

Rothschild Fellowships – 2015/2016

APPLICATION

Notes to Candidates

Please read the notes carefully, before filling in the attached form:

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. Given compelling academic reasons, doctoral candidates in the Humanities and Social Sciences may be considered for a fellowship, as described below.

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. In some cases, candidates may use the fellowship to support several, non-consecutive periods of study abroad, as described below.

Up to 22 Rothschild Fellowships will be awarded for the academic year 2015/2016.

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) The candidate must be a permanent resident of Israel.
- b) The candidate must have completed or be conducting his/her PhD at an accredited institution of higher learning in Israel.
- c) Postdoctoral candidates
 - i. will be eligible only if the doctoral degree was awarded after November 2011;
 - ii. will be required to provide written confirmation from the relevant academic authorities that he/she has submitted the thesis before departing for his/her host institution;
 - iii. will be required to arrange for confirmation during 2015/2016 that he/she was awarded a doctoral degree.

- iv.
- d) A recipient of a Rothschild Fellowship will be entitled to begin the fellowship only after 1 June 2015, and may not begin the fellowship after 1 December 2015.
- e) A person holding a tenured position at an Israeli university will NOT be considered for a Fellowship.
- f) Persons beginning their postdoctoral studies abroad before June 2014 may not apply for the Fellowship. The Rothschild Fellowship may only be used to fund **the first period of postdoctoral study abroad**.
- g) **Doctoral Candidates**
Given compelling academic reasons, the fellowship may be awarded to doctoral candidates in the **Humanities and Social Sciences** conducting their research at an Israeli University. In the pre-selection of doctoral candidates, the university should give special consideration to students for whom a one-year period of research and study abroad would contribute substantially towards their doctoral degree.
- h) **Candidates conducting non-consecutive periods of study abroad**
In exceptional 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 lab outside of Israel. This can be done in non-consecutive periods of time over a three year period, during which the Fellow is a postdoc at an Israeli institution.
 - The laboratory in Israel will not be at the institution where the candidate completed his/her PhD.
 - Candidates must have full funding for the post-doc period spent in Israel.
- i) 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 \$55,000 or more during the fellowship year will not be eligible for a Rothschild Fellowship.
- j) 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:
- Doctoral candidate – NIS 120,000 plus up to NIS 40,000 for tuition fees, where payable.
- Postdoctoral candidate, MD or DMD – NIS 160,000
- b) Travel grant:
- | | | |
|--------------|------------------|------------|
| Destination: | USA West Coast – | NIS 25,000 |
| | USA East Coast – | NIS 18,000 |

Europe –

NIS 10,000

for Fellow and accompanying spouse. 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:

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 \$75,000 in each of the two years (not including family allowance).

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; please use the **only** format provided at the end of this document
- ii. **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. 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.

A third (optional) 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.

- iii. 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, and will be held on 19 and 20 January 2015, for candidates in the Natural, Exact or Life Sciences and Engineering, and on the 17 March 2015, for candidates in the Humanities and Social Sciences.