We are looking for highly motivated, hardworking, and self-driven PhD students to conduct research in the areas of applied cryptography and network security. We have (fully funded) multiple PhD positions starting from Spring or Fall 2022 at University of South Florida (USF).

**Funding:** All accepted Ph.D. students receive a yearly package worthy of approximately $60,000, which covers all the tuition, health insurance, fringe benefits, and a competitive monthly salary (low taxes and no state tax at FL). The summer teaching and industrial internship opportunities are also available.

USF is a Rank-1 Research University (rank 31 of CS departments at US public universities per according to Academic Analytics on Scholarly Research Index, top 8th for invention disclosures in the USA) and offers a competitive salary with an excellent working environment, all within a close proximity of high-tech industry and beautiful beaches of sunny Florida. Tampa/Orlando area is in Florida High Technology Corridor, and harbors major tech and research companies. The qualified candidate will have opportunities for research internship and joint-projects with high-tech companies. The candidate will work on the design, analysis and deployment of new cryptographic schemes and protocols in various practical application domains. Research topics include but are not limited to:

- **Trustworthy Machine Learning (TML)**
  - Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning
  - Adversarial Machine Learning
  - Distributed and Secure Systems

- **Trustworthy Blockchains**
  - Use of blockchain infrastructure to enhance cyber-security
  - Cryptographic protocols to enhance the trust and privacy on blockchains
  - Post-quantum secure blockchains

- **Secure Internet of Things and Systems (IoTs) and Generation Wireless Networks**
  - Light-weight cryptography for IoT
  - Cryptographic protocols for vehicular and UAV networks
  - Post-quantum secure IoTs

- **Privacy-Enhancing Technologies**
  - Secure Multi-party Computation
  - Distributed cloud security
  - Breach-Resilient Infrastructures (Protection of Genetic/Medical Data)
The qualified candidate is expected to conduct innovative research on the aforementioned areas based on their experience and research interests. It is also expected that the qualified candidate has a good background in Computer Science and Math (i.e., algorithm, data structure, number theory and algebra). Solid programming skills are also expected.

The candidate should fulfill the following requirements:

- A BS degree in ECE/CS with a high-GPA and research experience.
- Very good programming skills (e.g., C, C++), familiarity with Linux.
- Having prior courses on cyber-security is desirable.
- MS degree in ECE/CS/Math is a big plus (high-GPA, courses on cryptography and/or network security).
- Publications in security and privacy will be regarded as a plus but not required.

To apply please send (by e-mail) the following documents:

1. Transcripts
2. Curriculum vitae
3. Three reference letters (will be sent by referees during interview process)
4. Previous publications, if any

**Preferred Application Deadline**: ASAP for evaluation.

**Formal Application Deadline**: Please see below.

https://www.usf.edu/admissions/graduate/admission-information/requirements-deadlines.aspx

**Contact: Dr. Attila A. Yavuz**

E-mail: attilaayavuz@usf.edu

Webpage: http://www.csee.usf.edu/~attilaayavuz/

After pre-screening is done, if selected, you will be contacted for an online interview process.