



## ELSC Brain Sciences Postdoctoral Fellowships for Training Abroad

### 1. THE ELSC FELLOWSHIP

The ELSC Fellowship provides financial support and is funded by the Edmond and Lily Safra Center for Brain Sciences (ELSC). ELSC is an institute for academic excellence and is currently being built at the Edmond J. Safra campus in Givat Ram, Jerusalem thanks to the generous support of the Edmond J. Safra Philanthropic Foundation.

#### Purpose of the Fellowships

The purpose of the Edmond and Lily Safra (ELSC) Fellowships is to help students of outstanding merit and potential to advance their careers as brain scientists. The ELSC Fellowships are awards towards postdoctoral study or research abroad. Fellowships are structured to provide for the first year of study abroad. Fellowships will not be extended over one year.

### 2. Eligibility

- ✓ The candidate must be a permanent resident or a citizen of the state of Israel.
- ✓ The candidate must be (or has been) a student in an accredited institution of higher education in Israel and whose training, PhD and post-doctoral project are in the field of Brain Sciences.
- ✓ A recipient of an ELSC Fellowship must commence his/her postdoctoral training no later than 5 years following the approval of the PhD.
- ✓ A person holding a tenured position at an Israeli university will NOT be considered for a Fellowship.
- ✓ There is no age limit.

### 3. Evaluation of an applicant proposal

- a. The ELSC Fellowships Committee will evaluate the applications based on:
  - ✓ The academic merit of the applicant.
  - ✓ The priority of the post-doctoral research topic as will be published by ELSC in advance (see paragraph 6).
  - ✓ The estimated prospect of the candidate attaining a position at ELSC after completion of the postdoctoral training.
  - ✓ The scientific merit of the postdoctoral project proposal and the host institute.
  - ✓ As part of the application the candidate has to present copies of application letters for other funds resources.

b. The committee will submit its recommendation to the ELSC directors who may interview candidates before making a final decision. The fellowship will be awarded upon fulfillment of the terms specified in sections 4, 5, 6 of this document.

#### **4. Candidates commitments**

- ✓ A recipient of an ELSC Fellowship must commence his/her training at the host institute no later than 12 months from the day of the approval of the fellowship.
- ✓ A recipient of an ELSC Fellowship must provide written approval from the authority of PhD students in his/her academic institute in Israel, confirming that his/her PhD has been submitted before leaving to post-doctoral training. If PhD was not yet awarded, the student must provide approval of a PhD during the first academic year of the post doctoral studies.
- ✓ The candidate will provide a letter from the post doctorate host confirming the research plan and his/her willingness to host the candidate.

#### **5. Terms of the fellowship**

- ✓ The amount of the basic fellowship will be up to \$45,000.
- ✓ Family allowance for family members who will accompany the fellow: \$3,000 for the Spouse and \$3,000 for each child.
- ✓ A travel grant of \$1,000 will be awarded to postdoctoral fellows for training in Europe and \$2,000 for training in the USA or Canada.
- ✓ Identical travel grant will be awarded to the spouse accompanying the fellow, provided that s/he does not receive such a grant from another source.
- ✓ Fellowships may be awarded to students who were granted fellowships from other institutions, provided that the terms of the other grant allow it. In the case that the total amount of the "external" grant is lower than that of the ELSC fellowship, ELSC will pay the difference up to the amount of the ELSC fellowship (including family allowance and travel grant(s)).
- ✓ Applicants who were granted fellowships from other agencies will be eligible for a "special grantee prize" of \$2,500 in addition to the fellowship.
- ✓ In the event that the "external" grants are higher than the ELSC fellowship, the applicant will not be eligible for financial support from the ELSC Fellowship. In this case, however, the candidate will still be eligible for the "special grantee prize" of \$2,500.
- ✓ The candidate is required to inform ELSC about any grant, salary or other funds he/she may receive before or during the post-doctoral training.
- ✓ Timetable of payments: The number of payments and the dates to transfer the money to the applicant's bank account will be determined based on the fellowship calculation.
- ✓ All payments will be made via direct bank transfers; the candidate will provide bank account details before each payment is made.

#### **6. Relevant post-doctoral research topics:**

- ✓ Functional/Computational Neuro-anatomy

- ✓ Development & Application of molecular, genetics and physiological methodologies for analysis of neural Circuits
- ✓ Application of closed loop optical/electrical stimulation and recording *in vivo*.
- ✓ Investigation of neural code in behaving animals
- ✓ Theoretical and computational research, especially when combined with experimental work
- ✓ Molecular and neural basis of degenerative neurological diseases

## **7. Application form and supporting documents**

The application form and all supporting documents **must be submitted on-line**.

- ✓ Data page in Hebrew (appendix I)
- ✓ a recent digital photograph embedded in the file.
- ✓ An updated Curriculum vita (in English).
- ✓ A research proposal for the postdoctoral training (in English, two pages, font size 11, line spacing 1.5).
- ✓ Abstract of the PhD thesis. If not approved yet – add approval of the abstract signed by the advisor.
- ✓ In the case that papers have been published – please attach them in PDF format.
- ✓ **Three letters of recommendation** typed in English from three referees, at the request of the candidate. One referee must be the Ph.D. advisor, and if possible, at least one of them will be a senior member of an academic institute abroad. A letter from the host/advisor in an academic institute abroad approving his./her support of the contents of the application manuscript and his/her commitment to support the proposed project.
- ✓ Supplementary materials: the candidate may add a letter with any information relevant for his/her post-doctoral training and future plans (up to one page, font 11, line spacing 1.5).

Consideration will be given only to complete applications.

Applications will be reviewed once a year.

**Last date for submitting applications for 2016-2017: March 11, 2017**