

Postdoctoral Fellowships for Ph.D. Recipients from Institutes in India and China

Open Call & Guidelines –2020-2021
Dead line for submission: October 30, 2019

The Agriculture Research Organization invites applications for Postdoctoral Fellowships. The Fellowships are intended for Indian or Chinese citizens that have completed a Ph.D. program, **in the past 5 years, Applications of candidates who received their Ph.D. certificate prior to 1.1.2014 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 in Universities of their home country. The main objectives of the fellowships is to avail excellent and promising scientists with the opportunity to become proficient in advanced technologies present in the Agriculture Research Organization and to establish future collaborations with Israeli scientists.

The fellowships will be awarded for one year with the possibility to extend it to a second year. Fellows may initiate their post-doctoral training as of **the beginning of 2020**. The total award is **100,000 Israeli Shekels** (equivalent to app. \$27,000 depending on the exchange rate) **per year**.

Applicants will have to select a mentor and contact him personally to discuss the possibility to join his 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 (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 accepted .

The mentor's agreement to host the applicant does not mean that the applicant have 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 every year.

Potential mentors and related projects are listed in:

<https://www.agri.gov.il/en/pages/1743.aspx>

Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of academic excellence that is reflected in productivity and impact in the field of study (e.g. scientific publications, presentations at scientific conferences, participation in scientific societies, awards, and teaching achievements). Special emphasis will be placed on the applicant's scientific training and achievements.

Applicants will submit their applications IN ENGLISH on the **application forms** (available through the link: <https://www.agri.gov.il/en/pages/1790.aspx>) and according to the format in the application form, to the Secretary office of the Associate Director for Academic Affairs, Mrs. Liraz Bergman: liraz@volcani.agri.gov.il including the details below:

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 prior to his/her arrival to Israel.
- Positions Held in National and International Academic Institutions and Status. Please add teaching Experience (if applicable). Please note that the program addresses only applicants with a postdoc 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 PDF format). Please indicate the IF (impact factor) of the journal.
- Books and Invited Reviews
- Articles in Non-Reviewed Journals in English
- Articles in Symposia Proceedings

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 a 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.

Please follow all instructions carefully. Applications which will not include all material in the requested form will not be evaluated.

Fellows will be notified if granted or not by: **December 31, 2019**

Expected time for arrival to Israel: **Before April 30, 2020.**

In the event that the fellowship will be awarded, the applicant will have to issue a student VISA and supply testimonial of personal injury insurance to cover the entire training period in Israel. 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. (Fellowship Statement available on [:http://www.agri.gov.il/download/files/FellowshipStatement.pdf](http://www.agri.gov.il/download/files/FellowshipStatement.pdf))

List of research themes & mentors:

<https://www.agri.gov.il/en/pages/1743.aspx>

Application forms:

<https://www.agri.gov.il/en/pages/1790.aspx>