

September 11, 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- Second round “Iron Swords”**

The Graduate Studies Authority-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, we have launched a second round for the 2024-2025 scholarship, which is intended solely to students, who were accepted to the PhD degree after 01.8.2024. submission of applications is administered by the faculties. The last date for submission of applications **through the faculties** is 17.11.2024.**

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 academic year 2024-2025.

The following scholarships shall be granted during academic year 2024-2025<sup>1</sup>:

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

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Graduate Studies Authority-Bloom School's funding</b>	<b>Supervisor's funding</b>
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>200,000 NIS</b>	<b>40,000 NIS</b>

**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 **after** 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.

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

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

<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
<b>Total</b>	<b>120,000 NIS</b>	<b>120,000 NIS</b>

#### 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 **after** 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.

#### Criteria for selection of candidates

Academic distinction on the basis of:

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

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

1. To complete their PhD dissertation within 4 years from the beginning of the doctoral degree.
2. 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.

#### Second round "Iron Swords"- Submission via Faculties

##### Faculties Process of qualified candidates' selection

1. Each department/school will submit to the Dean of Faculty a list of recommended candidates (ranked by priority, from first to last), with their respective files attached. **Submission dates of the Departments to their Faculty will be determined by the Dean of Faculty.** The departments should keep to this date.
2. Deans of Faculties will inform the Dean of Graduate Studies and Head of Bloom Graduate School with the Faculty's selected candidates, including a cover letter which indicates their ranking.
3. The Dean of Graduate Studies and Head of Bloom Graduate School will overview and approve the complete pool of scholarship applications, according to the candidates' records, on competitive basis and subject to the

institution's considerations and budget availability. The Deans' decision will take into consideration the faculties' ranking, nevertheless she will not be obliged to conform with their ranking.  
Applications that fail to meet the above-mentioned prerequisites will not be reviewed.

### **Submission process and required documents for the second call:**

Candidates are to submit their applications to their departments only. Submission of applications in the second round is administered by the faculties, therefore candidates are advised to take notice of their specific faculty's advertised submission date.

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

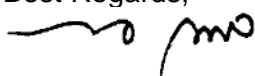
1. CV ([link](#) to a structured CV form)
2. A document certifying the candidates' acceptance to PhD studies, **later** than 01.08.2024.
3. An undertaking letter, signed by the student's supervisor, where he/she undertakes to pay a matching to the BAREKET scholarship of 40,000 NIS from his/her research budget, or a 120,000 NIS matching to the KELIM SHLUVIM scholarship. The supervisor is required to commit in advance to carry on with the annual payment of 10,000/30,000 NIS, during the 4-year term of the scholarship, academic years 2024-2025 to 2027-2028. (template for [undertaking letter](#)).
4. Copies of diplomas/ certificates of entitlement for first and second degrees.
5. Transcripts for first and second degrees.
6. 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).
7. Signed personal declaration (A [link](#) to the declaration form).
8. Recommendations 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 Excellence Institutional Scholarship's application process is intended only for this scholarship. Students who are interested to apply for the Bloom Excellence Scholarship will be required to submit a separate application for the later, and according to a call that will be publicized separately.

Institutional Excellence Scholarship recipients will not be entitled to additional scholarship funding.

The deadline for submission of applications through faculties is **17.11.2024**.

Best Regards,



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

### **Copies:**

Prof. Ron Rubin, President  
Prof. Gur Alroey, Rector  
Prof. Irit Akirav, Dean, Bloom School of Graduate Studies  
Mr. Sharon Zaid, Vice President and CEO  
Deans of Faculties  
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Ms. Anat Abutbul, Head of PhD Scholarships Section, Graduate Studies Authority-Bloom School  
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