

Rothschild Fellowships -Notes to Candidates

1. PURPOSE OF THE FELLOWSHIPS

The purpose of the Rothschild Fellowships is to help young scholars of outstanding academic merit and potential to advance in their respective fields.

The Rothschild Fellowships are awards towards postdoctoral study or research abroad.

Fellowships are structured to provide for one year of study abroad. In certain cases, recipients may choose to use fellowship funds over a two-year period.

NEW FELLOWSHIP MODEL

Applicants will be permitted to apply for a **Dual Location Rothschild Fellowship**. Under this model, the Rothschild Fellowship can be used to support several, non-consecutive periods of study abroad, in the form of a joint postdoctoral fellowship between an Israeli research group and a research group abroad, as described below in Section 2i.

Up to 22 Rothschild Fellowships will be awarded for the academic year.

Up to **thirteen** fellowships will be awarded in the Natural, Exact or Life Sciences and Engineering; up to **nine** will be awarded in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- a) Candidates must be a permanent resident of Israel.
- b) Candidates must have completed or be conducting their PhD at an accredited institution of higher learning in Israel.
- c) Candidates will be eligible only if the doctoral degree was awarded after November 2015 (in outstanding cases exceptions might be considered, and approval from the Secretariat needs to be obtained in advance).
- d) Candidates will be required to provide written confirmation from the relevant academic authorities that they have submitted the thesis before departing for their host institution.
- e) Candidates will be required to arrange for confirmation during the following year that they were awarded a doctoral degree.
- f) Recipient of a Rothschild Fellowship will be entitled to begin the fellowship only after 1 June, and may not begin the fellowship after 1 December.
- g) Only in exceptional circumstances will a person who has a tenure track position be considered for a Fellowship. A person holding a tenured position at an Israeli university will NOT be considered for a Fellowship.
- h) Persons beginning their postdoctoral studies abroad before June may not apply for the Fellowship. The Rothschild Fellowship may only be used to fund **the first period of postdoctoral study abroad**.
- i) **Dual Location Fellowship**

In some cases, a Fellowship may be awarded to candidates in the **Natural, Exact and Life Sciences and Engineering** who wish to carry out their research abroad over several non-consecutive periods, under the following conditions:

- The fellow will spend, in aggregate, at least twelve months in a research group outside of Israel. This may be done in non-consecutive periods of time over a three-year period during which the Fellow is a postdoctoral fellow at an Israeli institution.
 - The institution proposed by the candidate for his/her postdoctoral research may not be the same as the institution which granted the PhD. Likewise, the Fellowship will not support postdoctoral research with the same mentor who supervised the candidate's doctoral work.
 - Candidates must have full funding for the postdoctoral period spent in Israel.
- j) Candidates are required **to advise the University Academic Secretariat and the Rothschild Fellowships Secretariat whenever supplementary funds become available to them**. Candidates receiving supplementary funds of \$62,000 or more during the fellowship year will not be eligible for a Rothschild Fellowship.
- k) Partial grants will not be awarded.

3. TERMS OF THE FELLOWSHIPS

The fellowship provides a stipend, travel grant and family allowance.

- a) Amount of the Fellowship: NIS 160,000
- b) Travel grant for fellow and accompanying spouse:

Destination:	USA West Coast	NIS 25,000
	USA East Coast	NIS 18,000
	Europe	NIS 10,000

If the spouse has a travel grant from another source, or if the candidate is single, the grant will be half the above amount.

- c) Family allowance for family members who will accompany the Fellow:
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|-----------|-------------------|
| Spouse: | NIS 14,000 |
| Children: | NIS 20,000 / each |
- d) In order to enable candidates to negotiate multi-year matching funding from their host institution, candidates may opt to use the fellowship funds over a two-year period. In such a case, fellows will receive NIS 80,000 plus the family allowance and travel grant at the beginning of the first year, and a second payment of NIS 80,000 at the beginning of the second year.
- Fellows may split funding over two years provided the total annual funds available to them amount to at least \$40,000 and do not exceed \$82,000 in each of the two years (not including family allowance).
- e) Candidates splitting time between Israel and abroad will be able to use the funds only towards the costs related to time spent abroad.

4. APPLICATION FORM AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The application form and all supporting documents **must be submitted in English** to the university, according to the guidelines determined at each institution, along with a recent digital photograph embedded in the file. In addition, the following supporting documents, **in English**, are required:

- i. Curriculum vitae including the list of publications (according to the sample attached to the application form)
- ii. One or more letters of invitation/acceptance from the future host or host institution if available. The letter should be concise, and express the intention to serve as the future academic home of the candidate. It should not be a letter of recommendation.
- iii. **Two letters of recommendation** typed in English from two referees, at the request of the candidate. One of the referees should be the present or immediate past supervisor of the candidate. Candidates who have two doctoral supervisors are allowed to submit letters from both. These letters should be regarded as confidential and submitted by the referees directly to the university authority.

Referees are requested to a) compare the candidate to scientists and scholars in their field at a comparable academic stage; b) compare the candidate to other students with whom they have been in close contact; and c) whenever possible, compare to past recipients of the Rothschild Fellowship.

An additional letter of recommendation from a senior academic at another university, who is qualified to assess the applicant's current and proposed research, may be submitted. Candidates are highly encouraged to do so. None of the three letters should be from the future host of the candidate or from the department at which the candidate plans to conduct the postdoctoral research.

- iv. One or more letters of invitation/acceptance from the future host or host institution if available, if the candidate has already decided on the institution.
- v. One academic paper (preferably published) or dissertation chapter **in English** that the candidate has authored or co-authored, if available.

Consideration will be given only to complete applications.

A candidate pre-selected by the university will be required to upload his/her application and additional materials to the Yad Hanadiv web-portal as instructed by the university.

Some pre-selected candidates will be invited for an interview by the Rothschild Fellowships Committee. The interview will be conducted in English.