



Faculty Fellowships Guidelines

Call for submission: January 2020

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Purpose

The Azrieli Foundation seeks to promote the development of research leadership in the State of Israel. To this end, the Azrieli Faculty Fellowships are offered to outstanding young scientists and scholars *in all academic fields of study*, who seek faculty positions at Israeli universities.

These fellowships will enable the best and brightest researchers to be accepted into the university system as faculty members during the upcoming academic year (2020–2021 תשפ"א) and will enable the universities to grant them their first full-time academic appointments - as “Lecturers,” “Senior Lecturers,” “Associate Professors,” or other equivalent ranks.

Eligibility

1. The Azrieli Foundation selects Azrieli Faculty Fellows according to a highly competitive selection process focused on academic and research excellence without regard to any institutional affiliations, race, religion, gender, ethnicity, or age. Candidates are assessed on their potential to make cutting-edge contributions to their respective fields. Aspects of personal merit and leadership abilities are also taken into consideration.
2. Candidates may be submitted for consideration no later than seven years after receipt of their PhD diploma. Interruptions or leaves of absence during this period, such as parental leave, medical leave, or military service, will be taken into consideration. In the case of maternity leave, the period will be extended by 1.5 years for each birth.
3. Candidates who wish to be considered for the Fellowship must be nominated, and applications must be submitted by one of the following academic institutions:
 - Bar-Ilan University
 - Ben-Gurion University
 - The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
 - Technion-Israel Institute of Technology
 - Tel Aviv University
 - University of Haifa
 - Weizmann Institute of Science
4. Candidates who are to receive their first full-time faculty appointment at an Israeli university during the academic year 2020–21 (תשפ"א) may be submitted for consideration, only if they have not previously held a tenure-track position (Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Associate Professor or other equivalent rank) in a university in Israel. The faculty appointment of the candidate may start as early as **June 2020** and no later than the beginning of the second semester of the academic year 2020–2021 תשפ"א.
5. Candidates must hold an official appointment to a tenure-track position at the academic institution submitting them to the Azrieli Fellows Program. A formal letter of appointment must be included in the application, or produced no later than May 1, 2020.
6. Candidates who are not accepted to the Azrieli Faculty Fellows Program after applying once may be re-nominated, and applications may be submitted one more time, in the year immediately following the initial application, as long as the candidate has not started a faculty position and does not intend to do so prior to June 2021.

Duration of the Fellowship

1. The Azrieli Faculty Fellowships are offered for three years. Successful applicants will become Azrieli Faculty Fellows and start work during the period between June 2020 and the beginning of the second semester of the academic year 2020–21 תשפ"א.
2. Azrieli Faculty Fellows must work consecutively and continuously. If this condition cannot be met for some reason, the university must inform and consult with the Azrieli Foundation.
3. If the Fellow starts late or is on an unpaid vacation period, or sabbatical for a portion of the fellowship period, s/he will not be eligible for the fellowship during this period.

Number of Fellowships

The Azrieli Foundation grants up to **eight** Faculty Fellowships annually, supporting a steady-state of up to **twenty-four** Azrieli Faculty Fellows every year.

In the current "Call for Applications," each eligible academic institution may submit for consideration:

- **up to four** candidates in the fields of Sciences and Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
- **up to two** candidates in the fields of Humanities, Education, Social Sciences (H.E.S.S.)

Value of the Fellowship

1. Salary

The Azrieli Faculty Fellow will receive a salary (including benefits) consistent with the remuneration and benefits of faculty of the rank of “Lecturer” or “Senior Lecturer”, “Associate Professor,” or other equivalent rank, as per the position the University has offered the Fellow. The Azrieli Foundation will fund a portion of the University’s cost associated with the Fellows’ remuneration and benefits, in the amount of **ILS 220,000**.

2. Research Grant

In addition to salary, the Azrieli Faculty Fellow will receive a research grant of **up to US \$210,000**, as justified by the submitted research plan and budget, to be paid over the course of the fellowship at the discretion of the Azrieli Foundation. This research grant will be funded in full (100%) by the Azrieli Foundation.

The research grant may be used for equipment and general research needs. The research grant will be awarded following a competitive selection process that will assess detailed proposals to be submitted by the applicants for the Fellowship to the Azrieli Foundation. These proposals will outline a budget and include a breakdown of expenses, showing the costs the applicant expects to be covered by startup funds provided by the university and the costs the applicant expects to be covered by the Azrieli research grant. The Azrieli research grant is not meant to replace start-up funds which are provided by the university for newly-appointed faculty positions. The university is expected to provide all the necessary conditions for carrying out research.

3. Overhead

No overhead or other fees will be paid to the university. The university will not deduct any amount from the Fellowship payments (salary or research grant) without the agreement of the Azrieli Foundation.

4. Additional External Funding

Azrieli Faculty Fellows may apply for and accept additional research grants. However, the research project may not be identical to that approved by the Azrieli Foundation. The percentage of time dedicated to the Azrieli funded project must be at least 30% for each funding year, however it may be distributed unevenly during the funding period. For example, 10% during Year 1, 60% during Year 2 and 20% during Year 3.

Obligations of the Academic Institution

The academic institution undertakes to:

1. Pay the Azrieli Faculty Fellow's salary regularly as per the accepted practices of the university regarding salaries for faculty of the rank of "Lecturer," "Senior Lecturer," "Associate Professor" or other equivalent rank.
2. Transfer the funds received from the Azrieli Foundation for the research grant to the Azrieli Faculty Fellows without deduction of overhead or other fees of any kind.
3. Refrain from deducting any amount from the Fellowship payments (salary or research grant) without the agreement of the Azrieli Foundation.
4. If an Azrieli Faculty Fellow obtains an additional, external research grant which makes the Fellow eligible for a salary increase according to university by-laws or practices, the university will fund the related salary increase.
5. Accept the Fellow into a tenure-track position at the university at the end of the fellowship period, subject to the Fellow meeting the university's requirements and criteria.
6. Report to the Azrieli Foundation on the granting of tenure (or a reasoned decision to withhold tenure) when a decision regarding tenure is made.
7. Include the Fellow's salary, at the end of the fellowship period, in the regular budget of the university.
8. Inform the Azrieli Foundation of any change in the Fellow's status during the period of the fellowship, including: sabbatical, unpaid vacation, rise in academic rank. Report to the Azrieli Foundation, on the Report Forms provided by the Foundation, at the end of the first and second years of the fellowship, assessing the achievements of the Faculty Fellow in teaching and research, and making recommendations about the continuation of the fellowship for an additional year. The Foundation will base its decision regarding the continuation of the fellowship for an additional year on this recommendation.
9. Provide a Summary Report to Azrieli Foundation, on the Report forms provided by the Foundation, about each Faculty Fellow at the end of the third year, along with notice regarding the Fellow's acceptance into a tenured position or a tenure-track. If the Fellow is not granted tenure or is not placed on a tenure-track, then a detailed and reasoned report must be provided by the university to the Azrieli Foundation.

Obligations of the Academic Institution (continued)

10. Provide the Azrieli Foundation with a financial report at the end of each academic year, listing and detailing the payments made to the Faculty Fellow in the preceding year.
11. Abide by the terms of the separate agreement signed and entered into by the Azrieli Foundation and each of the eligible participating academic institutions.
12. Consider the submission of a candidate by the university for an Azrieli Faculty Fellowship as a commitment on the part of the university to implement and honor all the above obligations.

Obligations of the Faculty Fellow

Azrieli Faculty Fellows are expected to fulfill the following obligations:

1. Work consecutively and continuously throughout the Fellowship Period

Azrieli Faculty Fellows must start their Fellowship during the period between June 2020 and the beginning of the second semester of the academic year 2020 – 2021 תשפ"א. They must work at the academic institution consecutively and continuously for three years, except for periods of sick leave, maternity/paternity leave and reserve duty, according to the law and the University's regulations. If this condition is not met, the fellowship will be canceled. If the Fellow starts late or is on an unpaid vacation period, or sabbatical for a portion of the fellowship period, s/he will not be eligible for the fellowship during this period.

2. Bring Academic Scholarship to the Community

In keeping with the spirit of the Azrieli Fellows Program, Azrieli Faculty Fellows are expected to volunteer time and effort for the betterment of the surrounding community and Israeli society.

Azrieli Faculty Fellows will be asked to bring their academic scholarship to the community at large by delivering lectures on their fields of research and areas of expertise to the general public – at least one lecture per year. These lectures may be offered through various reputable frameworks, either internal or external, to the university. The Azrieli Faculty Fellow will report to the Azrieli Foundation regarding his/her voluntary activity.

3. Participate in Program-sponsored events

In order to foster the exchange of ideas between Azrieli Fellows at all levels and types of research, and to maintain a sense of group identification, the Program sponsors several events during the academic year at which Fellows may socialize and share their research and academic activities. These events may include study days, symposia, lectures, mentorship opportunities, and general gatherings.

Obligations of the Faculty Fellow (continued)

4. Acknowledgement of the Azrieli Foundation

i. Publications

- a. Any written work (e.g., articles published in journals, etc.) published by the Faculty Fellow while in the Program, or based on data obtained during the fellowship period, must recognize the support of the Azrieli Foundation in a written acknowledgement.
- b. Fellows will also be asked to submit an abstract of their published works to the Azrieli Fellows Program management for use in publicity material produced by the Program, or for presentation on the Foundation website, (subject to publishers' permission).
- c. The work produced by the Faculty Fellows will be eligible for publication in a printed or on-line journal (subject to publishers' permission) that the Foundation will establish and fund entitled "The Azrieli Review".

ii. Conferences

Fellows in the Program who organize a conference or other public event, using funding provided through the Azrieli Faculty Fellowship, are required to acknowledge the Azrieli Foundation's support prominently at the conference.

5. Alumni Activities

Azrieli Faculty Fellows will be asked to act as ambassadors for the Azrieli Fellows Program – to talk about their experiences with others, to publicize the Fellowship to their colleagues, and potential candidates. Alumni will be invited to attend ongoing Program activities and events. In the future, the Azrieli Foundation hopes that former Azrieli Faculty Fellows will assist in the selection process for incoming Fellows.

How to Apply

1. The Application Form is online and may be accessed at <https://azrieli.smapply.io/> or via our website at <https://azrielifoundation.org/fellows/facultyfellowship/>, where detailed **user instructions** are also available.
2. Applicants will be asked to provide the following:
 - a. Personal Information
 - b. Academic Credentials
 - c. List of Publications, including Impact Factor or Ranking Quartile information
 - d. Conferences
 - e. Personal Essay (750 words)
 - f. Research Grant Proposal (10 pages) – instructions are provided on the online form.
 - g. Research Grant Budget Proposal – A template is provided for downloading from the system. It is advisable to consult with the Research Authority of your university when preparing this budget.
 - h. For applications in fields of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences (H.E.S.S.): A digital (PDF) copy of the candidate's PhD dissertation, including abstract, should be provided.
 - i. A list of at least four referees and their contact details including the PhD supervisor, postdoc supervisor, and a referee from outside of Israeli academia.
 - Referees are approached by the Rector or Dean of Faculty, and not by the candidate.
 - Reference letters must be addressed to the Azrieli Foundation. If otherwise addressed, they will not be accepted.
3. The online application process can be completed in stages; a draft of the form will be saved automatically.
4. The applicant may grant access to one or more university representatives, such as a Faculty Dean or a Research Authority official, to enable them to review the form and give comments or assistance, before submission.
5. Once the applicant submits the form, it is automatically sent to **the Rector's office**. The Rector's office will be asked to review and authorize the application, fill in several details, upload reference letters, upload the applicant's formal Letter of Appointment for a tenure-track position (or provide one by May 1, 2020), and confirm the university's final approval of the application. The application will then be sent to the Azrieli Foundation.

Timetable

January 2020	Call for Applications to be sent by University Rectors on behalf of the Azrieli Foundation.
March 16, 2020	Deadline for submitting applications to the Azrieli Foundation
During May 2020	Independent Fellowship Committee meets and recommends candidates for acceptance to the Faculty Fellows Program.
By June 2020	Azrieli Foundation makes the final decision regarding the acceptance of candidates. Academic institutions are informed.