

Fulbright Post-Doctoral Fellowships in the Exact Sciences

Program Overview

The United States - Israel Educational Foundation (USIEF) plans to award two grants to post-doctoral scholars who are about to begin a program of research at Israeli institutions of higher education which will commence during the 2008/2009 academic year. The total length of the proposed program of work in Israel must be at least two academic years (20 months net in Israel).

This program is open to post-doctoral researchers in the exact sciences – physics, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, and related fields.

USIEF awards are granted on the basis of academic excellence, the leadership promise of the applicant, and the potential of the proposed visit to both advance knowledge and enhance mutual understanding between the peoples of the U.S. and Israel.

The Foundation gives preference to applicants who have not had significant prior professional experience in Israel.

Knowledge of Hebrew is helpful but not required, except as necessary for the conduct of proposed research projects.

Post-doctoral fellows must be hosted by an accredited Israeli institution of higher education. For the complete list of accredited institutions, click [here](#).

Each candidate should try to arrange his/her institutional affiliations in Israel independently, including development of the program of work for the proposed visit through contacts with possible host institutions. The nature of their research projects and the support which will be provided by the host laboratories will be agreed in direct communication between the candidates and their prospective hosts. If assistance is required, USIEF will attempt to help candidates to identify suitable host institutions.

A letter from an Israeli researcher, expressing at least preliminary interest in hosting the candidate, must be included among the materials submitted to the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) by the August 1 application deadline.

Candidates should take into account that, according to USIEF policy, host institutions will be required to provide to the program fellows their own usual basic post-doctoral award *in addition* to USIEF's grant. A formal hosting commitment, including the commitment to provide such funding, must be received by USIEF from an eligible institution before a fellowship

offered to a candidate can be activated and transfer of grant funds can begin.

The Foundation reserves the exclusive right to determine, within the framework of applicable law and regulations, the qualitative standards for the evaluation of applications forwarded to it by the responsible agency in the United States. The Foundation is not under any obligation to provide the reasons for its decisions regarding the allocation of Fellowships.

Additional general information on the Fulbright Post-doctoral Program may be found on the website of the [Council for International Exchange of Scholars](#).

Grant Benefits

- Monthly maintenance allowance: The allowance for the full 20 months is \$35,000
- Limited health insurance for the grantee only
- Orientation meeting in Israel and other grantee events during the course of the academic year.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility requirements apply at the time of application.

- Applicants must be U.S. citizens; permanent resident status is not sufficient.
- Candidates must be planning to undertake a period of post-doctoral research in one of the exact sciences at an accredited institution of higher education in Israel for a period of at least two academic years (20 months net).
- Candidates who have received a USIEF Fulbright Student Fellowship are not eligible to begin a visit to Israel as Post-Doctoral Fellows until five years have passed from the conclusion of their stay in Israel as Student Fellows. See the regulations regarding repeat fellowships in the [Fellowships](#) section above. Further information regarding the above may be found on the [CIES](#) website.
- Holders of a tenured position at an academic institution are ineligible.
- Candidates must be in good health. All applicants selected for a Fulbright grant are required to submit a Medical History and Examination Report before their grants can be activated.
- Prior to activation of grants awarded, candidates selected must give proof of completion of all requirements for receipt of the doctoral degree.
- Prior to activation of grants awarded, candidates selected must give proof of acceptance as a post-doctoral research fellow at a recognized institution in Israel and confirmation that the host

institution will to provide its own usual basic post-doctoral award **in addition** to USIEF's grant.

- Prior conviction or current indictment for a felony may result in disqualification.

Evaluation Criteria

In its evaluation of candidates, USIEF applies the following criteria:

- Academic excellence (or equivalent professional or artistic excellence) is the primary criterion for the evaluation of candidates.
- Leadership qualities are an important evaluation criterion.
- Preference will be given to candidates who have received their doctorates within the three-year period prior to the presentation of their applications.
- Preference will be given to candidates who have not had substantial, recent professional experience in Israel.
- Preference will be given to candidates who have not had previous Fulbright grants.
- Hebrew language proficiency is not an evaluation criterion, unless such proficiency is required in order to carry out the proposed plan of work.
- Possession of skills required to promote mutual understanding between the United States and Israel is an important evaluation criterion.

Application Procedures

Full details on application procedures and required application forms may be found on the website of the **Council for International Exchange of Scholars**. August 1, 2007 is the final date for submission to the Council of applications for 2008/2009 Fellowships.

Those interested may also contact the CIES staff member responsible for the Middle East region for further information:

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