

THE PBC PROGRAM FOR FELLOWSHIPS FOR OUTSTANDING POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS FROM CHINA AND INDIA

Rules and Guidelines

The Goals of the Program

1. Developing relations with China and India, while encouraging the State of Israel's research and academic ties with these countries;
2. Increasing the number of outstanding foreign post-doctoral researchers in Israel, while maintaining the trend of strengthening research teams in the universities.

The Fellowships

3. Each year, the Planning and Budgeting Committee will award up to 100 fellowships for periods of up to three years to outstanding post-doctoral researchers from China and from India.
4. The amount of the fellowship will be no less than NIS 100,000 per year (in budget year 2013/14 prices), for two years, with the possibility of extending it for a third year. Financing for the fellowship will be on the basis of matching participation by the universities. The PBC's total participation per fellowship is NIS 67,000 per year, with a sum of no less than NIS 33,000 per year paid by the university to each fellow.
5. It will be made clear that the fellowship will be paid from October and until October, contingent upon the reports from the institution. Extensions that go beyond the third year of research will not be granted to fellows who began their research in the institution after the beginning of the academic year they received the fellowship for.
6. The award of the fellowship is contingent upon the following conditions:
 - a. The fellow shall make the following commitment to the university:
 - i. not to undertake any paid employment, excluding assisting instruction in the university, and even this shall only be with the

- written approval of the fellow's advisor and shall not exceed two weekly hours of instruction, for only two years.
- ii. To request approval from the university for each break in research work of six months or more. The university shall not approve suspension of research work for longer than one year.
- b. The university shall make the following commitment to the PBC:
- i. not to employ the fellow at the expense of the fellowship;
 - ii. To provide the fellow with the necessary professional literature and research tools in a way that will enable optimal use of the years of research;
 - iii. To acquaint the fellow with the rules of the program and with the above obligations and rights.

Terms for Candidates Selection

7. The candidate shall fulfill the following conditions:
- a. The candidate shall be a citizen and resident of China or India, and shall not hold Israeli citizenship.
 - b. Candidates who have Indian or Chinese citizenships and have completed their doctoral degrees in a leading institution outside of China or India are also eligible to apply for a fellowship.
 - c. Doctorate holders who finished their studies no later than two years prior to the time of their acceptance by the university, and who are intended to train in their scientific field for a limited time period, in research activities, full time, in an established research team in a university in Israel, under the training of a senior researcher who belongs to the university's faculty staff.
 - d. **In special cases**, it will be possible to present the candidacy of a person who has not yet received his doctoral degree, on condition that he or she will provide confirmation from the relevant authority where the doctorate is being carried out, of the fact that the

candidate has fulfilled all of his academic requirements and has presented his or her doctoral thesis for judgment. In any case, if the candidate does not receive the doctoral degree during the first year of his stay in Israel, he will not be able to continue his activities and the institution will cease his fellowship.

The Procedure of Candidates Selection

8. A special steering committee, to be appointed by the Chairman of the PBC, will be entrusted with the academic assessment of the candidates and the selection of the winners. The duties of the committee on behalf of the PBC will be as follows:
 - a. evaluate the qualifications of candidates proposed to the PBC.
 - b. select the candidates who will receive fellowships.
 - c. evaluate the internal selection procedures of the candidates in the universities.
9. Candidates who have Indian or Chinese citizenships and completed their doctoral degrees in a leading institution outside of China or India will comprise of no more than 20% of the winners.
10. The candidates shall apply directly to the contact person at the university where they wish to train. Each university shall independently evaluate the suitability of the candidates and shall then submit its candidates to the PBC. The university shall check the candidate's suitability; his academic level and research capabilities, and their level of fluency in English. For those purposes, the candidates will be requested to submit to the universities, along with their application files, the results of an international test of their level of English as a foreign language.
11. The rectors of the universities shall submit the candidates that their institutions have recommended to the PBC, **prioritized**, and accompanied by the following:

- a. Explanatory notes on the selection process, the reasons for submitting the candidates, and the commitment regarding the fulfillment of all conditions. **Candidates who do not meet the basic requirements, as above, shall not be submitted.**
 - b. Full details on each candidate, as submitted to the university's selection committee.
 - c. Commitment by the designated Israel advisor / person responsible for the program in the university, stating his or her agreement to guide the candidate.
 - d. **The commitment of the candidates and the university** that all the necessary conditions set out in the PBC's Rules have been met.
12. It is possible to submit candidates who will commence their advanced training in the institution during the 2012/13 academic year.
 13. Selection of winners will be nation-wide and not on an institutional basis, according to academic excellence and the criteria set by the steering committee and at its discretion. The committee shall take into consideration the list of priorities determined by the institution, but it is not obligated to act according to it. Criteria for academic excellence shall be based, *inter alia*, on the academic activities of the candidate, future research plan, list of publications, list of scientific works and grades.

Procedures for Reporting and Payment

14. The university shall submit to the PBC, by September 30 of each year:
 - a. An academic report and a financial report of fellows in the current academic year in each cycle. The academic report, which shall include a short evaluation of each fellow's achievements, as well as a recommendation regarding the continuation of the fellowship, shall be signed by the rector of the institution. The financial report shall be signed by the accepted authorized signatories.

- b. A list of fellows who will continue in the following year, accompanied by confirmation of the continued progression of their studies. For fellows for whom a request to extend the fellowship to a third year has been submitted, the justifications for the extension will be appended. In addition, the university will report on any break in study that exceeds six months.
 - c. Commitment regarding the fulfillment by the university of the conditions set out in section 5 of the Rules.
15. The PBC will transfer the funds for the fellowships for the entire year, for all eligible fellows in all cycles of the program, on the basis of these reports. It should be noted that the renewal of a fellowship from year to year is dependent upon a decision of the steering committee, based on the institution's recommendation.