

May 16, 2024

To:
Department Heads/ School Heads
Chairpersons of Doctoral Degree Committees
Academic Faculty Staff Members

Re: Call for Submissions – Institutional Excellence Scholarships for Outstanding Doctoral Students
Academic Year 2024-2025- First round

The Graduate Studies Authority and Bloom School will award excellence institutional scholarships subject to meeting academic criteria in order to enable PhD students to devote their full time and efforts to writing their doctoral dissertation. The purpose of awarding the scholarships, if approved, is to create appropriate conditions that will enable students to fulfill their academic obligations within the period of the scholarship.

An institutional refereeing committee will review the applications and decide whether the student is entitled to a scholarship, based on academic criteria that apply to the applicants and subject to the availability of budgets. The committee is authorized to determine additional criteria for the awarding of scholarships.

Due to the "Iron Swords" war, submission of applications in academic year 2024-2025 will be conducted in two rounds:

1. **First round**- submission via an online system, which is due by **01.8.2024**.
2. **Second round**- This Submission will be administered by the Deans of Faculties alone, and is due by **15.11.2024**. It is intended to students, who **will be accepted to the PhD degree only after 01.8.2024**. An additional call will be publicized accordingly.

The scholarships are intended for students who practice their research at the University of Haifa alone. Submission of scholarship applications will be allowed **only after the execution of registration** for a doctoral degree in the University of Haifa for the academic year 2024-2025.

The following scholarships shall be granted during the academic year 2024-2025¹:

1. **"BAREKET" Scholarship** – 10 excellence scholarships of 240,000 NIS in total each.

Academic Year	Graduate Studies Authority-Bloom School's funding	Supervisor's funding
2024-2025	50,000 NIS	10,000 NIS
2025-2026	50,000 NIS	10,000 NIS
2026-2027	50,000 NIS	10,000 NIS
2027-2028	50,000 NIS	10,000 NIS
Total	200,000 NIS	40,000 NIS

Prerequisites

A. New doctoral students in the regular track beginning their studies in the first semester of year 2024-2025, who have been accepted as regular students until 01.08.2024. The scholarship shall be paid starting from the first semester of 2024-2025.

B. The supervisor's obligation to fund from his/her personal budget a matching scholarship of 10,000 NIS per annum, 4 years in total during academic years 2024-2025 to 2027-2028.

¹ According to the Graduate Studies Authority regulations, receiving "duplicate scholarships" will not be permitted.

הרשות ללימודים מתקדמים - בי"ס בלום
Graduate Studies Authority - Bloom School for Graduate Studies

2. **"KELIM SHLUVIM" scholarship**- 60 excellence scholarships of 240,000 NIS in total each.

Track A- Combined scholarship of **240,000 NIS** in total, awarded for **4 years**

<u>Academic Year</u>	<u>Graduate Studies Authority-Bloom School's funding</u>	<u>Supervisor's funding</u>
2024-2025	30,000 NIS	30,000 NIS
2025-2026	30,000 NIS	30,000 NIS
2026-2027	30,000 NIS	30,000 NIS
2027-2028	30,000 NIS	30,000 NIS
Total	120,000 NIS	120,000 NIS

Prerequisites

- A. New doctoral students in the regular track beginning their studies in the first semester of year 2024-2025, who have been accepted as regular students until 01.08.2024. The scholarship shall be paid starting from the first semester of 2024-2025.
- B. The supervisor's obligation to fund from his/her personal budget a matching scholarship of 30,000 NIS per annum, 4 years in total during academic years 2024-2025 to 2027-2028.

Track B- Combined scholarship of **180,000 NIS** in total, awarded for **3 years**

<u>Academic Year</u>	<u>Graduate Studies Authority-Bloom School's funding</u>	<u>Supervisor's funding</u>
2024-2025	30,000 NIS	30,000 NIS
2025-2026	30,000 NIS	30,000 NIS
2026-2027	30,000 NIS	30,000 NIS
Total	90,000 NIS	90,000 NIS

Prerequisites

- A. Doctoral students in the regular track who began their studies in the first or second semester of year 2023-2024 (i.e., year 2024-2025 is their second year of study).
- B. Doctoral students in the direct track to PhD beginning their doctoral stage of studies (stage B, following the approval of their research proposal) in the first semester only of academic year 2024-2025, and do not receive the President's Scholarship for Students in the PhD Direct Track.
- C. The supervisor's obligation to fund from his/her personal budget a matching scholarship of 30,000 NIS per annum, 3 years in total during academic years 2024-2025 to 2026-2027.

Criteria for selection of candidates

Academic distinction on the basis of:

- Consecutive course of studies and potential to be absorbed (in the long run) into academic cadres of higher education institutions.
- High learning and research achievements, supported by recommendations and the candidates' CVs, as well as their academic ranking among their course mates/ class.
- The importance of the research, its degree of uniqueness and innovation.
- Theoretical/ methodological/ applicative contribution of the research.
- Academic/ humane/ social breakthrough.

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

- In the regular track- to complete their PhD dissertation within 3 or 4 years from the beginning of the doctoral degree.

הרשות ללימודים מתקדמים - בי"ס בלום
Graduate Studies Authority - Bloom School for Graduate Studies

In the direct track to PhD- to complete their PhD dissertation within 3 years from the beginning of the doctoral degree, stage B.

2. In the regular track- Approval of their research proposal no later than after the end of four semesters, counting from the semester of admission to PhD studies.
3. 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 reimburse scholarship payments.
4. To open a bank account in Israel. Scholarship installments will be transferred to this account.
5. Finding that false information provided by the student has served as a basis for awarding the scholarship and/or failure to notify the University of changes in information provided as part of the scholarship application, may result in revoking the scholarship.

First round- Submission via the online system only

Process of qualified candidates' selection

1. An institutional scholarship committee will review the candidates' data.
2. The Dean of Graduate Studies and Head of Bloom School will approve the scholarship applications, taking into consideration the candidates' records, on a competitive basis, and according to the institution's considerations and budget availability.
3. The scholarship committee will not review applications that fail to meet the above-mentioned prerequisites.

Submission process

Candidates will submit their application using an online form, through the following [link](#).

Access to the online system can be gained only after the payment of PhD degree registration fee by the student, in accordance with the details below:

- Candidates who are Israeli citizens will register by this [link](#).
- International candidates will register by sending an email message to: mbarky@univ.haifa.ac.il.

Please note: **Payment of PhD registration fee is due as early as 10 days before filling out the application in the online system**, since processing the payment prompts the log-in password for the online system. **It will not be possible to fill out an application unless you have the password available.**

The following documents need to be prepared in advance for uploading to the online system

1. CV in a structured format- a [link](#) to a structured CV form is available in the online system.
2. Copies of diplomas/ certificates of entitlement for first and second degrees.
3. Transcripts for first and second degrees.
4. A letter of certification from the candidate's academic institute of graduation to master's degree, which indicates the ranking of his/her overall average grade among his/her course/ class (if available).
5. A description of the research plan (limited to 300 words), the importance of the research, its uniqueness and innovation (limited to 300 words), theoretical/ methodological/ applicative contribution of the research (limited to 300 words), academic/ human/ social breakthrough (limited to 300 words).
6. Signed personal declaration (The [link](#) to a form is available in the online system).
7. Recommendations- Insert the personal details of your recommenders on the online form:
Name; Family Name; up-to-date Email Address.

Requests for recommendation will be sent by the online system directly to the recommenders, who were named by the student.

Your attention that recommendations are required from each of the PhD supervisors and one from an additional faculty member, who is familiar with the candidate and his/her academic qualifications. The online system will be accessible to supervisors for uploading their recommendations until **01.08.2024**.

Emphases to candidates for filling out the scholarship application

1. The last date for submission of applications is **1.8.2024 till 23:59**.
Later than this date, the online form will be blocked and sending applications will not be possible.
2. It is not possible to upload complementary documents after the form has been submitted and the candidate received a confirmation for sending. Candidate files with missing documents will not be reviewed, therefore it is advisable to be prepared in advance with every required document.
3. It is **not** possible to apply for "BAREKET" scholarship and/or "KELIM SHLUVIM" scholarship and to perform registration at the same time. According to the aforesaid, **registration to PhD is due as early as 10 days before filling the application in the online system**, for the purpose of receiving the log-in password to the online system, which is necessary for gaining access to the scholarship application process.
4. Upon completion of the online form, applicants need to press the "Submit" button. In response to this action, the applicant will receive an email confirmation for his/her submission. Not receiving an application confirmation means that the form has not been recorded in the online system and therefore the application will not be processed.
5. After the online form has been recorded, automatic email notifications will be sent to the student's recommenders for uploading their recommendations to the form. Upon uploading a recommendation, the recommender will receive a confirmation of receipt by email, and the candidate will be notified by email of the received recommendation.
6. The Graduate Studies Authority and Bloom School are publishing an additional call (Bloom Scholarship) in parallel. Filling out the online application for the institutional excellence scholarship is for this particular scholarship only.
7. Students who are interested to apply for the Bloom Scholarship will be required to use a specific online form, which is assigned to it, as per the dedicated call for the Bloom Scholarship.
8. Institutional Excellence Scholarship recipients will not be entitled to additional scholarship funding.

Best Regards,



Prof. Irit Akirav

Dean of Graduate studies and Head of Bloom Graduate School

Copies:

Prof. Ron Rubin, President

Prof. Gur Alroey, Rector

Mr. Sharon Zaid, Vice President and CEO

Ms. Anat Baron, Chief Financial Officer

Deans of Faculties

Ms. Sigalit Rajuan, Administrative Head, Graduate Studies Authority-Bloom School

Administrative Heads of Faculties

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

Mr. Eran Beit Halachmi, Coordinator of PhD Scholarships Section, Graduate Studies Authority-Bloom School

Administrators of Departments