

May 16, 2024

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

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

We are pleased to announce that on the academic year 2024-2025 the Bloom Graduate School will award **12** competitive scholarships to doctoral students from all disciplines.

The Bloom scholarships are the most prestigious scholarships awarded to PhD students at the University of Haifa. They are granted on individual excellence in studies and scientific research.

The purpose of the scholarships is to enable outstanding students to devote most of their time and effort to consecutive studies and research and to create appropriate conditions that will enable them to complete their doctoral dissertation within a four-year normative period, as set by the academic regulations.

In view of the aforesaid, supervisors are encouraged to apply careful and strict judgment in the selection of candidates for this scholarship and to recommend the most excellent students, whose contribution and importance to scientific research are expected to be highly notable.

The Bloom scholarships are intended for students who practice their research in the University of Haifa alone, do not receive other academic scholarships and do not engage in any work with the exception of a work that is related to better qualify them for their doctoral research.

Recommendations of faculty members provided to student applicants should attend to the following aspects: The research area, its scientific importance, originality, innovation and expected contribution to the field. They should also point out the academic achievements of the candidate.

Enclosing recommendations and a supervisor obligation for matching funding is a mandatory part of an applicant submission.

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.

Allocated scholarship funds

The scholarships of 340,000 NIS each, will be awarded for the 4 years term of doctoral dissertation preparation. From the before-mentioned amount, 75,000 NIS per annum will be awarded by the Graduate Studies Authority- Bloom School, whereas the supervisors will be required to add 10,000 NIS per annum from their own research budget, in reference to a financial obligation that they will undertake in advance by filling an emailed online form.

Requests for dividing the matching according to different amounts or times or for reduction of the matching amount will

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be turned down.

Review of candidate files will be pending the acceptance of the recorded confirmation of the supervisor via an online form, attesting to his/her willingness to carry on his/her financial obligation and to the committed matching amount.

Criteria for the Selection of Candidates

1. Academic excellence that will be reflected in active conference participation, award-winning and publication of articles.
2. Potential to be absorbed (in the long run) into academic cadres of higher education institutions (continuity of studies).
3. High learning and research achievements, supported by recommendations and the candidates' CVs, as well as their academic ranking among their course mates/class.
4. The importance of the research, its uniqueness, originality, and innovation.
5. Theoretical/ methodological/ applicative contribution of the research.
6. Academic/ human/ social breakthrough.
7. Publications- Published/Accepted/ submitted articles/ book chapters. In the list of publications, you should note the journal's name, names of authors according to their order of appearance, the title of the article, year, volume and page numbers, the language of publication. For each article, you should note the quartile (between Q1 to Q4) and impact factor. If there is no impact factor, you should state this clearly. The listed articles should be sorted to categories: Published, in press, submitted & in preparation. Please add internet links (if exist) to each publication. In the case of a chapter in a book or a book, indicate the publisher.

Prerequisites for submitting a scholarship application (meeting all of the following criteria is essential)

1. New doctoral students beginning their studies on the first semester of 2024-2025, that have been accepted as regular students in the regular PhD track.
2. Active presentation in a scientific conference or publication/ submission of an article/ book chapter.
3. Entitled to Master's degree magna cum laude or summa cum laude (certificate of entitlement should be attached).
4. Attained a final average grade in Master's degree which is equal to 90 and above (transcripts for second degree should be attached).

Commitments of the student after a scholarship is approved:

1. To complete the PhD dissertation within a consecutive time course which will not exceed 4 years from the beginning of the doctoral degree.
2. To devote most of his/her time and effort to research and to work only after obtaining the approval of the supervisor.
3. Approval of his/her research proposal on time, and no later than after the end of four semesters, counting from the semester of admission to PhD studies.
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.
5. To participate in a variety of activities that are organized by the Bloom School of Graduate studies, including the training apparatus activities.
6. To open an Israeli bank account. Scholarship payments will be transferred only to this account.

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7. Finding that false information provided by the student has served as a basis for awarding the scholarship and/or failure to notify the University on changes in information provided as part of the scholarship application, will result in revoking the scholarship.

First round- Submission via the online system only

Process of qualified candidates' selection

- A special scholarship awards committee will review the applications and will approve the scholarship applications in their entirety, taking into consideration the candidates' records, on competitive basis, and subject to the institution's considerations and budget availability.
- Applications that fail to meet the above-mentioned prerequisites will not be reviewed.

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 according to the instructions below:

Candidates who are Israeli citizens will register by this [link](#).

International candidates will register to PhD degree by sending an email to: mbarky@univ.haifa.ac.il.

Payment of PhD registration fee is due as early as **10 days** before filling 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 a scholarship application unless you have the password available.

The following documents need to be prepared in advance for uploading them to the online system. Your attention that the documents are to be submitted in English only

1. A document attesting to active participation in an international or local scientific conference as first speaker, or a copy of the first page of an article/ book chapter, that has been published/ submitted.
2. Certificate of entitlement to a Master's degree in distinction.
3. Copies of diplomas/ certificates of entitlement for first and second degrees.
4. Transcripts for first and second degrees.
5. CV in a structured format- a [link](#) to a structured CV form is available in the online system.
6. A letter of certification from the candidate's academic institute of graduation to master's degree, which indicates on the ranking of his/her overall average grade among his course/class.
7. A description of the expected 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).
8. Signed personal declaration (The [link](#) to a form is available in the online system).
9. 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.

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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 academic qualifications. The deadline for sending recommendations is **1.8.2024**.

Emphases to candidates for filling 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. The form is to be submitted in English only.
4. It is **not** possible to apply for Bloom 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. The Bloom Scholarship's online form is intended only for this scholarship. Students who are interested to apply for the Institutional Excellence Scholarship will use a separate form, which will be attached to a separate call.
8. Bloom Scholarship recipients will not be entitled to additional scholarship funding.

Best Regards,



Prof. Irit Akirav
Dean, Bloom School for Graduate Studies

Copies:

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Prof. Gur Alroey, Rector
Mr. Sharon Zaid, Vice President and CEO
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