

## The PBC Fellowship Program for Outstanding Post-Doctoral Researchers from China and India

### Regulations and Guidelines

#### Program Goals

1. To enhance the academic and research relations with China and India.
2. To increase the number of outstanding foreign post-doctoral researchers in Israel and strengthen the research groups in Israeli universities.

#### Fellowships

3. The Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC) will award up to 100 three-year fellowships to outstanding post-doctoral researchers from China and India.
4. The amount of the fellowship will be no less than NIS 100,000 per year (based on 2014/15 rates), for two years, with the option to extend it for a third year. NIS 67,000 per year of this sum will be provided by the CHE/PBC, and a sum amounting to no less than NIS 33,000 per year will be provided by the Israeli university. The fellowship is intended to cover room, board and living expenses.
5. The fellowship funding period will begin at October of each year and end in October of the following year. There will be no extensions beyond the third year of research.
6. The awarding of the fellowship is contingent upon the following conditions:
  - a. **The candidate's commitments to the university:**
    - i. To not undertake any paid employment, excluding teaching assistance in the university, which is contingent upon a written approval from the fellow's advisor. The teaching shall not exceed two weekly hours of instruction, and only for a period of two years.

- ii. To request approval from the university for each suspension in research work of two months or more. The university shall not approve suspension of research for longer than one year.
- b. **The university shall make the following commitments to the fellow:**
  - i. To not employ the fellow at the expense of the fellowship;
  - ii. To provide the fellow with the necessary professional literature and research tools in a way that will enable optimal use of the duration of research;
  - iii. To inform the fellow with the rules of the program and with the above obligations and rights.
  - iv. To inform the fellow with the living costs in Israel.

#### **Terms for Candidate Selection**

- 7. The candidate shall fulfill the following requirements:
  - a. The candidate shall be a citizen and resident of China or India, and shall not hold Israeli citizenship. Candidates who have Indian or Chinese citizenships and have completed their doctoral degrees in a leading institution outside of China or India are also eligible to apply for a fellowship.
  - b. Only candidates whose doctorate was awarded after November 1, 2010 are eligible to apply.

**In special cases**, it will be possible to present the candidacy of a person who has not yet received his or her doctoral degree, on condition that he or she will provide confirmation from the relevant authority where the doctorate is being carried out, of the fact that the candidate has fulfilled all of his or her academic requirements and has presented his or her doctoral thesis for evaluation. If the candidate does not receive the doctoral degree during the first year of his or her stay in Israel, he or she will not be able to continue his/her activities and the institution will terminate his/her fellowship.

- c. The candidates should intend to conduct research in their scientific field for a limited time period, on a full time basis, in an established research team in a university in Israel, under the training of a researcher who is a faculty member in the university.
- d. Only candidates who began their post-doctoral research in Israel **after** October 1<sup>st</sup> 2013 are eligible to apply.

### **The Selection Procedure**

8. The selection of winners of the fellowships will be done by a steering committee, appointed by the CHE/PBC that will evaluate the qualifications of candidates proposed to the PBC, and select the winners.
9. Candidates who have Indian or Chinese citizenship and completed their doctoral degrees in a leading institution outside of China or India will comprise no more than 20% of the winners.
10. The candidates shall apply directly to the contact person at the relevant university. Each university shall independently evaluate its candidates and shall then submit its selected candidates to the PBC.
13. The selection of fellows will be done according to academic excellence and to the criteria set by the steering committee and at its discretion. Criteria for academic excellence shall be based, *inter alia*, on the academic activities of the candidate, future research plans, list of publications, list of scientific works and recommendations.

### **Evaluation Procedure**

In the end of each academic year, an academic report will be sent from the Israeli advisor to the CHE/PBC steering committee, in order to evaluate the candidate's progress. The academic report shall include a short evaluation of each fellow's

achievements, as well as a recommendation regarding the continuation of the fellowship.

### **Required Documents**

Applications should include:

1. Completed application form.
2. CV including diplomas (Bachelors, Masters, PhD if relevant).
3. An abstract of the PhD dissertation (up to 2 pages).
4. Research proposal (up to 4 pages).
5. Three recommendation letters.
6. List of publications. Please mention the Impact factor of the journal, if exists.
7. The applicant's consent to the Regulations and Guidelines form.