2023-24

Stop filling out this form and return the completed application.

For the attention of the requester:

• Please read the text carefully.
• Make sure to fill out the form accurately.
• Do not answer the scholarship or funding requirements.
• Please submit all required documents according to the instructions provided in the text and:
  - Resume/curriculum vitae (including publication list if applicable)
  - Grade certificates from all subjects, including final grade for your degree
  - Research interest and planned studies (for master's level without a research topic approved: please submit a research interest and study plan)
  - Letter of recommendation from a supervisor or academic member (if applicable)

The deadline for submission is:

... (Academic Year 2023-24)

Name of Institution:

Subject:

Table 1. Personal Information

Name (Hebrew)  
_________________ ____________________
First Name Last Name

Name (English)  
_________________ ____________________
First Name Last Name

ID Card:

________________________________________________
________________________________________________

Email:

istrc@technion.ac.il

https://istrc.net.technion.ac.il/

Technion City, Haifa 32000, Israel
2. סמן את המטוטט של הלימודים שלך ע"ב הגשת המלגה הנוכחית:
☐ סטודנט לתואר שני מחקרי, עם נושא מחקר מאושר
☐ סטודנט לתואר שני מחקרה, ללא נושא מחקר מאושר
☐ סטודנט לתואר שלישית, סטודנט או בודד מטעם כתוב
☐ סטודנט לתואר שלישית,-Feb בודד מטעם כתוב

3. לימודים אקדמיים

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4. שמות מנחים וממליצים (יש לצרף מכתבי המלצה)

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5. התיחיבות המוסד האקדמי והמוסעה/ת על קיום התנאים בknife של הקורא של המרכז

ISTRC Call for Scholarships 2023-24

הישראלי למכתבי בוחרים בחומת ה防卫

אנ' הנ"מ מתיחיבי מועדים בעבודה בknife התילוג כי שמות补水 בknife הקורא הקורא.

חתימה המוס蛱/ת

________________________
שם

تاريخ

Morasha/Morash תחתימה מתמשכ המוסડ האקדמי:

________________________
שם

________________________
תפקיד

________________________
תאריך

Morasha/Morash תחתימה מתמשכ המוסડ האקדמי:

________________________
שם

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תפקיד

________________________
תאריך