

# ARO Postdoctoral Fellowships for Foreign Ph.D. Recipients

**Open Call & Guidelines – 2022**  
**Dead line for submission: June 30, 2022**

The Agricultural Research Organization (ARO) – Volcani Institute invites applications for Postdoctoral Fellowships. The Fellowships are intended for foreign citizens that have completed a Ph.D. program, **in the last 5 years. Applications of candidates who received their Ph.D. certificate prior to 1.1.2017 will not be considered.** The fellowship program is designed to identify and support young scientists aspiring to become future leaders in the field of Agricultural Sciences at Universities of their home country. The main objectives of the fellowships are to avail excellent and promising scientists with the opportunity to become proficient in advanced technologies developed and used in the Agricultural Research Organization, and to establish future collaborations with Israeli scientists.

The fellowships will be awarded for one year, with the potential to be extended to a second year. Recipient fellows may initiate their post-doctoral training during 2022. **The total fellowship is 110,000 Israeli Shekels per year** (equivalent to app. \$35,000, depending on the exchange rate).

Applicants will have to select a mentor and contact him/her personally to discuss the possibility to join his/her research group on a specific project. If the outcome is positive, the applicant should ask the mentor to provide him with a letter of agreement regarding his willingness to host him in his lab, and to contribute to the fellowship. The mentor's letter of agreement should be attached to the submission document (PDF file).

Applicants should also describe succinctly their specific contribution to the project they are joining during the stay in the mentor's lab.

***Please note that:***

***You can apply only once and only with one mentor.***

***Mentors can support only one application and can deliver only one letter of agreement.***

***Multiple applications will not be considered.***

***Applications without the mentor agreement letter will not be considered .***

The mentor's agreement to host the applicant does not mean that the applicant has been accepted to the program. All the valid submissions will be evaluated by a committee that will consider the scientific merit of each submission file. Final decisions will be issued to the best candidates, depending on the number of available fellowships.

Potential mentors and related projects are available via the following link:

<https://www.agri.gov.il/en/pages/1790.aspx?Preview=1>

Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of academic excellence, expressed in productivity and impact in their field of research (e.g., scientific publications, presentations at scientific conferences, international scientific activity, antecedent training periods in other universities and research centers, and awards). Special attention will be given to the applicant's scientific training and achievements.

Applicants will submit their applications IN ENGLISH on the attached **application forms** (available via the link: <https://www.agri.gov.il/en/pages/1790.aspx?Preview=1>), according to the requested format, to the Secretary office of the Associate Director for International Relationships, Mrs. Liraz Bergman: [liraz@volcani.agri.gov.il](mailto:liraz@volcani.agri.gov.il), including the following details:

1. Curriculum Vitae according to the following sections:

- Personal
- University Education and Additional Training.  
**IMPORTANT NOTE: Applicants are requested to indicate clearly the exact date of their Ph.D/D.Sc. graduation, and attach a certificate of their diploma. If such a diploma has not been awarded yet, applicants are requested to provide a letter of eligibility for a Ph.D/D.Sc. degree. In the latter case, the applicant will have to provide the official diploma when available.**
- Positions Held in National and International Academic Institutions and Status. Please note that the program considers only applicants with a postdoctoral status. Applicants holding already a position of researcher in a university or a research center are not eligible.
- Active Participation in Meetings (**please indicate clearly presentation of a poster, lecture or invited speaker**)
- Awards, scholarships, Fellowships, Research Grants
- For research grants indicate clearly:
  - International Competitive Grants
  - National Competitive Grants
  - Other Funds

2. A short description (up to 200 words) of the applicant's present research activities and scientific achievements to date, and the professional and scientific goals following acceptance of the requested fellowship.

3. List of publications divided into the following sections:

- Articles in Reviewed Journals (applicants may upload 3 of their best publications in a PDF format). Please indicate the IF (impact factor) and Q index of the journal.
- Books and Invited Reviews
- Articles in Non-Reviewed Journals in English
- Articles in Symposia Proceedings
- Abstracts

**List of publications that will not be divided into the following categories will not be considered.**

4. Mentor's letter of agreement.

5. Official graduate program transcripts of courses and grades completed during Master and Doctoral studies.

6. Application for the fellowship requires proficiency in English. All applicants must satisfy this requirement and provide Testimonial to English proficiency in **one** of the ways listed below:

A. Satisfy score requirement in one of the following tests:

- TOFEL (*Test of English as a Foreign Language Minimum Score: 550 (or 213 in the computer version)*);
- IELTS (*International English Language Testing System Minimum Score: 6.5*);
- MELAB (*Michigan English Language Assessment Battery Minimum Score: 80*)

B. Provide proof of completion of a previous degree program in an English language university.

C. Provide proof of prolonged residence and exercise of a profession in an English speaking country

D. Provide proof of completion of the Advanced English Training by China's Ministry of Education for Chinese applicants.

7. Recommendation letters from the doctoral thesis primary advisor, and two other individuals. Letters should be sent personally and directly to Mrs. Liraz Bergman: [liraz@volcani.agri.gov.il](mailto:liraz@volcani.agri.gov.il)

**Please follow all instructions carefully. Applications that will not include all the requested material in the appropriate format will not be considered.**

In the event that the fellowship is awarded, the applicant will have to issue a student VISA. Upon arrival at the ARO, the post-doctoral fellow will be required to sign a Fellowship Statement with the ARO, detailing the responsibilities and obligations of each party towards the other. The Fellowship Statement is available in the following link:  
<http://www.agri.gov.il/download/files/FellowshipStatement.pdf>