

Rothschild Fellowships 2026/2027

Application Guidelines

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1. MISSION

The Rothschild Fellowships have been a mainstay of Yad Hanadiv's support for excellence in Israeli academia since the programme was established in 1979. The purpose of the Rothschild Fellowships is to help young scholars of outstanding academic merit and potential advance in their respective fields.

Fellowships are awarded to PhD recipients from Israeli universities to pursue postdoctoral study abroad, enabling young researchers from all disciplines to make important contacts, learn new methodologies and techniques, have direct access to important scholarly resources and gain experience and knowledge at leading centres of study in their fields.

Upon completion of their research and study abroad, it is expected that Rothschild Fellows will return to Israel, advancing the calibre of academic research. The programme has supported 866 fellows to date.

The following guidelines outline details of the Rothschild Fellowships.

2. ELIGIBILITY FOR ROTHSCHILD FELLOWSHIP

1. Candidates must be a permanent resident of Israel.
2. Candidates must have completed or be conducting their PhD at an accredited institution of higher learning in Israel. Applications must be nominated by the candidate's university.
3. Candidates will be eligible only if the doctoral degree was awarded after November 2022. (If you'd like to discuss extension options, please contact Rothschild fellowships Rothschild.fellowships@yadghanadiv.org.il and exceptions may be considered).
4. Candidates will be required to provide written confirmation from the relevant academic authorities that they have submitted the thesis before departing for their host institution.
5. Candidates will be required to arrange for confirmation during 2026/2027 that they were awarded a doctoral degree.
6. Recipient of a Rothschild Fellowship will be required to begin the fellowship between 1 June 2026 and 1 December 2026. Those beginning their postdoctoral studies abroad **before June 2026 may not apply** for the Fellowship. The Rothschild Fellowship may only be used to fund **the first period of postdoctoral study abroad**.
7. Candidates holding a tenured position at an Israeli university will not be considered for a Fellowship (except in rare circumstances).
8. Candidates are allowed to source supplementary funds up to a maximum of \$75,000 per year. Candidates receiving over \$75,000 will not be able to receive a Rothschild Fellowship. Candidates must submit financial declaration to the Rothschild Fellowships Secretariat whenever supplementary funds become available to them.
9. Partial grants will not be awarded.

3. TERMS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

1. Up to 25 Rothschild Fellowships will be awarded for the academic year 2025/2026 in the following fields:
 - 1.1. Fourteen will be awarded in the Natural, Exact or Life Sciences and Engineering (NELS).
 - 1.2. Six will be awarded in the Humanities and Social Sciences (HS).
 - 1.3. Five will be awarded in in Brain, Mind and Language (BML).
2. Fellowships are provided for one year of study abroad.
3. The Fellowship award amount is NIS 210,000.
4. Relocation grant for fellow and accompanying spouse:
 - 4.1. USA West Coast: NIS 40,000
 - 4.2. USA East Coast: NIS 32,000
 - 4.3. Europe: NIS 20,000
 - 4.4. Single candidates will be awarded half of the above amount.
5. Allowance for family members who will accompany the Fellow:
 - 5.1. Spouse: NIS 20,000
 - 5.2. Children: NIS 25,000 / each

4. NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS PER UNIVERSITY

Each academic institution may submit up to the number of nominations outlined in the following chart.

Fellowship	Maximum Number of Nominations per University	Total Number of Fellowships Offered
Natural, Exact or Life Sciences and Engineering	12	14
Humanities and Social Sciences	8	6
Brain, Mind and Language	5	5

5. GUIDELINES: Application form and supporting documents

1. Once confirmed by the university, candidates are required to submit their applications via Yad Hanadiv online system Priza, using the following link: <https://yadhanadiv.priza.net/signUpLink.aspx>. The online form follows the exact same questionnaire as the Application Form.
2. Refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section for more information.
3. In addition to the application form, the following supporting documents, in English, are required:
 - a. Curriculum vitae including the list of publications (according to the sample in Annex 1)
 - b. One academic paper, article (preferably published) or dissertation chapter **in English** that the candidate has authored or co-authored. The article should **clearly indicate** the name and issue of the journal where it was published or accepted for publication.
 - c. One or more letters of invitation or acceptance from the future host or host institution, if available. These letters should be concise and express the intention to serve as the future academic home of the candidate. **They should not be letters of recommendation.**
 - d. Recommendation letters:
 - i. Two letters of recommendation typed in English from two referees, at the request of the candidate. One of the referees should be the candidate's present or immediate past supervisor. Candidates with 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.
 - ii. 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.
 - iii. A future host or individual in their department cannot be asked to write a letter of recommendation if the candidate has already submitted an invitation or acceptance letter from said host / department.
 - iv. Referees are requested to (i) compare the candidate to scientists and scholars in their field at similar academic stages; (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.
4. When answering the application questionnaire, please take into consideration that the Committee Members come from a variety of disciplines, and it is important that you write in a language accessible to non-specialists.
5. Consideration will be given only to complete applications with all supporting documents.

6. TIMETABLE

Deadline for receipt of university-nominated and approved applications*	6 th November 2025
Candidates notified by Yad Hanadiv	15 th January 2026
Natural, Exact, Life Sciences and Engineering interviews (2 days)	2 nd - 3 rd February 2026
Brain, Mind and Language interviews	12 th February 2026
Social Sciences and Humanities interviews	16 th February 2026

* Candidates must submit their applications **by the internal deadline set by their academic institution**, which will be earlier than the date mentioned above.

7. INTERVIEWS

- The interview dates are set as per the timetable above.
- Interview will be held **in person** at Yad Hanadiv offices, George Washington St 4, Jerusalem.
- The interview will be held in **English** and will be up to 20 minutes long.
- **Presentations are not allowed.**
- We highly recommend to research [our committee](#) and their fields before the interview. Note that there may be changes to the committee members and we encourage you to check on our website in advance of the interview.
- You will have an opportunity to submit an updated CV / letter of acceptance before the interview.

8. Frequently Asked Questions

1. Which fellowship track (Academic Category) should I apply to?

The Field 'Academic Category' will determine to which committee you will be referred - either Natural, Exact and Life Sciences and Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences, or Brain, Mind and Language. Candidates should choose the category closest to their discipline and can only apply to **one** of the following fellowship tracks:

- I. **Natural, Exact, Life Sciences, and Engineering (NELS):** Candidates from disciplines such as Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Ecology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Neuroscience. Interdisciplinary students with a focus on quantitative and experimental approaches in these fields can also apply here.
- II. **Social Sciences and Humanities (SH):** Candidates from disciplines such as History, Literature, Philosophy, Religious studies, Archaeology, Sociology, Anthropology, Geography, Political Science and Law. Classical linguists should apply here.
- III. **Brain, Mind, and Language (BML):** Candidates from disciplines such as Psychology, Cognitive Science, Linguistics, speech-language pathology, Psycholinguistics, and interdisciplinary quantitative Social Sciences like Architecture, Business Administration, and Science Education. Neuroscience candidates with cognitive/linguistic research belong here; otherwise, they should apply to NELS. Interdisciplinary students bridging cognitive processes with social sciences can also apply here.
- IV. If the candidate's area of research is interdisciplinary and may be applicable to several tracks, please get in touch **before the application deadline** with the University point of contact and Yad Hanadiv (Rothschild.fellowships@yadhanadiv.org.il) to determine the most suitable track.
- V. The Foundation, after consulting with the Academic Committees, might decide that the candidate belongs in a different category than the one indicated, and will inform both the University and the candidate of this change.

2. Are invitation letters mandatory? What should they include?

Invitation letters are optional at this stage, and we encourage you to still apply even if you do not know yet where you are going. The invitation letters should be concise and express the intention to serve as the future academic home.

3. Can I apply if I do not know yet where exactly I'll do the postdoc?

Yes. When asked about your postdoc plans in the application form, simply list the potential institutions you are considering.

4. Should I include references in my answers, and if so, are they included in the word count?

References are not obligatory. If used, references should be kept to a minimum and added at the end of the answer. They are not included in the word count.

5. Can I include illustrations in my answers?

Yes, illustrations can be uploaded to the web portal, and you can refer to them in your answer.

6. What should be included in the Professional Experience and Appointments section in the CV? Should I include non-academic professional experience and appointments?

You should list any academic and relevant non-academic professional experience under this section. Information should be brief – role, lab + university / company. There is no need to elaborate on what the role / research included.

7. I previously applied and was not accepted. Can I reapply?

Yes, candidates can reapply as long as they still meet the eligibility requirements. Candidates are not required to reapply under the same track.

8. Can I update my application after submission?

No, once submitted the applications are sent to committee reviews and cannot be updated. Candidates will have an opportunity to update the following sections if invited to an interview: 1) CV with updated publications / awards list; 2) Invitation letters.

9. I received another grant over \$75,000, can I still apply for the Rothschild Fellowship?

If you receive funding over \$75,000 you are not eligible for the Fellowship. If you did not accept the external funding source, you may still submit an application clearly declaring the funding amount and decide on which funding to accept if selected.

10. Does the Fellowship include anything specific towards Health Insurance and/or research funds?

No, the fellowship does not pay for any insurance or research funds.

11. Does the Fellowship support visa applications?

No, but we can provide confirmation letter that you received the fellowship.

12. Is the Fellowship paid directly to the university or Fellow?

The Fellowship is paid directly to the fellow's Israeli bank.

Curriculum Vitae

[name]

Personal details

Phone:

Address:

E-Mail:

Homepage: (if available)

I.D.:

Languages:

Education

[Years] : PhD student in [Discipline, Affiliation, Name of supervisor, Dissertation Title]

[Years] : MSc/MA [Discipline, Affiliation, Name of supervisor]

[Years] : BSc/BA. (Magna cum Laude) in [Discipline, Affiliation]

Professional Experience and Appointments

[Years] :

[Years] :

[Years] :

Teaching

[Years] : List course name, co-lecture if relevant, institution

Honors and Awards (including Membership in Professional Societies):

Publications: (applicant in bold, include Quartile and Impact Factor if available)

- a. Published
- b. Accepted for publication
- c. Submitted

Conferences / talks

Other Noteworthy Activities and Skills

ROTHSCHILD FELLOWSHIPS – 2026/2027

Application Form

ATTACH
PHOTO
HERE

<u>PERSONAL INFORMATION</u>	
1. Name (both in English and Hebrew)	
2. ID number	
3. Current address	
4. Mobile phone number	
5. E-mail address	
6. Place of birth	
7. Date of arrival in Israel	
8. Present appointment and place of employment	
A) <u>ACADEMIC CAREER</u>	
9. Secondary (High) school (name and location)	
10. Academic discipline	
11. Academic studies and university degrees (include current degree). If degrees were conferred with honours, please indicate.	<i>Year – Degree - University</i>
12. Academic awards and distinctions	
13. Periods of academic study and research outside Israel; please provide date, location, and field of study.	
14. Title of PhD dissertation and name of supervisor	
15. Submission/approval of PhD thesis (month/year); if not yet submitted, please provide anticipated date.	

16. Please provide a summary of your dissertation (up to 450 words)	
B) <u>PLANNED STUDY AND RESEARCH ABROAD</u>	
17. Institution(s) abroad where you intend to conduct your studies/research. List institutions to which you have applied and provide acceptance letters if available.	
18. When do you plan to begin your studies abroad?	
19. Period of proposed research or study	
20. Please provide a summary of your present research, if different from your dissertation (up to 400 words). ¹	
21. Please describe your planned research activities for your postdoctoral studies (up to 650 words).	
22. Explain the reasons for your choice of country, institution and academic supervisor abroad, and the connection, if any, with your present and planned future work (up to 130 words).	
23. Please describe what you hope to have achieved at the conclusion of your post-doctoral studies (up to 130 words).	
C) <u>FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	
24. Do you expect to receive a salary, partial salary, scholarship, fellowship, grant, sabbatical allowance, study allowance or any other payment from any source, including your present university, host university or another source during the proposed period abroad? If so, please provide details of any such allowances.	

¹ When answering questions 21 - 24, please take into consideration that the Committee Members come from a variety of disciplines, and it is important that you write in a language accessible to non-specialists.

25. You are highly encouraged to apply for a fellowship, scholarship or grant from another institution. Please indicate to which fellowships, if any, you have applied.	
D) <u>OTHER INFORMATION</u>	
26. Please include here any additional information you would like the selection committee to consider (up to 250 words)	
F) <u>REFEREES</u>	
27. State the name and affiliation of the scholars from whom you have requested letters of recommendation and have agreed. Please indicate your relationship to them. Your supervisor(s) should be listed first.	
I have read the Application Guidelines in their entirety, confirm that I shall adhere to the Stipulations contained in the document and agree to provide any further information which the Rothschild Fellowships Committee may deem necessary to evaluate my candidacy (please check the box to Indicate your agreement).	