

Steps to joining MatSE at Illinois



Step 1: Accept your offer

- Accept your offer by **April 15**. To do so, respond to the Graduate College's official notice of admission decision once received.
- International students should also watch for an email from the Graduate College concerning issuance of a visa document (I-20).
- Got questions? Email matse-grad@illinois.edu.



Step 2: Pick your area of research

- Explore [MatSE at Illinois' research areas](#) and consider who you'd like to pick as your faculty research advisor/research group.
- Check out our [advice for selecting an advisor/research group](#).
- Start connecting with faculty/research groups of interest.
- You are encouraged to join a research group as early as possible, but you will need to notify the department of the faculty advisor/research group of your choice by **Oct. 1**.



Step 3: Watch your inbox

- We'll be sending key information for next steps in the process of your journey to MatSE at Illinois. Keep your eyes peeled for pertinent information from MatSE at Illinois, the Graduate College and/or the International Student and Scholar Services.
- Get ahead of the game by completing the steps outlined in the [Graduate College's Grad Map](#).



Step 4: Register for classes

- Use our [course guide](#) to choose your research path and get registered for classes.
- Make sure to include required MatSE courses upon registration. Check out our [degree requirements](#).



Step 5: Attend New Student Orientation

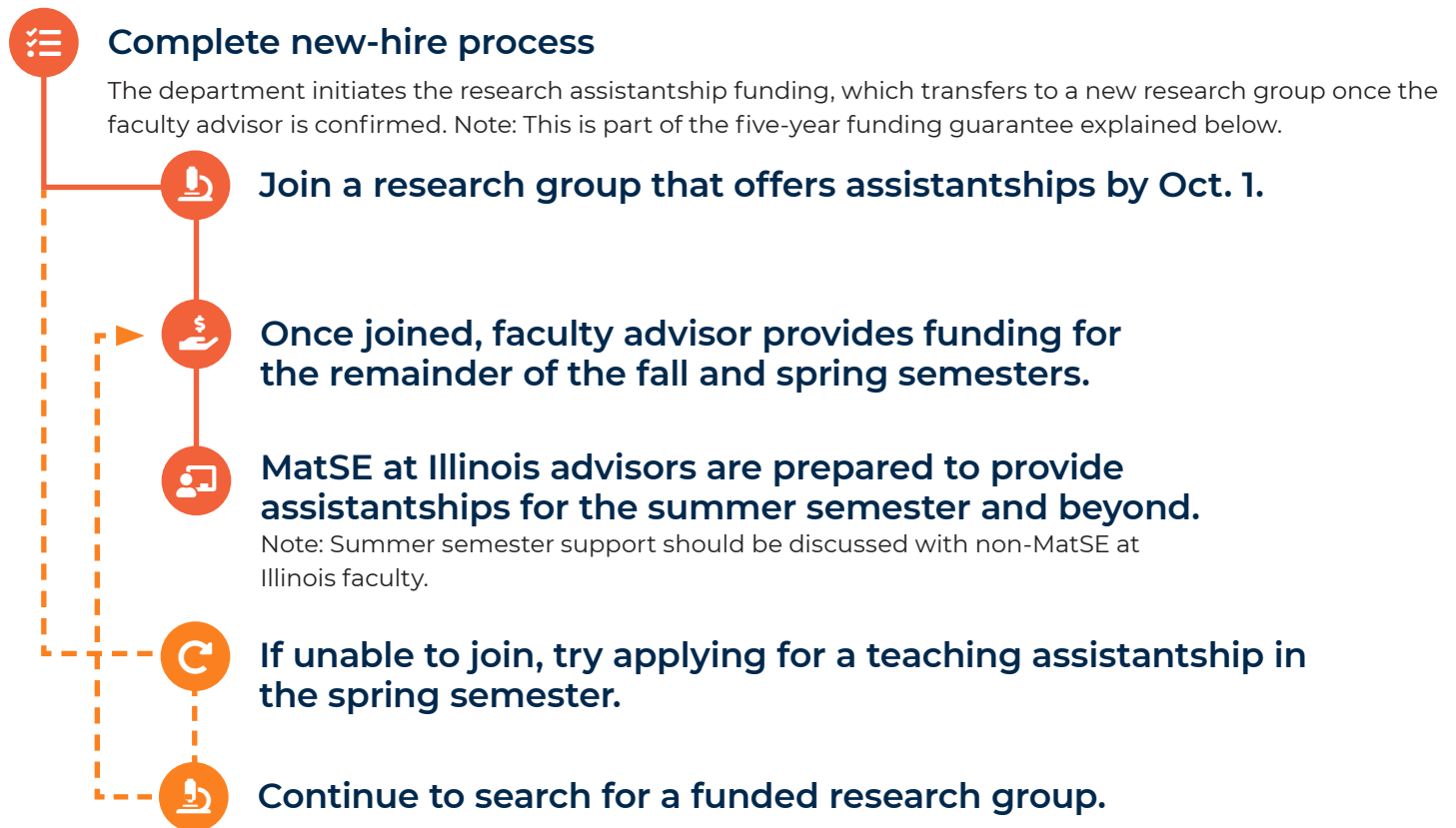
- Come see what the MatSE at Illinois family is all about during New Student Orientation. You'll find an array of resources and be able to explore our faculty's interdisciplinary research.
- International students will have an [additional orientation with ISSS](#).
- All international students are required to check in with ISSS upon arrival to campus.



Step 6: Complete assistantship check-in

- Before beginning an assistantship, you'll need to check in with MatSE at Illinois' Human Resources to complete employment paperwork, payment processing and other details.
- Arrive on campus and check in with MatSE at Illinois' HR by **Aug. 16**. International students should plan to arrive on campus by the program start date listed on I-20. If you're unable to check in by Aug. 16, contact the department in advance.

Your path to assistantships



Five-year Ph.D. funding guarantee

MatSE at Illinois offers a five-year funding guarantee to its doctoral students. This includes a full tuition waiver and a partial fee waiver.

