

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS
UK- Israel Science FELLOWSHIP Scheme
2018/9**

The British Council and the British Embassy in Israel invite proposals to the UK-Israel Science Fellowship Scheme for 2018/9.

The following notes provide guidance on eligibility and conditions upon which the UK-Israel Science Fellowship grants are ultimately issued. Applicants need to complete one application form in accordance with the guidance notes here and follow any instructions provided on the application form itself.

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Background

The UK-Israel Science Fellowship Grants were created by the Science and Innovation Network and the British Council in Israel. The Fellowship Scheme aims to strengthen academic collaboration between the UK and Israel in the following priority sectors: nanoscience, neuroscience, water and agriscience, cyber and anti-microbial resistance (AMR).

The initiative is strongly endorsed and directed by the UK - Israel Science Council, a group of 36 leading scientists from both countries. The group contains Nobel Prize winners, members of the House of Lords, Presidents of universities and some of the most eminent and distinguished scientists in the world.

Objectives of the UK-Israel Science Fellowship Scheme

The scheme supports mobility of research scientists in Britain and Israel. It invests in early stage collaboration between researchers, including PhD and postdoctoral students. In the long run this research will tackle some of the most pressing global challenges and establish Britain and Israel as leading partners in the priority areas set above.

The objectives of the Fellowship Scheme are:

- To deepen connections between the UK and Israel and promote joint UK-Israeli scientific excellence
- To offer an opportunity for early career researchers.
- To seed / cement partnerships

Scientific priority themes

The UK-Israel Science Lectureships are available in the following priority themes:

- **Nanoscience:** research related to nano technologies and materials, including (but not limited to) medicine, toxicology, particles, electronics, metrology, molecular and green technology.

- **Neuroscience:** research related to neurosciences, including (but not limited to) physiology, anatomy, pharmacology, cognitive, computational, engineering, imaging and physics.
- **Agri science:** research related to agri science including (but not limited to) biotechnology, agronomy, soil-sciences, genetics and chemistry.
- **Water science:** research related to water science including (but not limited to) irrigation, pollutants, hydrology, purification, groundwater, sanitation, wastewater treatment and climate change adaptation as it pertains to water resources.
- **Cyber:** research related to cyber technologies (not policy), including (but not limited to) computer science, engineering, algorithms, information security, and cryptography.
- **Antimicrobial resistance (AMR):** research related to AMR (not policy) including (but not limited to) biology, medicine, engineering, genomics and computational methods.

Outputs of the Scheme

The Scheme will enable scientists in both countries to undertake medium-term visits to further their research experience establish / strengthen research links and develop / enhance scientific collaborations.

The UK-Israel Fellowships will support research visits by British and Israeli researchers to laboratories in the UK and Israel. Applicants can apply for visits for **one to six months in duration**, which may be split into a number of visits. The aim of these visits will be to enable the visiting fellows to learn new techniques and research methods that are not available in their home laboratories, and to facilitate collaboration between the home and host research groups.

For shorter visits, senior researchers can consider the UK-Israel Science Lectureship scheme, which is available on the British Council's [website](#).

Eligibility

- Fellowships are open to PhD students, Post-Docs, and others in the field in question. They are designed to be an opportunity for early career researchers. We would expect early career researchers to be at the beginning of their research careers and to have been awarded their PhD not more than 10 years prior to applying for a fellowships, but allowances can be made for career breaks or other extenuating circumstances.
- Applicants must work or study in an academic institution, research hospitals and research institution in the UK or in Israel, that are officially recognised by both countries.
- Applications for Fellowships to extend visits or to bridge research visits funded by other organisations will not be considered.
- Individuals connected to laboratories currently supported by the BIRAX Regenerative Medicine Initiative are eligible to apply, but not to the same partner laboratory.
- The UK-Israel Science Fellowships will fund a visit from the UK to Israel or vice versa. We do not expect reciprocal visits.
- Fellowships will not be awarded to individuals to visit the laboratory, institute or department in which the applicant obtained his or her PhD or to work again with the candidate's PhD supervisor.
- Multiple applications from laboratories / departments / institutions are acceptable; however individuals may submit only one application at a time.
- Only one application may be submitted per researcher. Duplicate applications will not be eligible, even if they are to different host institutions.
- Preference will be given for new collaborations although individuals involved in existing cooperation will be considered.

- Applications must be approved by the relevant head of department

If in doubt, for a ruling on eligibility, please submit details to the British Council by e-mailing: israelscience@britishcouncil.org marking the subject box “Eligibility Query: Fellowships”.

Please note that we are unable to comment on the content of applications. Answers to general questions will be published periodically on the British Council’s website.

Funding

Duration of Fellowship	Stipend (GBP)
6 months	£12,600 plus a one time travel allowance of £550
5 months	£10,500 plus a one time travel allowance of £550
4 months	£8,400 plus a one time travel allowance of £550
3 months	£6,300 plus a one time travel allowance of £550
2 months	£4,200 plus a one time travel allowance of £550
1 month	£2,100 plus a one time travel allowance of £550

- Fellowship awards are intended to support the travel and subsistence of eligible individuals.
- Travel costs and stipend: for visits from one to six months, the Fellowships cover travel plus subsistence of the fellow only.
- Please note that the fellowship may be divided into a number of travel periods that do not need to be consecutive. It must, however, be completed over a 12 month period.
- The selection panel will consider reasonable consumable costs as detailed below:
 - Fellowships of four months or longer in duration can include in the application a request for consumables up to £500 (GBP) per month. (The maximum amount that can be requested for a four month fellowship is £2000, for a five month fellowship £2500, for a six month fellowship £3000)
 - No request for consumable costs can be included for fellowships of four months or shorter in duration.

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.

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 fellows are responsible for any tax-related issues.

Inadmissible costs:

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

Assessment criteria

Applications are assessed by an Academic Selection Board. The Board will evaluate applications using the following criteria:

- General relevance to the research theme as defined above
- Quality of the scientific content of the proposed activity
- Whether the collaboration will continue beyond the period of the proposed activity.
- Compliance with Guidelines for Applicants and the relevant Application Form instructions.

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.

Responsibilities of Fellows

- Fellows will provide the British Council Science a report of their activity at the host lab within 60 days of returning from the trip. A final report template will be sent to successful applicants and will include a financial and a narrative components.
- The fellowship should be acknowledged in all pertinent publications.
- Fellows will be expected to:
 - Support activity of the British Council / Science and Innovation Network
 - Attend Science and Innovation Network/ British Council events including an annual meeting where relevant
 - Participate in peer reviews, where relevant
 - Be available for press and media work
 - Perform satisfactory progress at host lab
 - Ensure that the British Council name and logo appear on all materials and publications emanating from their fellowship

In the event of early termination of the fellowship, any payment made after the date of termination will have to be repaid as will the return portion of the travel money. When the fellowship is terminated after a brief period, the entire travel allowance will have to be returned.

Failure to comply with these demands will result in the British Council, responsible for the administration of UK-Israel Science Fellowships, seeking reimbursement of the full award plus administrative costs.

Other Compliance Matters

Please ensure that support from both the home and host institutions has been obtained, and that the necessary signatures are included on the form to validate the application before submitting it to the British Council.

Applications that are not received by the specified deadline or do not have references and host invitation will not be accepted.

Please note that 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.

Ethics and research governance

It is essential that all legal and professional codes of practice are followed in conducting work supported under this Programme. Applicants must ensure the proposed activity will be carried out to the highest standards of ethics and research integrity. Specifically, applications that involve research on animals, human participants, human tissue or patient/participant data must

be accompanied by necessary permission certificates from the relevant local ethical review committees/authorities in the UK and the partner country, or an undertaking to obtain this permission in advance of the activity commencing. Failure to do so will result in applications being rendered ineligible and any funding already committed through this Programme being rescinded.

Please refer to the Research Councils UK 'Policy and Guidelines on Governance of [Good Research Conduct](#)', the Inter Academy Partnership report 'Doing Global Science: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in the [Global Research Enterprise](#)'.

Diversity

The British Council is committed to equal opportunities and diversity in all our activities. This includes avoidance of bias due to gender, disability, racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or religious belief.

The British Council encourages applications from people from under-represented groups. Applicants may apply for funding to cover extra costs for such participation, (e.g. childcare costs, costs of support for those with disabilities). Please include requests for such support in the budget submitted with your application.

Data protection

The British Council will use the information that you are providing for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards, monitoring and review of any award.

We shall share any necessary data on your application our funding partners in your country in order to assist with management of the application process; any decisions on grants will be made in collaboration with them.

Organisation details, where collected, are used for monitoring and evaluation and statistical purposes. Gender information, where collected, is used solely in preparing statistical reports.

The British Council collects country of origin for reporting and statistical purposes and to contact you within your own country.

Under UK Data Protection law 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 want more information about this please contact your local British Council office or the Data Protection Team infogovernance@britishcouncil.org or see our [website](#).

Provisional time line

Date	Action
15 August 2018	Launch
30 September 2018	Deadline for applications
21 October 2018	Responses distributed *
Mid November 2018	Contract signature*

Dates marked with * are provisional.

Please note that all UK-Israel Lectureship projects are expected to be completed by the end of November 2019.

What to do next

Complete online application [form](#).

In addition to filling in the online form, applicants are required to upload the following documents by the deadline. Note the letters must not include sensitive information such as ID numbers, details on their identity, detail on the health of the applicant etc.

- A signed letter of support from the Head of Department (or equivalent) of your current home institution. This should include:
 1. how your institution will help you prepare for the visit
 2. arrangements for support during our visit
 3. how your institution will support you in sustaining the link
 4. confirmation that your home institution is willing to sign the grant agreement and be responsible for managing the funds awarded to the successful applicant
 5. confirmation that the applicant will return to their home institution in a research capacity for at least six months after the end of the visit.

The letter should be written on headed paper in Word or pdf format, and has to be attached and submitted online together with the application form.

- A signed letter of invitation from the Head of Department (or equivalent) of the host institution where the visit will take place. This should include:
 1. information on how the host institution will help the applicant prepare for the visit
 2. arrangements for support during the visit (waiving of bench fees, support for finding accommodation and any language training needed, induction to the institution, etc.)
 3. support to the research, including how the researcher will be integrated into the research group

The statements of support from the two Heads of Department should also include comments on the following questions:

- Why is the research important, especially with respect to its potential for international development impact?
- Why do you want to make contact with this institution?
- How will the link be sustained?

For application enquiries please e-mail: israelscience@britishcouncil.org

Thank you for your interest in the UK-Israel Science Fellowship Scheme, and good luck!