

Blavatnik Postdoctoral Fellowships Programme for Israeli Scientists
General Guidelines

Blavatnik Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme
Call for Proposals

The Blavatnik Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme enables Israeli scientists of outstanding ability to pursue their research at the University of Cambridge, while fostering a scholarly exchange and greater understanding between researchers in Britain and in Israel.

Scope of the fellowship

We are inviting applications from Israelis seeking to undertake their first postdoctoral funding in the fields of **life sciences, physical sciences and engineering** at the University of Cambridge.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be Israeli citizens; individuals with dual citizenship are eligible
- applicants need to be resident in Israel at the time of their application
- candidates must have received their PhD from an Israeli university or other Higher Education Institution
- the fellowships must be the applicant's first postdoc posting abroad;
- candidates must have completed their PhD degree not more than five years before the date of application
- it is expected that applicants will have spent less than 12 months as a post-doc in Israel prior to starting their fellowships (however exceptions may be made)
- applicants must be working in the field of life sciences, physical sciences and engineering;
- applicants must hold a doctorate degree by the start of the fellowship; applicants may submit an application before completing their PhD studies, but the fellowship offer will be conditional on the successful attainment of their PhD
- we will only consider applications that have been jointly endorsed by heads of departments in both the applicant's home and host institutions
- individuals may submit only one application at a time. Multiple applications from laboratories / departments / institutions are acceptable

Funding

Fellows will receive an annual stipend of £30,000. Additional funding of up to £6,000 to support direct research costs including bench fees, conference attendance and visa fees, will be available through the respective university departments at Cambridge.

Duration

Fellowships will be tenable for up to two years. Funding for the second year is subject to satisfactory undertaking of the Fellowship and subject to approval of the grant committee. Fellows are expected to begin their study at Cambridge in October 2018.

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Responsibilities of Blavatnik Fellows

- all successful applicants must achieve the same exacting standards that would be met by any other postdoctoral Fellow appointed at the University of Cambridge
- attend Blavatnik Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme events
- participate in peer reviews, where relevant
- promote the Blavatnik Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme Initiative and be available for press and media work
- Participate, as relevant, in the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust Leadership Programme. Full details will be provided to successful Fellows
- Complete an annual report.

Other Compliance Matters

Please ensure that support from both the home and host institutions has been obtained. Applications that are not validated and /or not received by the specified deadline will not be accepted.

Please note that submitting the application form constitutes confirmation that the information provided is complete and accurate, and acceptance of all terms, conditions and notices contained in the Guidelines for Applicants. Subsequent discovery of any deliberate misrepresentation will automatically render the application null and void. If an award has been made, the British Council will require a full refund.

Equal Opportunities and Diversity

The British Council is committed to a policy of Equal Opportunities and we welcome applications from all sections of society. All applications will be evaluated solely on the basis of the award criteria as listed above.

Selection process

The selection process is threefold:

- All applications are firstly submitted for preliminary edibility checks, which are assessed according to the parameters listed above.
- Eligible applications are assessed by an academic selection panel, comprising of senior academics in the relevant fields at the University of Cambridge. Applications will be assessed according to:
 - general relevance to the fields of life sciences, physical sciences or engineering
 - quality of the scientific content of the proposed activity
 - whether the collaboration will continue beyond the period of the proposed activity;
 - compliance with Guidelines for Applicants and the relevant Application Form instructions.
- Shortlisted applications are considered by the Blavatnik Foundation Financing Committee, which makes the final decision on funding.

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Selection decisions are final and confidential. No appeals will be considered. The British Council is unable to enter into any communication on the selection decision.

Timeline

Launch of Call for proposals	10 July 2017
Deadline for applications	22 October 2017
Responses on applications*	December 2017
Fellowships begin	1 October 2018

*Dates are provisional

How to apply online

Applicants must complete the [online application](#) form in English. Applications must include:

- A current CV, up to three pages long
- Supporting statement from their lab host in Cambridge – filled in in the [host application form](#)
- Two references from their current institution – filled in in the [referee application form](#).
Each referee must fill in a reference form
- Proposed activity references (optional) –up to 2 pages of references to support their activity plan.

Applicants, lab hosts and referees should consult the respective guidelines before filling in the application.

For inquiries, email us at Blavatnik.fellowships@britishcouncil.org.il . Please note that we are unable to comment on the content of applications.