

To:
Department/School Heads
Chairpersons of the PhD Committees

**Re: Call for Submissions – President's Scholarship for Students in the PhD Direct Track
Program– Academic Year 2024-2025**

During academic year 2024-2025 the Graduate Studies Authority - Bloom School will award 15 scholarships to doctoral students, studying in the direct track to PhD. The purpose of these scholarships is enabling the most outstanding students in this track to devote most of their time and effort to consecutive studies and research and to create appropriate conditions that will enable the successful completion of their doctoral degree within a four to five years period. The scholarship is per annum and exceptions will not be allowed.

Prerequisites for submitting a scholarship application

The scholarship is intended for candidates who will be accepted in the **first semester** of academic year 2024-2025 as regular students at the PhD direct track. The scholarship is pending the acceptance of the candidate to the PhD direct track only, and the Department/Faculty will not be eligible to a scholarship, in the event that the candidate is not accepted, as aforesaid. Candidate files will not be reviewed if submitted with missing documents and/or that fail to meet any of the direct track related prerequisites, as follows:

Students accepted to the direct track after completion of their bachelor's degree (first year at the direct track)

1. A candidate holding a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in Israel or abroad, who attained a final grade of at least 90 in each department of study/major.
2. Candidates should fulfill additional academic requirements, as determined by their department/school.

Students accepted to the direct track after completion of the first study year of their master's degree (second year at the direct track)

1. A candidate holding a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in Israel or abroad, who attained a final grade of at least 90 in each department of study/major.
2. A candidate who has completed in his/her first year of MA grade-earning courses in a scope equal to half of the curricula in the relevant department and attained a GPA of at least 90. It is required that one of these courses will be a seminar (or equivalent alternative, as approved by the department) with an earned grade of at least 90.
3. Candidates should fulfill additional academic requirements, as determined by their department/school.

Payments' distribution

Students accepted to the direct track after completion of their bachelor's degree (first year at the direct track), a total of 195,000 NIS, divided as follows:

First year (of the master's stage in the direct track)	23,000 NIS
Second year (of the master's stage in the direct track)	28,000 NIS
Third year (pending on an approved research proposal)	48,000 NIS
Fourth year	48,000 NIS
Fifth year	48,000 NIS

* In addition, awardees will be granted tuition scholarships for 5 years, according to the Graduate Studies Authority's regulations.

Students accepted to the direct track after completion of the first study year of their master's degree (second year at the direct track), a total of 172,000 NIS, divided as follows:

First year (of the master's stage in the direct track)	28,000 NIS
Second year (pending on an approved research proposal)	48,000 NIS
Third year	48,000 NIS
Fourth year	48,000 NIS

* In addition, awardees will be granted tuition scholarships for 4 years, according to the Graduate Studies Authority's regulations.

Process of qualified candidates' selection

Submission of candidacy for this scholarship during academic year 2024-2025 will be conducted in two rounds¹, i.e. two calls will be publicized. Candidates who will not be selected in the first round, will be moved automatically to the second round of selection.

In the first stage of the process, each department/school will be requested to provide to the Dean of Faculty a list of recommended candidates (ranked by priority, from first to last), with their respective files attached.

In the second stage, Deans of Faculties will inform the Dean of Graduate Studies and Bloom Graduate School with the Faculty's selected candidates, including a cover letter which indicates their ranking.

The Dean of Graduate Studies and Head of Bloom Graduate School will overview and approve the complete pool of President's Scholarship applications, subject to the institution's considerations and budget availability and taking into consideration the candidates' records.

The Dean of Graduate Studies' decision will take into consideration the faculties' ranking, nevertheless she will not be obliged to conform with their ranking.

¹ As per decisions accepted by the Institutional Scholarships Committee in its sessions dated 21.7.2011, 07.3.2012, 06.5.2015.

Criteria for selection of candidates

1. Academic distinction (transcripts+ certificate of entitlement to bachelor's degree).
2. Potential to be absorbed (on the long run) into academic cadres of higher education institutions.
3. High learning and research achievements, supported by recommendations and the candidates' CV.
4. The academic ranking of candidates among their course mates/ class.
5. Research experience gained over the course of the bachelor's degree: grades of research seminars and/or research guided by a researcher in the field and/or paid occupation as a research assistant.

Additional demands which are considered an advantage

1. Scientific publications in a refereed scientific journal
2. Active participation in scientific conferences
3. Community engagement and volunteering activities

Upon approval of the scholarship, scholarship recipients undertake the following obligations to the university:

1. To complete their PhD dissertation within 5 years at most, for Students beginning the direct track to PhD after completion of their bachelor's degree.
To complete their PhD dissertation within 4 years at most, for students beginning the direct track to PhD after completion of the first year of their master's degree.
2. Failure to comply with the scholarship terms will result in a requirement to re-imburse scholarship payments in their entirety.
3. To devote most of their time and efforts to research and engage in work subject to the supervisor's approval only.
4. In the event of termination of studies or failure to comply with academic standards, the student will be subjected to the scholarship regulations in effect at that time. Termination of studies will result in immediate cancellation of the scholarship and a requirement to re-imburse scholarship payments.

A candidate file shall include the following documents at the exact order:

1. Signed scholarship application.
2. CV .
3. Transcripts for first and second degrees.
4. certificate of entitlement for first degree/ diploma (if available).
5. A letter of certification from the candidate's academic institute of graduation, which indicates on the ranking of his/her overall average grade among his/her course/ class (if available).
6. Two well-reasoned recommendations that are focused on the candidate's research qualifications, excellence, justifications for being a well-deserved candidate, etc.
One recommendation is required from the PhD supervisor and the second from an

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additional faculty member, who is familiar with the candidate and his/her academic qualifications.

Faculties are requested to send their candidate files as a whole, using a single integrated PDF file for each candidate alone, via email: aabutbul@univ.haifa.ac.il, and enclose a cover letter which indicates the candidates ranking, signed by the Dean of Faculty.

Additionally, faculties should instruct each candidate to fill his/her details in the following [link](#)

Submission dates are as detailed below:

First round of submission of candidates by faculties- until 06.6.2024. Responses will be sent to faculties until 16.7.2024.

Second round of submission of candidates by faculties- until 21.7.2024. Responses will be sent to faculties until 28.8.2024.

*Since submissions are administered by faculties, candidates are advised to take notice of their specific faculty's advertised submission date.

Best Regards,



Prof. Irit Akirav

Dean of Graduate Studies and Head of Bloom Graduate School

Copies:

Prof. Ron Rubin, President

Prof. Gur Alroey, Rector

Deans of Faculties

Dr. Vardit Gerber, Vice Rector and Academic Secretary

Ms. Sigalit Rajuan, Administrative Head, Graduate Studies Authority and Bloom Graduate School
Administrative Heads of Faculties

Ms. Anat Abutbul, Head of PhD Scholarships and Aid Section, Graduate Studies Authority and Bloom Graduate School

Mr. Eran Beit Halachmi, PhD Scholarships and Aid Section, Graduate Studies Authority and Bloom Graduate School

Administrative Assistants to Department Heads