

Rothschild Fellowships – 2021/2022 Guidelines for Universities

1. GENERAL

The Rothschild Fellowships are awards towards postdoctoral study or research abroad.

The purpose of the Rothschild Fellowships is to help young scholars of outstanding academic merit and potential to advance in their respective fields, with the aim of enhancing their prospective contribution to academic and scientific life in Israel. It is expected that Rothschild Fellows will return to Israel upon completion of their research and study abroad.

Fellowships are provided for one year of study abroad.

Applicants may also apply for a **Dual Location Rothschild Fellowship**. Under this model, the Rothschild Fellowship can be used to support several, non-consecutive periods of study abroad, in the form of a joint postdoctoral fellowship between an Israeli research group and a research group abroad, as described below in Section 2f.

Up to 23 Rothschild Fellowships will be awarded for the academic year 2021/2022.

Up to **fourteen** Fellowships will be awarded in the Natural, Exact or Life Sciences and Engineering; up to **nine** will be awarded in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Accordingly, Universities are requested to submit two separate groups of candidates:

- a) Natural, Exact or Life Sciences and Engineering
- b) Humanities and Social Sciences

2. ELIGIBILITY

- a) The candidate must be a permanent resident of Israel.
- b) The candidate must have completed or be conducting his/her PhD research at an accredited institution of higher learning in Israel.
- c) Candidates will be eligible only if the doctoral degree was awarded after November 2017 (in outstanding cases exceptions might be considered, and approval from the Secretariat needs to be obtained in advance).
- d) Only in exceptional circumstances will a person who has a tenure track position be considered for a Fellowship. A person holding a tenured position at an Israeli university will NOT be considered for a Fellowship.

- e) Persons beginning their postdoctoral studies abroad **before June 2021 may not apply** for the Fellowship. The Rothschild Fellowship may only be used to fund **the first period of postdoctoral study abroad**.

f) **Dual Location Fellowship**

In some cases, a Fellowship may be awarded to candidates in the **Natural, Exact and Life Sciences and Engineering** who wish to carry out their research abroad over several non-consecutive periods, under the following conditions:

- The fellow will spend, in aggregate, at least twelve months in a research group outside of Israel. This may be done in non-consecutive periods of time over a three-year period during which the Fellow is a postdoctoral fellow at an Israeli institution.
- The institution proposed by the candidate for his/her postdoctoral research may not be the same as the institution which granted the PhD. Likewise, the Fellowship will not support postdoctoral research with the same mentor who supervised the candidate's doctoral work.
- Candidates must have full funding for the postdoctoral period spent in Israel.

Candidates who are invited to an interview will be asked to indicate if they intend to use a **Dual Location** Fellowship. Candidates are not obliged to indicate any preference at the time of application.

- g) Candidates are required to advise the University Academic Secretariat and the Rothschild Fellowships Secretariat whenever supplementary funds become available to them. Candidates receiving supplementary funds of \$65,000 or more during the fellowship year will not be eligible for a Rothschild Fellowship.

- h) Partial grants will not be awarded.

3. TERMS OF FELLOWSHIPS

- a) Amount of the Fellowship: NIS 180,000

- b) Relocation grant for fellow and accompanying spouse:

Destination:	USA West Coast	NIS 25,000
	USA East Coast	NIS 18,000
	Europe	NIS 10,000

Single candidates will be awarded half of the above amount.

- c) Family allowance for family members who will accompany the Fellow:

Spouse:	NIS 20,000
Children:	NIS 25,000 / each

- d) Candidates splitting time between Israel and abroad under the dual location scheme will be able to use the funds only towards the costs related to time spent abroad.

4. STEPS TO BE TAKEN BY THE UNIVERSITY

a) **Publicity**

The university is asked to give the widest possible publicity to the Fellowships, including all information contained in the foregoing paragraphs 1, 2 and 3; the final date for submission of applications; the notes to applicants attached herewith; and any other information deemed relevant by the university.

Copies of announcements and other types of publicity about the Fellowships should be sent to the Secretariat of the Rothschild Fellowships.

b) **Receipt of applications**

The university should receive the applications and supporting documents of the candidates, **typed in English**, as described below in section 5.

c) **Pre-selection**

The universities are requested to pre-select candidates.

d) **Letters from the Rector of University**

The Rector of the university is requested to write two separate letters to the secretariat of the Rothschild Fellowships, one for up to **twelve** candidates in Natural, Exact or Life Sciences and Engineering, and another for up to **eight** candidates in Humanities and Social Sciences. A university submitting a candidate under the category 'Dual Location Fellowship' will be entitled to submit thirteen candidates in the Natural, Exact or Life Sciences and Engineering category. Each letter should include the following:

- i) A list of pre-selected candidates, academic disciplines, **and departmental affiliation**. Please alphabetize the list and refrain from ranking.
- ii) Please prepare a list of candidates pre-selected and a list of candidates NOT pre-selected, **according to the Excel table attached**. This list should include **all the names of candidates** who submitted the forms to their department, faculty or directly through the Academic Secretariat.

Letters (including the lists) should be submitted in electronic form only.

5. APPLICATION FORM AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Each candidate file should include:

- a) An electronic copy of the Application Form with a recent digital photograph embedded in the file
- b) A curriculum vitae including the list of publications (according to the sample attached to the application form)

- c) One or more letters of invitation/acceptance from the future host or host institution if available. The letter should be **concise** and express the intention to serve as the future academic home of the candidate. **It should not be a letter of recommendation.**
- d) **Two letters of recommendation** typed in English from two referees, at the request of the candidate. One of the referees should be the present or immediate past supervisor of the candidate. Candidates who have two doctoral supervisors may submit letters from both. These letters should be regarded as confidential and submitted by the referees directly to the university authority.

Referees are requested to (i) compare the candidate to scientists and scholars in their field at a comparable academic stage; (ii) compare the candidate to other students with whom they have been in close contact, and (iii) whenever possible, compare to past recipients of the Rothschild Fellowship.

- e) **An additional letter of recommendation** from a **senior** academic at another university, who is qualified to assess the applicant's current and proposed research, may be submitted. Candidates are highly encouraged to do so. None of the three letters of recommendation should be from the future host of the candidate or from the department at which the candidate plans to conduct the postdoctoral research.
- f) One or more letters of invitation/acceptance from the future host or host institution **if available**, if the candidate has already decided on the institution.
- g) One academic paper or article (preferably published) or dissertation chapter in English that the candidate has authored or co-authored, if available. The article should **indicate clearly** the name and issue of the journal where it was published or accepted for publication.

Applications to the Rothschild Fellowships 2021/2022 may **only** be submitted electronically. Universities will receive a link to a secure website through which the applicants will be required to upload their applications and all supporting documents.

Letters of recommendation must be uploaded by university staff.

We will be happy to provide university administrators with any help they may require in submitting applications. Please feel free to contact Ms. Natania Isaak-Weschler with any questions.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

The two separate Rector's letters as well as the applications and supporting documents for both Committees should reach the Secretariat **no later than 5 November 2020**.

Telephone: 02-5665107, extension 310 (or 02-6330310, direct line)
natania@yadhanadiv.org.il

6. NOTIFICATION TO CANDIDATES

- a) Candidates not pre-selected should be so advised by the university (Academic Secretariat), as soon as possible, including those whose candidacy was disqualified at the department or faculty level.
- b) Candidates invited to an interview will be notified by the university. Please note that interviews will be held on 18 and 19 January 2021 for candidates in the Natural, Exact and Life Sciences and Engineering, and on 9 March 2021 for candidates in the Humanities and Social Sciences.
- c) Upon receipt of notifications from the Secretariat, the university should advise candidates who have not been invited for an interview to that effect.
- d) Candidates invited for an interview, but not awarded a Fellowship, will receive notification from the Rothschild Fellowships Secretariat.
- e) Candidates awarded a Fellowship and their respective universities will receive notice thereof from the Rothschild Fellowships Secretariat at the earliest opportunity.