

### **The UK-Israel Call for Travel Grants 2021**

The British Council and the UK Science and Innovation Network are pleased to invite proposals to the **UK-Israel Travel Grants Programme**.

The following notes provide guidance on eligibility and conditions upon which the grants are issued. Applicants are required to complete one application form online in accordance with the guidance notes here and follow any instructions provided on the application form.

#### **1. Description**

- 1.1. The Programme aims to strengthen academic collaboration between the UK and Israel in the priority sectors of neuroscience and ageing. The scheme aims to support the travel of Israeli and British early-career researchers to collaborating labs in Britain/Israel.
- 1.2. Support can be given for early career researchers who wish to **participate in a conference, a course, an exchange visit to a laboratory, or other visits** where it can be shown to be of value for increasing the applicant's involvement and knowledge/skills in the priority areas.

#### **2. Scientific Priorities**

The research collaboration must be in one of these priority areas:

**Neuroscience:** research related to neurosciences, including (but not limited to) physiology, anatomy, pharmacology, cognitive, computational, engineering, imaging and physics.

**Ageing:** research related to ageing, including: genetics, longevity, and age-related diseases.

#### **3. Time frame**

- 3.1. Trips must take between two and seven days.
- 3.2. Travel must take place within 12 months from the grant award, and no later than the end of March 2022.

#### **4. Eligibility**

- 4.1. The Applicant must be a PhD student or post-doctoral research fellow within five years of attaining their PhD in the broad field of neuroscience and ageing research.
- 4.2. Proposals must include the details of the applicant. The applicant is the person who will travel to the UK or Israel.
- 4.3. If the applicant knows who their host is, the host's details should be mentioned in the application. The host is the person who will receive the applicant in their lab.
- 4.4. Both applicant and the host (where relevant) must demonstrate their affiliation to a UK/Israeli higher education research institution that is formally recognised by both countries.

- 4.5. We only accept applications from researchers affiliated to higher education academic institutions. Applicants from independent research centres are not eligible to apply.
- 4.6. Applications must fall within the priority areas mentioned above. Applications that do not meet the priorities will not be considered.
- 4.7. Multiple applications from laboratories, departments and academic institutions are acceptable; however individuals may submit only one application. Duplicate applications or applications for reciprocal symposia will not be eligible.

## 5. **Funding**

- 5.1. Payment will be made to the applicant's institution, contingent on contract signature. The institution is responsible for transferring the funds to the applicant. We do not expect overheads to be charged.
- 5.2. **The grant will cover 75% of the trip. It is expected that the remaining 25% will be covered by the applicant's institution or by other sources.** The applicant will be asked to demonstrate what the other sources of funding are in the application form.
- 5.3. The grantee will need to inform the British Council two months in advance of their travel in order for the payment to be made. The payment will be made in two instalments: first payment of 70% of the grant upon receiving the notification from the grantee and an invoice from the grantee's institution. Second payment of 30% upon receiving a narrative and financial report from the grantee, listing actual use of the funds. The payment terms will be specified in the contract with the applicant's institution.
- 5.4. Applicants will be able to claim **up to £250 stipend per day** for each day of their trip. In addition, applicants will be paid up to **£500 for flight costs**. Note that the following amounts stand for the full cost of the trip, out of which only 75% will be covered by the grant.

<b>Duration of trip</b>	<b>Stipend (GBP)</b>
2 days	£500 plus a one time travel allowance of £500  Amount paid byfor the grant: £750
3 days	£750 plus a one time travel allowance of £500  Amount paid by the grant: £938
4 days	£1,000 plus a one time travel allowance of £500  Amount paid by the grant: £1,125
5 days	£1,250 plus a one time travel allowance of £500  Amount paid by the grant: £1,313

6 days	£1,500 plus a one time travel allowance of £500  Amount paid the grant: £1500
7 days	£1,750 plus a one time travel allowance of £500  Amount paid by the grant: £1,688

5.5. Travel grants are intended to support the travel and subsistence of eligible individuals.

Eligible costs include the items below:

- Return air travel, up to £500
- In country local transport (bus, rail, taxi etc.);
- Accommodation costs, up to £150 per night for London, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem; £90 elsewhere in the UK or in Israel;
- Meals/subsistence costs;
- Conference admission fees.

5.6. Inadmissible costs:

- Costs related to writing up previous research;
- Costs related to an accompanying spouse or children;
- Any contributions towards salaries or pension costs.

5.7. Successful applicants should take out adequate insurance as the British Council cannot take responsibility for any problems which may occur during the visit. Successful applicants will accept full responsibility for all aspects of the visit and take out insurance for any risks associated with taking part in travelling abroad, including all unexpected and uncontrollable events. The British Council will not be liable for the consequences of any such risks or any costs incurred.

5.8. Please note that successful applicants are expected to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements, and that the British Council will not be able to assist in requesting visas or taking out insurance required to carry out their visit. Successful applicants are responsible for any tax-related issues.

5.9. In the event of early termination of the grant, any payment made after the date of termination will have to be repaid as will the return portion of the travel money. Failure to comply with demands will result in the British Council and the Science and Innovation Network, responsible for the administration of Programme, seeking reimbursement of the full award plus administrative costs.

## 6. **Assessment**

6.1. Applications are assessed by an Academic Selection Board. The Academic Selection Board's decision is final and confidential. No appeals will be considered. The British Council is unable to enter into any communication on the Selection Board's decisions. Feedback will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants.

6.2. The Board will evaluate applications using the following criteria:

- **Quality of the scientific content of the proposed activity:** depth, content, clarity and uniqueness of the visit.
- **Contribution of the trip to the applicant's career:** applicants must demonstrate how and why the visit will enhance their academic career.
- **Outcomes and follow ups:** what outcomes are likely to emanate from the visit such as new or long-lasting collaboration, shared skills and techniques, mutually developed data sets, etc.

## 7. **Responsibilities of the Grantee**

- 7.1. The grantee's home institution is required to sign a grant agreement with the British Council before any payment can be made.
- 7.2. The grantee will fill in a narrative and financial report no longer than a month following their trip.
- 7.3. The British Council and The Science and Innovation Network must be acknowledged in any communications materials used in or emanating from their travel.
- 7.4. The grantee is expected to support the activity of the Science and Innovation Network and the British Council Israel when relevant.
- 7.5. The grantee is expected to participate in media work for the British Council or Science and Innovation Network where relevant, and to
- 7.6. Attend Science and Innovation Network or British Council events, where relevant.

## 8. **Other Compliance Matters**

- 8.1. Applicants must obtain the support from their home institution and, where relevant, the host institution as well, and include the necessary documentation in their application. Applications that are not validated and/or not received by the specified deadline will not be accepted.
- 8.2. 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.

## 9. **Equal Opportunities and Diversity**

- 9.1. The British Council and The Science and Innovation Network are 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.

## 10. **Privacy notice**

The British Council is the Data Controller of the information that you provide as part of your participation in the UK-Israel Early Career Researcher Mobility Grants programme.

This means that the British Council is responsible for determining how your information is collected and used.

The legal basis for collecting your data is that the processing is necessary for the administration of your application for the UK-Israel Early Career Researcher Mobility Grants.

By submitting your application, you understand that your information may be shared with our partners for these purposes awarding and administering the grant:

- The UK Science and Innovation Network;
- BIRAX Partners who may be interested in funding your grant;
- The selection panel members;
- BIRAX Steering Committee.

The British Council complies with data protection law in the UK and laws in other countries that meet internationally accepted standards. Other than for the purposes mentioned herein, your personal data will not be shared outside the British Council without your explicit permission.

You have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on you, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information. If you have concerns about how we have used your personal information, you also have the right to complain to a privacy regulator. For detailed information, please refer to the privacy section of our website, [www.britishcouncil.org/privacy](http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy), or contact the British Council Israel office, [israelscience@britishcouncil.org](mailto:israelscience@britishcouncil.org).

We will keep your information for a period of 7 years from the time of collection.

#### 11. **How to apply**

Please fill in the following online [form](#); the deadline for applications is **January 31<sup>st</sup> 2021, 22pm GMT**.

Announcements will be made by the end of **March 2021**, followed by a contract signature.

Trips are expected to take place **by the end of March 2022**.

For all inquiries, please e-mail [israelscience@britishcouncil.org](mailto:israelscience@britishcouncil.org); Please note that we are unable to comment on the content of applications.

#### 12. **An application must contain:**

- CV
- A letter of support from the applicant's supervisor.
- An abstract if the applicant is applying for conference travel support.

- An invitation letter with motivation if the applicant is applying for travel support to carry out an exchange visit.
- A course programme and letter of acceptance if the applicant is applying for travel support to participate in a course.