

Procedure for Post-Doctoral Researchers

Rules for the admission of post-doctoral (PD) researchers:

1. Post-doctoral (PD) fellows may do their advanced training at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) after being granted Ph.D. degrees.* Such studies are done under the supervision of active members of the academic faculty, emeritus faculty members or researchers with an immigrant-scientist status (i.e., advisors).
2. PD training must be initiated no more than six years after the Ph.D. degree was granted.
3. The status of 'post-doctoral fellow' and PD research scholarships may be held for a period of no more than four years.
4. The Kreitman School is responsible for the admission and systematic registration of PD trainees and for sending out the acceptance letters.
5. In general, a PD fellow may not be registered at two academic or research institutions simultaneously. Double registration is permitted only in cases in which the fund financing the research and the scholarship requires it and with the approval of the Dean of the Kreitman School.
6. BGU may stop someone's PD studies before the completion of the predetermined period by sending a notification at least two months in advance of the cessation date.
7. All BGU rules apply to PD fellows, including the disciplinary regulations for the entire student body.

Grants for PD fellows

8. PD grants are allotted from: the research budgets of BGU researchers; faculty grant budgets; the Kreitman School budget; other internal, designated funds (e.g., The Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research; the National Institute for Biotechnology; etc.); and from donations to BGU (e.g., from the Pratt Foundation) or from other external foundations or sources.
9. A BGU grant is meant to enable PD fellows to devote themselves to their advanced study goal of attaining research and professional autonomy, necessary for professional advancement. The granting of these scholarships is done in accordance with BGU fellowship regulations.
10. PD fellows must participate in academic activities within their host departments, including: departmental and group seminars, ongoing interaction with research students, research groups and/or members of their host departments.
11. The granting of scholarships may not be contingent on PD fellows doing any other work in addition to their PD research.
12. The funding of PD grants from research or faculty budgets must be approved by the Dean of the relevant faculty.

13. A PD fellowship cannot be approved for anyone who has already held an academic appointment at any other academic institution for over two years after approval of the PhD degree; for example, someone who has already gotten a permanent or research appointment, or an appointment in the Ministry of Absorption Track at BGU (normal track, research track, contract with the Ministry of Absorption, etc.). A candidate can be admitted to a second or third training period given that it obeys the rules mentioned in sections 2 and 3.
14. BGU PD fellowships are given to PD fellows in accordance with the rules noted in each different program, and in accordance with BGU fellowships regulations.
15. **Additional employment**
 - a. PD fellows with a full scholarship must devote most of their time to their research and, in general, they should not be working elsewhere, neither as volunteers and nor for wages.
 - b. A PD fellow's advisor may approve of some additional work if it is not time consuming and only minimally interferes with the PD studies; such extracurricular activity should not be related in any way to the PD studies. Approval of additional work is contingent upon approval by the Dean of the relevant faculty and, occasionally, when the Kreitman School is providing the scholarship, the Dean of the School must also approve.
 - c. As such, additional work for PD fellows is restricted to no more than 4 academic hours per week of teaching at BGU or 8 hours of some other work per week. Nonetheless, it is preferable that the additional work be less than half of the above amounts.
16. As previously stated here (in section 11 above), the granting of scholarships may not be contingent on PD fellows doing any other work in addition to their PD research. To avoid all doubt and for the sake of clarity—a PD fellow who teaches a course at BGU is not a volunteer and is paid an appropriate salary, usually as 'a visiting lecturer'.

*Someone who has just submitted a Ph.D. thesis for judgment and has provided certification of this may become a candidate for a PD scholarship. During the period in which the doctoral thesis and the Ph.D. degree have not yet been approved and confirmed, an advanced-studies fellowship may only be given for one year. Continuing on for a second year is contingent on the confirmation of the Ph.D. degree. In special cases, the Dean of the relevant faculty and the Dean of the Kreitman School may extend this interim period and extend the grant coverage beyond the one-year deadline, after they have evaluated the data regarding the progress of the judgment process.

These regulations were approved at a meeting of the Coordinating Committee #673 on May, 11, 2014.