

## Environment and Health Fund Post-Doctoral Fellows Program

Guidelines for Applicants  
*October 2013*

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### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The EHF Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program assists young scientists pursue advanced training and research in **Environment and Health**, develop a broad perspective and an inter-disciplinary approach, and contribute to scientific excellence in this field upon their return to Israel.

EHF will award up to two post-doctoral fellowships to PhD graduates and MDs who are interested in postdoctoral training in **toxicology at the National Toxicology Program at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)**.

MDs and PhD graduates in epidemiology, medicine, toxicology, biology, chemistry, pharmacology, public health and environmental sciences are welcome to apply.

Details regarding the program can be found in the following links:

1. <http://sourcebook.od.nih.gov/ethic-conduct/Training-Mentoring-10-08.pdf>
2. <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/research/postdoc-training/index.cfm>

We encourage applicants to contact Dr. Rajendra S. Chhabra, coordinator of the postdoctoral training program, with any questions they may have regarding the program (Please mention you are an applicant of the EHF fellowship when contacting Dr. Chhabra).

Dr. Chhabra's contact details:

[Rajendra S. Chhabra, BVSc., Ph.D., D.A.B.T.](mailto:chhabrar@niehs.nih.gov)

Postdoctoral Training Program Coordinator, Contractor

Tel (919) 541-3386

Fax (919) 541-3647

[chhabrar@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:chhabrar@niehs.nih.gov)

### QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY FOR THE 2014 DEADLINE

- The candidate must be a permanent resident of Israel.
- The candidate must have completed or be conducting his/her PhD, or have received an MD in an accredited institution of higher learning.
- The candidate will be eligible only if the doctoral degree was awarded after November, 2008.

- The candidate will be required to provide written confirmation from the relevant academic authorities that he/she has completed all requirements of the doctoral/medical degree before departing for the host institution.
- A recipient of an EHF Fellowship will be entitled to commence research abroad no earlier than September 1, 2014, but not later than January 5, 2015.
- A person holding a tenured position at an Israeli university will NOT be considered for a fellowship.
- A person already studying abroad may not apply for a fellowship.

Applicants are assessed based on their past research performance, as well as their potential to make cutting edge contributions. Aspects of personal merit and leadership abilities are also taken into consideration.

## TERMS OF FELLOWSHIP

EHF post-doctoral fellowships are for a period of one year.

The fellowship is comprised of a stipend, a one time travel grant and a family allowance.

Post-doctoral stipend	\$40,000
Travel grant:	\$ 2,000

The fellow's accompanying spouse will receive a travel grant of a similar amount, excluding the case where the spouse has a travel grant from another source.

A family allowance is granted for accompanying family members (for expenses such as health insurance and child care services):

Spouse:	\$ 5,500
Each child:	\$ 6,000

Candidates are required to advise the EHF office whenever supplementary funds become available to them. Candidates may receive supplementary funds of not more than \$35,000 from other sources.

Funds are paid directly to the EHF fellow and do not pass through the host institution.

## Extensions

Continuation of the fellowship for a second year is dependent upon the commitment of a funding agency or host institution to fund 50% of the fellow's second year. Successful applicants become eligible for a second year of funding, shared on a matching basis between EHF and the additional funding agency or host institution. In order to receive funding for the second year of study abroad, the fellow must provide written confirmation from the funding agency or host institution, providing the funding, by the 11th month of work at the host institution.

The portion of the award granted by EHF for the second year will be \$20,000, along with \$2,750 for the spouse, and \$3,000 for each child, and **will not include a travel grant.**

The request for an extension must include a scientific report of the first year's progress, a short outline of the research plan for the second year, an evaluation of the fellow's progress and achievements from their host and a written commitment from a funding agency or host institution to fund 50% of the fellow's second year. These should be sent to EHF at [info@ehf.org.il](mailto:info@ehf.org.il).

## APPLICATION FORM AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Applications, typed in English, should be uploaded in electronic form to the Environment and Health Fund documents server: <http://depot.ehf.org.il/postdoc> **(Please be advised that the application documents can only be viewed by EHF and do not appear visible to the applicant who has uploaded them)**. A separate email informing EHF of the submission should be sent to [info@ehf.org.il](mailto:info@ehf.org.il). EHF acknowledges all applications.

The application documents should include:

1. An Application Form including Statement of Mission (submitted as a WORD document only).
2. A Letter of Invitation from the Research Group leader for the intended post-doctoral position (to be submitted even if acceptance is conditional upon funding)
3. Signature Page (scanned and included in the electronic file)
4. Curriculum Vitae
  - Education: State the university and the year of degree awarded. If degrees were conferred with honors, please indicate the precise designation of the honors in English and Hebrew
  - Other professional honors, academic awards, fellowships or distinctions.
  - Previous academic studies or research abroad (places, dates and area of work)
  - Positions held
  - A full list of publications authored or co-authored
  - Other professional activities, such as workshops, seminars, consultations, courses taught
  - Membership, leadership and other activities in professional associations
  - Proficiency in foreign languages: (reading, writing, speaking)
  - Interests outside of studies or work, community service and leadership.
5. Letters of recommendation from three referees at the request of the candidate providing an assessment of the applicant's research and capabilities. These references should be from persons qualified to evaluate the applicant's scientific performance and future potential.

PhDs: should submit one reference from the applicant's doctoral degree advisor, and one reference from a senior academic in the applicant's academic discipline who is not at the applicant's university.

MDs: should provide references from senior academics in the applicant's research discipline.

These letters should be regarded as confidential, written in English and submitted by the referees directly to EHF at [info@ehf.org.il](mailto:info@ehf.org.il).

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all references are submitted by the application deadline.

**Consideration will be given only to complete applications.**

## **SUBMISSION TIMETABLE**

- The Application Form and supporting documents must be submitted to EHF no later than February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.
- The application will be evaluated by the EHF Fellowship Committee.
- A candidate may be invited for an interview by the EHF Fellowship Committee. In order to be considered for an award, applicants must be available for a personal interview.
- Notification of awards will be made in March, 2014.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The following criteria will be considered in the course of the application review process:

- The applicant's potential to contribute as a scientist to future research in Environment and Health in Israel, either by identifying emerging environmental health issues and problems or by bringing new insight to the examination and analysis of existing issues and problems
- The applicant's commitment to a career consistent with the program's purpose and goals
- The quality of the applicant's past research
- The content of the applicant's Statement of Mission
- Recommendations by faculty and by other individuals with whom the applicant has studied or worked
- English language proficiency

EHF reserves the exclusive right to determine the qualitative standards for the evaluation of applications. EHF is under no obligation to provide reasons for its decisions regarding the allocation of fellowships.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Candidates needing to update personal details or application materials (e.g. a newly published paper) or wishing to make other inquiries should be in touch with the EHF office at [info@ehf.org.il](mailto:info@ehf.org.il) or 02-6738478.