



**Department of
Physics & Astronomy**

Dear Patrick McCreery,

February 03, 2022

We are delighted to offer you admission into the graduate program at the Department of Physics and Astronomy at LSU. Our offer includes a full tuition waiver, plus a graduate teaching assistantship with a yearly stipend of \$26,000.00. We are impressed by your academic qualifications and accomplishments, and very much hope that you will join our program at LSU.

There are many reasons to join our department. Our research is top quality, and we benefit from strong ties to world-class facilities such as LIGO, CAMD, the LSU Center for Computation and Technology with access to several supercomputers totaling over 200 Teraflop capacity. We have excellent research groups in astronomy, astrophysics, atomic and optical physics, both theoretical and experimental condensed matter physics, general relativity, particle and nuclear physics, and quantum information. Baton Rouge is a mid-sized modern city that offers great distractions such as Mardi Gras, Cajun food, jazz, and football. Our winters are mild, and you can enjoy the beautiful LSU campus with its majestic live oak trees.

We would appreciate a reply from you as soon as you have made your decision and no later than April 15, 2022. Attached to this letter is a contract and returning the form with your signature indicates your acceptance. This offer is contingent on official approval by the LSU Graduate School, which might require further documentation (e.g., an updated transcript which shows your degree, immunization forms for foreign students).

Please, note that, while the tuition waiver is part of this offer, you are still responsible for paying the required University fees. The current fees schedule is at <https://www.lsu.edu/bgtplan/Tuition-Fees/fee-schedules.php>. Graduate students on tuition waivers are considered residents and are not required to pay the Nonresident Fee. The University has agreed to reduce these fees for the coming year, and further reductions are being negotiated. In addition, changes regarding registration during the summer will eliminate these fees for most graduate students during the summer term. Our Graduate Student Organization maintains a webpage with helpful information for incoming students discussing this, <https://physgradorg.wixsite.com/mysite/new-grad-student-resources>

We encourage you to contact us to ask the many questions that you likely have. For general questions on admission you can contact Paige Whittington at pwhittington@lsu.edu (225-578-1193; toll-free at 1-800-731-9909), or you can contact me at vekhter@lsu.edu (225-578-0598). For questions on particular programs of science issues you can directly write to any of our faculty (you can find their contact information at www.lsu.edu/physics/people/faculty/index.php) or ask me to put you in contact with the appropriate group.

Congratulations on being accepted, and we look forward to seeing you in August!

Sincerely,

Ilya Vekhter,
Chair, Graduate Assistantship Committee

Jeffery Blackmon, Chair
Department of Physics and Astronomy



**Department of
Physics & Astronomy**

Patrick McCreery,

February 03, 2022

The Department of Physics and Astronomy is pleased to offer you a graduate assistantship (50% effort, 20 hours per week). Your initial appointment will be for the 2022 Fall term beginning August 25, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. Your annual stipend will be \$26,000 and your tuition has been waived. In successive years, it may be renewed contingent upon your being a student in good standing in the Graduate School and a positive recommendation from the department. After the first year, students are encouraged to join a research group for summer support.

All graduate assistants must enroll and remain full-time students during the semester they are covered by an assistantship. Full-time enrollment in Graduate School is 9 hours in the Fall and Spring semesters, and 6 hours in the summer term. Graduate assistants are treated as state residents for fee purposes only. Note that, while the tuition waiver is part of the offer, you are responsible for paying all required University fees. For information on current tuition and fee schedules, please visit <https://www.lsu.edu/bgtplan/Tuition-Fees/fee-schedules.php>. You are expected to devote full time to your graduate program and the responsibilities of your graduate assistantship. The conditions of your employment as a graduate assistant include: (1) adequate performance of assistantship duties and (2) satisfactory progress toward the degree. The term satisfactory progress includes, but is not limited to, maintaining semester and cumulative grade point averages of at least 3.00, taking and passing examinations on schedule, and if applicable, working on your thesis or dissertation in a manner that meets the approval of your major professor. The chairman of the department will be the final authority for judging performance of duties.

Louisiana State University, as a member of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States includes the following resolution as part of this offer:

Acceptance of an offer of financial support (such as a graduate scholarship, fellowship, traineeship, or assistantship) for the next academic year by a prospective graduate or enrolled student completes an agreement, which both the student and Graduate School expect to honor. In that context, the conditions affecting such offers and their acceptance must be defined carefully and understood by all parties.

You are under no obligation to respond to offers of financial support prior to April 15, 2022; earlier deadlines for acceptance of such offers violate the intent of this Resolution. In those instances, in which a student accepts an offer before April 15, 2022 and subsequently desires to withdraw that acceptance, the student may submit in writing a resignation of the appointment at any time through April 15, 2022. However, an acceptance given or left in force after April 15, 2022 commits the student not to accept another offer without first obtaining a written release from the institution to which a commitment has been made. Similarly, an offer by an institution after April 15, 2022 is conditional on presentation by the student of the written release from any previously accepted offer.

Any intellectual property developed during your study on this award must be reported to LSU and the funding agency and its contractors. Your signature on this document acknowledges your agreement to abide by the Bylaws of the Louisiana State University A&M system, specifically Chapter VII as found here: <https://www.lsu.edu/innovation/faculty/policy/LSU-Regulations-Chapter-VII.pdf>, as well as all LSU Policies and procedures during your assistantship tenure. Graduate assistantship policy statement PS-21 can be found at https://www.lsu.edu/policies/ps/ps_21.pdf.

I also understand the responsibilities and requirements for being a graduate assistant at Louisiana State University. I affirm that I will enroll as a full-time student and maintain good academic and accountability standing at LSU. I agree to share with the advisor if my full-time student status, academic status, or accountability standing changes during the year.

If you accept this appointment, please sign below, and return one copy of this letter immediately to the department. Please note that this offer is also contingent upon your being accepted for regular admission by the Graduate School.

Signed on behalf of the Department , the Department Chair, Chair of the Assistantship Committee, the Graduate Student Advisor, or the Supervisor for a Research Assistantship.

ACCEPTED: _____

DATE: _____

DECLINED: _____