

September 11, 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- Second round "Iron Swords"**

In academic year 2024-2025 the Bloom Graduate School will award 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, 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.**

**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 by signing an obligation form (The form is located at the Forms tab of the Graduate Studies Authority-Bloom School's website).

Requests for dividing the matching according to different amounts or times or for reduction of the matching amount will be turned down.

Review of candidate files will be pending the acceptance of a written confirmation, attesting to the supervisor's 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 later than 01.8.2024** 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 in a timeline, which will not exceed 4 consecutive 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.
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.

#### **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.

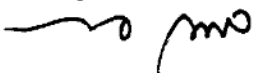
**The following documents need to be sent to the department as a single PDF file, before the last date set by the department:**

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

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:

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