

Klosterneuburg, February 5, 2019

Re: Offer of Admission to IST Austria

Dear Balázs Maga,

Congratulations! It is my pleasure to inform you that you have been admitted to the PhD program of IST Austria starting in the Fall of 2019.

This offer is contingent upon your successful completion of your studies as outlined in your application. If you are still in the process of completing your degree, please provide us with your final transcript/diploma before your start at IST Austria. The official start date is September 15, 2019.

I am enclosing the curricular requirements for PhD students for your information. All students are initially unaffiliated. Students with a Bachelor degree are by default on the long track. Students with a Master degree on the short track. If appropriate, you may apply to change tracks by December of your first year (see curricular requirements).

You will be employed and receive a salary with health insurance and social benefit coverage as long as you make reasonable progress towards the PhD degree. Please note that salaries are fully taxable in Austria.

	gross/month	net/ month (approx.)	gross/year
Phase 1: Bachelor	2 201	1 590	30 814
Phase 1: Master	2 438	1 715	34 132
Phase 2	2 675	1 840	37 450

PhD student positions at IST Austria are full-time employment and any sideline activities (including remuneration) as well as all existing IP connected to your research prior to joining the Institute must be disclosed initially and annually. Sideline activities may include, but are not limited to, consulting, entrepreneurial activity, or any other work done in addition to your position. Please note that this may include work or research for which you receive no payment.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you accept or decline our offer, but no later than March 15, 2019. Should we not hear from you by then, we assume that you do not accept our offer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Congratulations once again. We very much hope that you will decide to accept our offer and we look forward to hearing from you soon. Your contact persons in the Office of the Graduate School are Uli Seiss and Monica Sandberg, e-mail: gradschool@ist.ac.at.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'G. Tkacik', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gasper Tkacik
Program Chair

Curricular requirements for students entering in the Fall of 2019

Please note that curricular requirements are subject to change. We are currently in the process of revising the ECTS course credit assignments and the exact amount may change.

The start date of the PhD Program is September 15, 2019. All students are initially not affiliated with any research group. By default, students with a Bachelor degree are on the long-track, and students with a Master degree are on the short-track. Students may apply to change tracks (from short- to long- and in rare cases vice versa) by December of the first year.

Phase 1

(1) Attend 2 required core courses

- one interdisciplinary general core course (Fall semester)
- one discipline-specific track core course (Spring semester)

(2) Do three rotations with three different research groups. Students are encouraged to do at least one out-of-field rotation.

(3) A) Students on the long-track must obtain a total of 24 ECTS credits of elective coursework (in addition to the required core courses) and fulfill the breadth requirement. Up to 6 ECTS credits of elective coursework can be delayed until after the qualifying exam (phase 2). B) Students on the short-track can have up to 12 ECTS credits of elective coursework waived, meaning that in most cases they are only required to take 12 ECTS of elective coursework. Up to 6 ECTS credits of elective coursework can be delayed until after the qualifying exam (phase 2). Students on the short-track are not subject to the breadth requirement.

(4) Attend 2 introductory basic courses

- Introduction to Research at IST (Fall semester) and
- Scientific Presentation and Conduct (distributed throughout year 1)

(5) Affiliate with a research group, form a thesis committee and pass the qualifying exam:

	Short-track	Long-track
Affiliation window opens	May 1, 2020	May 1, 2020
Affiliation window closes	Jun 30, 2020	Jun 30, 2020
Affiliation deadline for exceptional cases*	Sep 15, 2020	Jan 15, 2021
Qualifying exam deadline	Feb 15, 2021	Sep 15, 2021

* This is the final deadline by which **all** students should have affiliated, including those who perform a 4th or 5th rotation.

Phase 2

(6) Complete biannual progress reports involving the PhD supervisor(s) and thesis committee.

(7) Complete a fourth-year research presentation.

(8) Act as a teaching assistant for at least one course before graduation.