

Rothschild Fellowships 2027/2028

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. Their purpose is to help young scholars of outstanding academic merit and potential to 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, gain direct access to significant scholarly resources and acquire experience and knowledge at leading centres of study in their fields.

Upon completion of their research and study abroad, Rothschild Fellows are expected to return to Israel and contribute to the calibre of academic research. The programme has supported 882 fellows to date.

The following guidelines set out the details of the Rothschild Fellowships.

2. ELIGIBILITY FOR A ROTHSCHILD FELLOWSHIP

1. Candidates must be permanent residents of Israel.
2. Candidates must have completed, or be in the course of completing, a PhD at an accredited institution of higher education in Israel. Applications must be nominated by the candidate's university.
3. Candidates are eligible only if their doctoral degree was awarded after November 2023 (candidates wishing to discuss an extension should contact the Rothschild Fellowships Secretariat at Rothschild.fellowships@yadhanadiv.org.il; exceptions may be considered).
4. Candidates will be required to provide written confirmation from the relevant academic authorities that they have submitted their dissertation before departing for their host institution.
5. Candidates will be required to arrange for confirmation, during 2027/2028, that they have been awarded a doctoral degree.
6. Recipients of a Rothschild Fellowship will be required to begin the fellowship between 1 June 2027 and 1 December 2027. Candidates who begin their postdoctoral studies abroad **before June 2027 may not apply**. The Rothschild Fellowship may be used only to fund **a first period of postdoctoral study abroad**.
7. Candidates holding a tenured position at an Israeli university will not be considered, except in rare circumstances.
8. Candidates may receive supplementary funding of up to \$75,000 per year. The following types of funding will not be taken into account when calculating supplementary funding: support from other sources for research grants, research related expenses or travel to academic conferences and symposia; and funding from other sources for health insurance or other employee-related benefits.
9. Yad Hanadiv is a sponsor of Kalaniyot. Therefore, while applicants may apply to both programmes, those selected as Rothschild Fellows will not be eligible to receive overlapping funding from Kalaniyot during the tenure of their Rothschild Fellowship.
10. Candidates are required to submit a financial declaration to the Rothschild Fellowships Secretariat whenever they receive supplementary funding or become eligible to receive such funding. Failure to disclose all supplementary funding or competing funding opportunities (i.e., the possibility of receiving another fellowship during the period covered by the Rothschild Fellowship) will result in the loss of eligibility.
11. The purpose of the Rothschild Fellowship is to enable as many outstanding Israeli early-career researchers as possible to undertake a first postdoctoral fellowship abroad. A fellow who secures external funding exceeding \$75,000 during the fellowship tenure, will lose eligibility for the primary fellowship award, though eligibility for travel and family support is retained.

12. Fellows should not negotiate a reduction in external funding solely to remain within this limit. However, fellows remain free to decline an offer to participate in a postdoctoral programme elsewhere.
13. Partial grants will not be awarded.

3. TERMS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

1. Up to 25 Rothschild Fellowships will be awarded for the academic year 2027/2028 in the following fields*:

- 1.1. Up to fourteen in the Natural, Exact and Life Sciences & Engineering (NELS).
- 1.2. Up to six in the Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS).
- 1.3. Up to five in Brain, Mind and Language (BML).

*Yad Hanadiv may change these numbers at its discretion.

2. Fellowships are awarded for one year of study abroad.
3. The fellowship award amount is NIS 210,000.
4. Relocation grant for the fellow and an 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. Fellows traveling without a spouse will be awarded half of the relevant amount above.
5. Allowance for family members accompanying the fellow:
 - 5.1. Spouse: NIS 20,000
 - 5.2. Children: NIS 25,000 per child

4. NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS PER UNIVERSITY

Each academic institution may submit no more than the number of nominations shown in the table below.

Fellowship	Maximum nominations per university	Total fellowships offered
Natural, Exact and Life Sciences & Engineering	12	14
Humanities and Social Sciences	8	6
Brain, Mind and Language	5	5

5. GUIDELINES: APPLICATION FORM AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Once their university has confirmed their nomination – and only after that confirmation has been received – candidates are required to submit their applications, within one week, via Priza, Yad Hanadiv's online system, at: <https://yadhanadiv.priza.net/signUpLink.aspx>. The online form contains the same questions as the Application Form.
2. Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions in section 8 for further information.
3. In addition to the application form, the following supporting documents are required, in English:
 - a. A curriculum vitae including a list of publications (following the template in Annex 1; please do not depart from the template).
 - b. One academic paper, article (preferably published) or dissertation chapter **in English** that the candidate has authored or co-authored. Where the work has been published or accepted for publication, the name of the journal and the issue should be clearly indicated.
 - c. One or more letters of invitation or acceptance from the prospective host or host institution, if available (these are not mandatory at this stage). Such letters should be concise and should express the intention to serve as the candidate's future academic home. **These should not be letters of recommendation.**
 - d. Letters of recommendation:
 - i. Two letters of recommendation, typed in English, obtained by the candidate from two referees. One referee should be the candidate's current or immediate past supervisor. Candidates with two doctoral supervisors may submit letters from both. **These letters are regarded as confidential and should be submitted by the referees directly to the university authority.**
 - ii. An additional letter of recommendation may be submitted, from a senior academic at another university, who is qualified to assess the applicant's current and proposed research. Candidates are strongly encouraged to provide one.
 - iii. A prospective host or a member of the host's department, may not be asked to write a letter of recommendation if the candidate has already submitted an invitation or acceptance letter from that host or department.
 - iv. Referees are requested to compare the candidate with (i) scientists and scholars in their field at a similar academic stage; (ii) other students with whom the referee has been in close contact; and (iii) wherever possible, past recipients of the Rothschild Fellowship.
4. When answering the application questionnaire, please take into consideration that the Committee Members come from a range of disciplines. It is important that you write in language accessible to non-specialists.
5. Only complete applications, with all supporting documents, will be considered.

6. TIMETABLE

Internal submission of applications to academic institutions	Internal deadlines are set independently by each academic institution.
Deadline for receipt of university-nominated applications (submitted by universities to Yad Hanadiv)	1 November 2026
Nomination confirmation	Universities will contact applicants to confirm their nominations after receiving approval of the nomination lists from Yad Hanadiv.
Submission of applications to Yad Hanadiv	Within 7 days of the date on the university's nomination confirmation.
Notification of candidates by Yad Hanadiv (regarding whether they proceed to the next stage)	15 January 2027
Natural, Exact and Life Sciences & Engineering interviews (over two days)	10– 11 February 2027
Humanities and Social Sciences interviews	15 February 2027
Brain, Mind and Language interviews	25 February 2027
Selection for the fellowship	Interviewed candidates will be notified within three days of their interview if they have been selected for the fellowship.

7. INTERVIEWS

- The interviews will be held on the dates set out in the timetable above.
- Interview will be held **in person** at the offices of Yad Hanadiv, 4 George Washington Street, Jerusalem.
- The interview will be conducted in **English** and will last up to 20 minutes.
- **Presentations are not permitted.**
- We strongly recommend that you familiarize yourself with the members of [our committee](#) and their fields before the interview. Please note that committee membership may change, and we encourage you to check our website in advance of your interview.
- You will have an opportunity to submit an updated CV and letters of acceptance before the interview.

8. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What are the milestones and deadlines of the application process?

Applicants are required to submit their application **no later than one week** after receiving confirmation from their university. Applicants are required to upload their application form, CV (in accordance with the RF template), photograph and letter or letters of invitation, if available. Once an application has been created on Priza the university can upload the applicant's letters of recommendation.

Applicants will be informed by mid-January 2027 whether the committee has selected them for an interview. Interviews will take place in person at the offices of Yad Hanadiv (unless instructed otherwise) on the dates set out in Section 6. Yad Hanadiv will notify candidates whether they have been selected as fellows within 2-3 days of the committee meeting.

2. Which fellowship track (academic category) should I apply to?

The academic category you select will determine which committee will consider your application: Natural, Exact and Life Sciences & Engineering; Humanities and Social Sciences; or Brain, Mind and Language. You should choose the category closest to your discipline, and you may apply to **one** track only:

- Natural, Exact and Life Sciences & 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 should also apply here.

- II. **Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS):** 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):** This category supports research into the psychological, cognitive, neural, linguistic, and computational mechanisms underlying human behaviour and experience. It is specifically tailored for scholars bridging psychological/cognitive processes with the social sciences, as well as those addressing social science questions through the application of advanced computational methodologies.

If your area of research is interdisciplinary and could be applicable to more than one track, please contact your university point of contact and Yad Hanadiv (Rothschild.fellowships@yadhanadiv.org.il) **before the application deadline**, to identify the most appropriate track.

Following consultation with the academic committees, the Foundation may decide that the candidate belongs in a different category than the one indicated, and will inform both the University and the candidate of any such change.

3. 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 will be going. Invitation letters should be concise and should express the intention to serve as the future academic home.

4. Can I apply if I do not yet know where exactly I'll do my postdoc?

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

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

References are not required. If you do use them, please keep them to a minimum and place them at the end of the answer. They do not count towards the word limit.

6. Can I include illustrations in my answers?

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

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

Please list any academic experience and any relevant non-academic professional experience in this section. Keep the information brief: role, laboratory and university or company.. There is no need to elaborate on what the role or research included.

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

Yes, provided you still meet the eligibility requirements. You are not obliged to reapply under the same track.

9. Can I update my application after submitting it?

No. Once an application has been submitted it is sent to the committees for review and cannot be updated. Candidates invited to interview will have an opportunity to update two elements: the CV, with an updated list of publications and awards; and any invitation letters.

10. I received another grant of more than \$75,000. May I still apply for a Rothschild Fellowship?

No. If you receive funding of more than \$75,000 you are not eligible for the fellowship. A fellow who secures external funding exceeding \$75,000 during the fellowship tenure, will lose eligibility for the primary fellowship award, though eligibility for travel and family support is retained. Fellows should not negotiate a reduction in external funding solely in order to remain within this limit.

11. Does the Fellowship provide anything specifically towards health insurance or research funds?

No. The fellowship does not cover any insurance or research funds.

12. Does the Fellowship support visa applications?

No, but we can provide a letter confirming that you have been awarded the fellowship.

13. Is the fellowship paid to the university or to the fellow?

The fellowship is paid directly into the fellow's Israeli bank account.

Curriculum Vitae*

[Name]

Personal details

Phone:

Address:

Email:

Website / academic profile (if applicable):

ID Number:

Languages:

Education, military service and other relevant experience

[Years] : PhD in [discipline, institution, name of supervisor, dissertation title]

[Years] : MSc /MA in [discipline, institution, name of supervisor]

[Years] : BSc/BA (including academic honors, if applicable, e.g. magna cum laude) in [discipline, institution]

[Years] : Military service or other relevant experience (optional) – *[Please specify and include a brief description (up to 20 words)]*

[Years] : Secondary school [name of school, city or location]

Professional experience and appointments

[Years] :

[Years] :

[Years] :

Teaching (Please list the courses taught)

[Years] : [institution, department, title]

Honours and Awards (including membership of professional societies):

Publications (*please mark your own name in bold*):

a. Published

b. Accepted for publication

c. Submitted

Conferences and symposia (papers presented)

Other noteworthy activities and skills

*Please use this template as provided and include only the information requested under each heading.

ROTHSCHILD FELLOWSHIPS – 2027/2028

Application Form

**ATTACH
PHOTO
HERE**

A) <u>PERSONAL INFORMATION</u>	
1. Name (<i>in English and Hebrew</i>)	
2. ID number	
3. Current address	
4. Mobile phone number	
5. E-mail address	
6. Place of birth	
7. Date of arrival in Israel (<i>if applicable</i>)	
8. Present appointment and place of employment	
B) <u>ACADEMIC CAREER</u>	
9. Secondary school (name and location)	
10. Academic discipline	
11. Academic studies and university degrees, including the degree you are currently pursuing. For each, please provide only the year in which the degree was conferred, the degree awarded and the awarding institution. Please indicate if a degree was conferred with honours.	<i>Year – Degree - University</i>
12. Academic awards and distinctions	
13. Periods of academic study and research outside Israel; please provide dates, location, and field of study for each.	
14. Title of PhD dissertation and name of supervisor	

15. Date of submission or approval of the PhD dissertation (month/year); if not yet submitted, please provide the anticipated date.	
16. Summary of your dissertation (<i>up to 450 words</i>)	
C) <u>PLANNED STUDY AND RESEARCH ABROAD</u>	
17. Institution(s) abroad at which you intend to conduct your studies/research. Please list all 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 (estimated duration)	
20. Summary of your present research, if different from your dissertation (<i>up to 400 words</i>) ¹	
21. Description of the research you plan to carry out during your postdoctoral studies (<i>up to 650 words</i>)	
22. Your reasons for your choice of country, institution and academic supervisor abroad, and the connection, if any, with your present and planned future work (<i>up to 130 words</i>)	
23. What you hope to have achieved by the end of your postdoctoral studies (<i>up to 130 words</i>)	
D) <u>FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	

¹ When answering questions 20–23, please take into consideration that Committee Members come from a range of disciplines. It is important that you write in a language accessible to non-specialists.

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 or your host institution? If so, please provide full details.	
25. You are strongly encouraged to apply for a fellowship, scholarship or grant from another institution. Please indicate which fellowships, if any, you have applied for.	
E) <u>OTHER INFORMATION</u>	
26. Any additional information you would like the Rothschild Fellowships Committee to consider (<i>up to 250 words</i>)	
E) <u>REFEREES</u>	
27. Please provide names and affiliations of the scholars you have asked for letters of recommendation and who have agreed to provide them and indicate your relationship to each. Your supervisor or supervisors should be listed first.	

☐ I have read the Application Guidelines in full, confirm that I shall adhere to the stipulations they contain and agree to provide any further information the Rothschild Fellowships Committee may deem necessary to evaluate my candidacy (*please check the box to indicate your agreement*).