



Call for Submission: December, 2014

## The Azrieli Fellows Program

Promoting Academic Excellence and Leadership

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**AZRIELI FELLOWS PROGRAM  
GRADUATE STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS**

**GUIDELINES FOR PhD FELLOWSHIPS  
in  
Sciences, Education, Social Sciences**

**GUIDELINES FOR Masters FELLOWSHIPS  
in  
Architecture & Urban Planning**

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**Mission**

The Azrieli Fellows Program promotes excellence in graduate studies at accredited institutions of higher learning in Israel. This competitive and prestigious program provides generous financial support to the best and brightest graduate students, from Israel and abroad, who will use their training to become leaders in their respective fields.

Our goal is to create a cadre of leading professionals and academics who will increase the pool of technological and scholarly human resources in Israel.

This network of leading professionals and academics will raise Israel's profile internationally and maintain strong links between Israel and the rest of the world.

The program is funded by The Azrieli Foundation, which was established to realize the philanthropic vision of David J. Azrieli.

**Eligibility - Who can become an Azrieli Fellow?**

Graduate students at Israeli universities, in the fields and at the degree levels outlined in these guidelines, are eligible to participate in the Azrieli Fellows Program.

The Fellowships are awarded on the basis of outstanding academic merit and other exceptional personal achievements, without regard to race, religion, gender, ethnicity or age.

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

Students who wish to apply must be nominated by an accredited academic institution.

## Academic Fields

The Azrieli Fellows Program is currently open to students in specific fields and at specific academic degree levels. The following chart outlines what is offered and the duration of the Fellowship:

Field	Track	Duration of Fellowship	Commencing
Sciences *	PhD	Up to 3 years.	October 2015
Education	PhD	Up to 3 years.	October 2015
Social Sciences	PhD	Up to 3 years.	October 2015
Architecture	Masters	1 year, renewable for up to 1 more year	October 2015

### \* Sciences:

The Azrieli Fellows Program will accept nominations of PhD students who perform **cutting edge science research, interdisciplinary & applied**. The research areas may include, but are not limited to, the following areas of study, broadly defined:

Exact / Natural Sciences	Technology	Engineering
Mathematics Physics Chemistry Biology Medicine	Computer Science Materials Science Earth Sciences Nanotechnology	Electrical Chemical Biomedical Mechanical Aeronautical

## **Participating Institutions**

### **PhD Fellowships:**

The academic institutions eligible to nominate candidates for the **PhD Fellowships** are:

1. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
2. Technion-Israel Institute of Technology
3. Weizmann Institute of Science
4. Tel Aviv University
5. Bar-Ilan University
6. Ben-Gurion University
7. University of Haifa

These institutions will be invited to nominate candidates from their student body for an Azrieli Fellowship.

### **Masters - Architecture Fellowships:**

The academic institutions eligible to nominate candidates for the Architecture Fellowships are those which offer a **research-oriented Masters degree**:

- Technion-Israel Institute of Technology
- Tel Aviv University

These institutions will be asked to nominate candidates **from within their Research (thesis) Masters programs**, who hold undergraduate degrees from one of the five schools of architecture offering a 5-year B.Arch. or B.Sc. in Architecture degree.

These institutions include:

- Tel Aviv University
- Technion
- Ariel University
- Bezalel Academy
- WIZO Academy

## Value of the Fellowship

<b>For PhD students in Sciences</b>	
Basic Fellowship	\$27,000
For conference travel & research expenses	Up to \$5,000
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>Up to \$32,000</b>
<b>For PhD Students in Education</b>	
Basic Fellowship	\$27,000
For conference travel & research expenses	Up to \$3,500
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>Up to \$30,500</b>
<b>For PhD Students in Social Sciences</b>	
Basic Fellowship	\$27,000
For conference travel & research expenses	Up to \$3,500
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>Up to \$30,500</b>
<b>For Masters Students in Architecture &amp; Urban Planning</b>	
Basic Fellowship	\$18,000
For conference travel & research expenses	Up to \$3,500
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>Up to \$21,500</b>



**Value of the Fellowship - continued****Additional Income Policy:**

1. The Azrieli Fellows Program is intended to enable students to focus solely on their research at the university. The Fellowships are intended for students who are not employed and do not receive any additional income from employment or living stipends.
2. The Azrieli Foundation has no objection to the student's receipt of additional research grants provided they are intended to cover research expenses only.
3. The Azrieli Foundation has no objection to the student's receipt of supplementary funding to the basic fellowship from the academic institution at which they are enrolled, in accordance with the policies set by that institution.
4. Regarding employment, the Program will make an exception when said employment is directly connected to the students' Masters or Doctoral training, that is, teaching or tutoring at the university, for no more than four hours per week.

## The Number of Azrieli Fellows

The chart below shows the maximum number of Fellows the program can accept per year.

Field	New Fellows accepted per year
Sciences PhD	10
Education PhD	2
Social Sciences PhD	4
Architecture & Urban Planning * Masters	4

The Azrieli Fellows Program will have the capacity to accept the number of students per field as outlined in these guidelines, but reserves the right to accept less than the indicated number in a given year.

In addition to fellowships in Graduate Studies, the Azrieli Fellows Program supports:

- ✚ Postdoctoral Fellowships at Israeli universities who are Canadian citizens or have completed their PhD degree at a Canadian university. Guidelines are provided under separate cover.
- ✚ Faculty Fellowships for positions in Israeli academia. Guidelines are provided under separate cover.

Within the next three years, the Azrieli Fellows Program will support a steady state of approximately 90 Fellows per year, including all levels of fellowships mentioned here.

## Sciences Track (PhD)

1. The Azrieli Fellows Program will accept nominations of PhD students who perform **cutting edge science research, basic, interdisciplinary, or applied**. The research areas may include, but are not limited to, the following areas of study, broadly defined:

Exact / Natural Sciences	Technology	Engineering
Mathematics Physics Chemistry Biology Medicine	Computer Science Materials Science Earth Sciences Nanotechnology	Electrical Chemical Biomedical Mechanical Aeronautical

2. Candidates are eligible to apply for an Azrieli Fellowship as follows:

a) Regular Track PhD:

- Definition: A PhD study track following completion of a Masters degree.
- Regular Track PhD students may apply for an Azrieli Fellowship within the first year of their PhD studies. A research proposal is not a requirement at the time of application, if the research topic is a continuation of the same line of research as the student's Masters Degree.
- If either the topic or the supervisor/s is different, candidates may apply during their second year of PhD studies, and must submit along with their application either a research proposal, **or** an article for publication on their current research. The research proposal may be in the stages of receiving approval from the university authorities, or have received approval after October 2014.
- Applicants from the Technion should submit a Research Area statement "תחום מחקר" in place of a research proposal.

b) Combined Track PhD - also referred to as "Direct" in some universities:

- Definition: A PhD study track in which students fulfill most or all of their Masters degree course obligations, but do not submit a Masters thesis.
- Students in this track of study may apply for an Azrieli Fellowship if their change of status from a Masters to a PhD student occurred after May 2014. This candidate is not required to have an approved research proposal at the time of application.

**Sciences Track (PhD) - continued**c) Direct (from BA) Track PhD :

- Definition: A PhD study track in which students start PhD studies directly following their BA degree.
  - Candidates may apply for an Azrieli Fellowship following approval of their research proposal. The proposal should have been approved after May 2014.
3. Candidates must be nominated by the Rector, or academic official of similar position, of the university at which they are studying. Nominations and coordination of applications will be processed through the Academic Secretariat or the Graduate School of the institution at which candidates are enrolled.
  4. Each university is requested to submit up to **six** nominations for the Sciences Program track.
  5. Up to **ten** new Azrieli Fellows will be selected each year in the Sciences.
  6. Students nominated for a Clore Scholarship or Adams Fellowship may not be nominated for an Azrieli Fellowship in the same year.
  7. The Fellowship is offered for up to three years. Fellows will be required to provide bi-annual reports to the Program's management, which will be signed and approved by their academic supervisors. Progress Report forms will be provided by the Program management.
  8. An approved research proposal must be submitted as early as possible in order to ensure continuation of the Fellowship.
  9. The Azrieli Foundation reserves the right to halt financial support before completion of a Fellow's studies or the three years, in the event that that the Fellow does not meet his/her obligations to remain in good standing (see section entitled "Obligations of the Azrieli Fellow").

**Education Track (PhD)**

1. The Azrieli Fellowships are offered to PhD students in the field of Education.
2. Candidates who have submitted a research proposal to the university after February 2014 are eligible to apply. It is preferable that this proposal will have been approved by the university authorities by the time the candidate applies for an Azrieli Fellowship, however, candidates whose proposals are still in the process of receiving approval will be considered.
3. Direct Track and Combined Track PhD students are also eligible to apply.
4. Candidates must be nominated by the Rector, or academic official of similar position, of the university at which they are studying. Nominations and coordination of applications will be processed through the Academic Secretariat or the Graduate School of the institution at which candidates are enrolled.
5. Each university is requested to submit up to **two** nominations for the Education Program track.
6. Up to **two** new Azrieli Fellows will be selected each year in the field of Education.
7. Awarding of the Azrieli Fellowships in this track is conditional upon approval of the candidate's Research Proposal by the university authorities by October 2015.
8. The Fellowship is offered for up to three years. Fellows will be required to provide bi-annual reports to the Program's management, which will be signed and approved by their academic supervisors. Progress Report forms will be provided by the Program management.
9. The Azrieli Foundation reserves the right to halt financial support before completion of a Fellow's studies or the three years, in the event that that the Fellow does not meet his/her obligations to remain in good standing (see section entitled "Obligations of the Azrieli Fellow").

### Social Sciences Track (PhD)

1. The Azrieli Fellowships are offered to PhD students in the fields of Social Sciences.
2. Candidates who have submitted a research proposal to the university after February 2014 are eligible to apply. It is preferable that this proposal will have been approved by the university authorities by the time the candidate applies for an Azrieli Fellowship, however, candidates whose proposals are still in the process of receiving approval will be considered.
3. Direct Track and Combined Track PhD students are also eligible to apply.
4. Candidates must be nominated by the Rector, or academic official of similar position, of the university at which they are studying. Nominations and coordination of applications will be processed through the Academic Secretariat or the Graduate School of the institution at which candidates are enrolled.
5. Each university is requested to submit up to **four** nominations for the Social Sciences Program track.
6. Up to **four** new Azrieli Fellows will be selected each year in the fields of Social Sciences.
7. Awarding of the Azrieli Fellowships in this track is conditional upon approval of the candidate's Research Proposal by the university authorities by October 2015.
8. The Fellowship is offered for up to three years. Fellows will be required to provide bi-annual reports to the Program's management, which will be signed and approved by their academic supervisors. Progress Report forms will be provided by the Program management.
9. The Azrieli Foundation reserves the right to halt financial support before completion of a Fellow's studies or the three years, in the event that that the Fellow does not meet his/her obligations to remain in good standing (see section entitled "Obligations of the Azrieli Fellow").

**Architecture & Urban Planning Track (Masters) - Research Track**

1. The Azrieli Fellowships are offered to students of Architecture or Urban Planning who, at the time of application, are **enrolled in a research Masters program in architecture**.
2. Students may apply for a fellowship **in their first** semester of studies and **no later than their third** semester of studies.
3. Applications are considered from students of Architecture, Urban Planning, or related fields with a specialization in Urban Planning.
4. In order to be eligible for an Azrieli Fellowship in this track, applicants must have completed a five-year B.Arch. or B.Sc. in Architecture at an accredited academic institution.
5. The fellowship is offered for 1 year, with an option for renewal for up to 1 more additional year.
6. The option for renewal will be considered by the Azrieli Foundation toward the end of the first fellowship year, based on the candidate's record of excellence, and an examination of the research objectives for the period of renewal.
7. The Azrieli Fellows Program management will send out Calls for Submission to the academic institutions in Israel offering a research Masters degree in Architecture (M.Arch. or M.Sc.). In 2015, these institutions are the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, and Tel Aviv University.
8. Each institution will be requested to submit up to four nominations from students in their Masters programs (research). At least two of the nominees will be required to hold undergraduate degrees from institutions other than Technion or Tel Aviv University (ie: Bezalel Academy, Ariel University, WIZO Academy).
9. The institutions will be requested to set up internal selection committees to examine candidates based on criteria set forth by the Azrieli Foundation. Representatives of the Azrieli Foundation may be present at the internal committee meetings as observers.
10. The Azrieli Fellows Program can support up to four new Fellows each year in this category, but reserves the right to accept less than the indicated number in a given year.
11. The Azrieli Foundation reserves the right to halt financial support at any time during the fellowship period, in the event that the Fellow does not meet his/her obligations to remain in good standing (see section entitled "Obligations of the Azrieli Fellow").

## How to Apply

1. The Azrieli Fellows Program management will send out Calls for Submission of applications, Program guidelines and Application Forms to the Academic Secretariat or Graduate School of all participating institutions. This information will also be disseminated to the relevant faculties and departments.
2. Students interested in applying should approach the Academic Secretariat or Graduate School administration at their university, where they will be provided with the relevant forms and instructions. **Applications should be submitted through the university administration, and not directly to the Foundation.**
3. The university will select nominees and submit their applications to the Azrieli Fellows Program management.
4. Guidelines and application forms may be downloaded from The Azrieli Foundation website at: [www.azrielifoundation.org/fellows](http://www.azrielifoundation.org/fellows) .
5. The deadline for receipt of university nominated and approved applications by The Azrieli Foundation is February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. **Candidates are advised to check with their academic institutions regarding internal deadlines for submission of application materials.**
6. The Selection Committees will meet between April 12, 2015 and May 31, 2015. Candidates may be called upon to participate in an interview during that period.



## Obligations of the Azrieli Fellow

In order to maintain good standing, Azrieli Fellows will be required to sign a form committing themselves to the fulfillment of the following obligations:

### **1. Academic Excellence:**

Fellows are obligated to maintain a level of academic excellence throughout the Program – as defined by the university in which they are enrolled.

### **2. Progress reports:**

Regular progress reports must be submitted by the Fellow to the Program management twice a year. These reports should outline the Fellow's coursework including marks where relevant, describe any teaching done by the Fellow during this period, and include a list of papers published up to that point. The report must be signed by the Fellow's academic supervisor who may comment where relevant.

### **3. Community Work:**

Azrieli Fellows are expected to volunteer 40 hours over the course of the academic year at one of the branches of the Azrieli Institute for Educational Empowerment \*, or at an alternative Program to be approved by the Azrieli Fellows Program management. Travel expenses will be covered by the Foundation.

\*The Azrieli Institute for Educational Empowerment is a program focusing on high school dropout prevention. Program branches are located in cities throughout Israel, from Kiryat Shmona to Eilat. For more information see [www.azrieli.org](http://www.azrieli.org).

### **4. Participation in Program-sponsored events:**

In order to foster the exchange of ideas between Azrieli Fellows, and to maintain a sense of group identification, the Program will sponsor several events during the academic year at which Fellows may socialize and share their research and study activities. Some of these events might include: a 'Fellows Forum' series (see section 5 below), the annual celebration, informal dinners sponsored by the Program, and an end of year party.

### **5. Azrieli Fellows Forums:**

The Azrieli Fellows Forums are held up to five times a year, providing the opportunity for Fellows to socialize and share their research and study activities in a multi-disciplinary environment. At these meetings, Fellows present lectures in English on elements of their research. Fellows are encouraged to consult their supervisors for guidance in preparing these lectures.

**Obligations of the Azrieli Fellow - continued****6. Publications:**

The work produced by the Fellows during the course of their graduate studies (research papers, Masters and Doctoral theses) will be eligible for publication in an on-line journal that the Foundation will establish and fund entitled "The Azrieli Review." If possible, the Foundation will also enter into an agreement with one of the university presses in Israel to publish the best dissertations in book form through a program to be called "The Azrieli Series."

Any written work published by the Fellows while in the Program (eg: articles published in journals, etc.) must acknowledge the support of the Azrieli Foundation in a written dedication. Fellows will also be asked to submit an abstract of their dissertation and published works to the Azrieli Fellows Program management for use in any publicity material produced by the Program, or for presentation on the Foundation website.

**7. Alumni Activities:**

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 to potential candidates, and to participate in information sessions for new candidates that may be held in their region. Alumni will be invited to attend ongoing Program activities and events. In the future, it is expected that alumni will assist in the selection process for incoming students.

## **Obligations of the Academic Institution**

### **Regarding PhD Fellowships:**

1. To submit no more than one nominee per supervisor.
2. To ensure that nominees at the PhD level have finished their first year of doctoral studies prior to the beginning of the Fellowship.
3. To ensure and sign the Nominating Institution Statement Form (attached to the Application Form) which states that the nominee:
  - is a full time research (PhD) student.
  - has an academic advisor who is a senior faculty member in his field of study
  - will be exempt from tuition and other institutional payments should s/he win a Fellowship.

### **Regarding Masters - Architecture Fellowships:**

4. To ensure that nominees at the Masters level have finished at least one semester of their Masters studies by the beginning of the Fellowship.
5. To ensure and sign the Nominating Institution Statement Form (attached to the Application Form) which states that the nominee:
  - is a full time research Masters student.
  - will be exempt from tuition and other institutional payments should s/he win a Fellowship.

### **Regarding All Fellowships:**

6. To submit no more than the number of nominees requested by the Azrieli Fellows Program management in a given year.
7. To ensure and report to the Program management on a semi-annual basis that each Fellow is continuing her/his studies and progressing with research and coursework in a manner that is satisfactory to the university. Progress Report Forms will be provided by the Azrieli Fellows Program management.
8. To report on any halting of research that lasts more than six months.
9. To ensure that the Fellow does not receive any additional living stipend during the course of the Fellowship. The Azrieli Foundation has no objection to the Fellow's receipt of additional research grants provided they are intended to cover research expenses only. The Azrieli Foundation has no objection to the student's receipt of supplementary funding to the basic fellowship from the academic institution at which they are enrolled, in accordance with the amounts and policies set by that institution.

**Obligations of the Academic Institution - continued****Regarding All Fellowships - continued:**

10. To ensure that during the course of the Fellowship, the Fellow's research is run only within the framework of the university.
11. To ensure that any employment taken on by the Fellow within the university is in direct connection to her/his academic training and does not exceed four teaching hours per week.
12. The Fellowship is a gift to the students. The university will be the pipeline through which payment is transferred from the Azrieli Foundation to the students. No overhead will be paid to the university. The university will not deduct any amount from the Fellowship payment without the agreement of the Azrieli Fellows Program management.
13. Financial arrangements are outlined in a separate contract between each university and the Azrieli Foundation.

**Timetable**

<b>Deadline for receipt of university nominated and approved applications by The Azrieli Foundation *</b>	February 15, 2015
<b>Selection Committee meetings and interviews</b>	April 12 - May 31, 2015
<b>Winners to be announced</b>	June 2015
<b>Program starts</b>	October 2015

\* Candidates are advised to check with their academic institutions regarding internal deadlines for submission of application materials.