

# Azrieli International Postdoctoral Fellows

## Program Guidelines for Academic Year 2019-2020

The **Azrieli Fellows Program** promotes excellence in research and graduate studies at accredited institutions of higher learning in Israel. This prestigious and competitive program, established in 2007, provides financial support to the best and brightest scholars from Israel and around the world. These scholars become leaders in their respective fields and raise Israel's profile internationally, and maintain strong academic and professional links between Israel and the rest of the world.

The Azrieli Fellows Program welcomes candidates who wish to undertake postdoctoral research in Israel. Applicants must be Canadian citizens or have completed a doctorate at a Canadian university. The time candidates spend conducting research in Israel will provide them with valuable tools that will help them realize their professional goals through collaborative association with Israel's world-class academic institutions and researchers.

**Participating Israeli Institutions:**

The Israeli institutions at which Azrieli Fellows may pursue their research are:

1. Bar-Ilan University
2. Ben-Gurion University
3. Technion-Israel Institute of Technology
4. Tel Aviv University
5. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
6. University of Haifa
7. Weizmann Institute of Science

### Eligibility

- The Azrieli Fellows Program is currently open to scholars at the postdoctoral level who are **Canadian citizens** OR who have completed their **doctorates at Canadian universities**.
- Scholars may undertake postdoctoral research in **any field of study**.
- Candidates may apply at an early stage of their professional career and **no later than four years after conferral of their PhD Diploma**.
- Candidates **must not** hold a tenure or tenure-track faculty position.
- Scholars may apply in the last year of the PhD with a letter from the supervisor stating that the candidate will receive the doctorate by the summer.  
If the PhD is incomplete by the stated time then the candidate will forfeit the fellowship.
- A candidate may **reapply** to the Azrieli Fellows Program if he or she is not accepted. **Candidates will only be considered for reapplication one time.**

The fellowships are awarded on the basis of academic excellence. Candidates are assessed on their potential to make cutting-edge contributions to their respective fields. Aspects of leadership abilities and community engagement are also taken into consideration without regard to race, religion, gender, ethnicity or age.

Scholars who wish to apply must obtain an **academic sponsor**:

- The academic sponsor must be a faculty member at one of the seven participating Israeli academic institutions.
- Candidates **must** ensure that this sponsor is willing to actively support the research proposal because it is closely connected to and complements his or her area of expertise.
- Candidates must have a letter of written support from their academic sponsor illustrating the enthusiasm the sponsor has to actively collaborate on the proposed research.
- The Azrieli Fellows Program **will not** be able to process an application without an academic sponsor.

## **How to Apply**

1. Please visit the Azrieli Foundation website to apply online for the International Postdoctoral Fellowship <http://fellows.azrielifoundation.org/>
2. Candidates must obtain an **academic sponsor** who is a faculty member at one of the seven Israeli academic institutions. For available postdoctoral positions and potential sponsors see the following link:  
<https://www.academy.ac.il/Ads/?nodeId=940#>  
The academic sponsor should provide the candidate with a **letter of support** confirming acceptance and sponsorship of the candidate and illustrating his or her interest in actively collaborating on the candidate's research while in Israel.
3. Candidates must have two additional letters of reference from those familiar with their academic background. These letters should speak to the candidate's excellent academic performance and personal achievements. Once candidates have entered the referee contact details into the online application, the referees will receive an automatic email with instructions for submitting their recommendations.
4. Deadline for online application submissions is :  
**Tuesday, November 27, 2018.**

### **Value of the Fellowship**

The value of the fellowship is **ILS 145,000** annually. The Azrieli Foundation has no objection to the Fellow's receipt of additional research funds.

### **Duration of the Fellowship**

The duration of the fellowship is **for one year**, with the possibility of renewal for a second year. In specific fields, where the accepted period for postdoctoral research is longer than two years, the fellowship may be extended beyond two years, following review of the situation and agreement by the Foundation.

The fellowship is for research done at Israeli universities. One of the central goals of our fellowship program is to establish strong ties with the Israeli academic community and society. We therefore offer a full 12-month fellowship intended for research done in Israel throughout this period. If research collaborations require a Fellow to be away from Israel for some time, the period away from Israel should be no longer than **25%** of the fellowship period. It is expected that the major and significant portion of research be done in Israel.

## **Responsibilities of an Azrieli Fellow**

In order to maintain good standing, Azrieli Fellows will be required to sign a form committing themselves to the fulfillment of the following responsibilities:

### **1. Academic Excellence**

Fellows are obligated to maintain a high level of academic excellence throughout the program. The Fellow must submit progress reports as per the request of the Azrieli Fellows Program management. The reports will describe the research done up until that point and must be signed by the Fellow's academic sponsor who should also provide detailed comments.

### **2. Community Work**

Azrieli Fellows will be asked to volunteer **40** hours over the course of the year at an a-political or non-partisan program to be approved in advance and in writing by the Azrieli Fellows Program management. We are available to advise you regarding volunteer placement based on your area of interest, Hebrew language ability and location.

### **3. Participation in Program-sponsored Events**

In order to foster the exchange of ideas between Azrieli Fellows, both Israeli and International, and to maintain a sense of group identification, the program will sponsor several events during the academic year at which Fellows may socialize and share their research and study activities. These events include but are not limited to: the Fellows Opening Ceremony, the Azrieli Fellows Forums and an end-of-year Dinner.

### **4. Publications**

The work produced by the Fellows during the course of their research in Israel may be eligible for publication in a future on-line journal. Any written work published by the Fellows while participating in the program must acknowledge the support of the Azrieli Foundation in a written dedication. Fellows may also be asked to submit an abstract of their dissertation and published works to the Azrieli Fellows Program management for use in publicity material produced by the program and on the Foundation website.

## 5. Alumni Activities

Fellows will be part of a growing global community of Azrieli Fellows alumni. Fellows will be asked to share their experiences with others, to publicize the Program to their colleagues and to participate in information sessions for new candidates that may be held in their region. In the future, it is expected that alumni will assist in the selection process for incoming students.