Welcome!

We're delighted that you have decided to accept our offer to join the MSSS program! You do not need to give any other formal reply nor are you required to pay an admission deposit. Your email to us secures your spot. The rest of this letter is devoted to answering the typical questions many first-year students have.

1. How will I know what courses to register for/when will I register?

This summer, we’ll send you an email regarding our departmental orientation session which will be held early in the week of August 14th, the week before classes begin. At this session you’ll have the opportunity to learn more about our Fall 2017 classes and talk with our faculty about your fall schedule. By the end of this session you’ll be ready to register for the fall. Our support staff will be available to help you with that process if you need it.

2. How long does it take to complete the program?

The MSSS consists of 31 total credit hours and takes two years to complete. Some of our courses must be taken in sequence so it is difficult to make it any shorter than that.

3. How much does tuition cost?

One graduate credit hour for a non-resident (as of Spring 2017) is $1,184.15. Based on these rates, the cost for 31-credit-hours is $36,708.65. The mandatory fees (technology, transportation, student health, activity, repair & rehab) total $650.38 per semester. You can find current tuition rates here:

https://studentcentral.indiana.edu/pay-for-college/cost-of-iu/index.html
4. Is there funding available to me?

As stated in our offer letter to you, we are unable to guarantee funding for our MSSS students. However, there are opportunities for different sources of funding on campus. Here are two websites that will give you an idea of some of the jobs that exist on campus:

http://www.indiana.edu/~gradgrnt/

http://www.rps.indiana.edu/gradjobs.cfml

We are sometimes able to hire our MSSS students as teaching assistants. Unfortunately, we usually don't know until late in the summer if there will be funds available to hire additional TAs. There are a number of factors that we consider when placing students that affect your chance of being assigned as a TA. Course enrollments, meeting times, course content, and English proficiency are just a few.

There is also the possibility of working as a research assistant for faculty both within and outside the department. However, these jobs are harder to come by, particularly for first-year students.

We know that doesn't help you much but, consider this: in the last few years, we’ve had numerous students obtain positions both within and outside the department that provide both a stipend and a fee remission.

5. What are the housing options in Bloomington?

Indiana University has a variety of housing options available. Here is a link to the RPS website for information about on-campus housing:

http://www.rps.indiana.edu/index.cfml

There are many off-campus options, as well. Even though the following link is to the housing options page from the Office of International Services website, it has really good information for both international AND domestic students:

https://ois.iu.edu/living-working/housing/index.html

6. I am an international student. How do I find out information about my application and other things relevant to an international applicant?

Once we tell the Office of International Services (OIS) that we have admitted you they take over from there. From that point on you will need to communicate with them about your application, visa requirements, international student orientation, etc. By now, you should have received information from them about how to log in to iStart. You can use your 10-digit ID number to access your records in iStart. There is a lot of important information there and it changes as documents are submitted and approved. You should check your iStart account frequently!
can also contact OIA with questions by emailing newtoiu@iu.edu. The following website has information about supporting documents required of every international applicant:

https://ois.iu.edu/after-admission/index.html

If you have additional questions please don’t hesitate to contact us. We hope to see you here in the fall!

Sincerely,

Kelly Hanna
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