

# FAQ – Scholarship Program for Bavarian and Israeli Early Career Researchers 2025

## Eligibility

### 1. Who is eligible to apply for this scholarship program?

Applicants must be early career researchers (PhD students and Postdoctoral researchers) from Bavaria or Israel planning to complete a one-month stay abroad at a Bavarian/Israeli research institute. They must be enrolled at a public university or university of applied sciences in either Bavaria or Israel.

### 2. Can I apply if I'm not a citizen of Germany or Bavaria?

Yes, citizenship is not a criterion. As long as you are officially enrolled at a public university or university of applied sciences in Bavaria or Israel, you are eligible regardless of nationality.

### 3. Can I apply if I am conducting my PhD thesis at the host institution?

No, the scholarship does not support stays at institutions where applicants are currently enrolled or employed.

### 4. Are applications from all academic disciplines accepted?

Yes, applications from all fields of research are welcome.

## Application Process

### 5. What documents are required for the application?

You need to submit the following:

- A **CV** (one page)
- A **letter of motivation** including a preliminary agenda of your stay-abroad (max. 3 pages)
- A **letter of confirmation** signed by your contact person at the host institute

### 6. What should be included in the motivation letter?

The letter should address:

- a) Your field of research
- b) How the stay abroad will benefit your work
- c) Planned academic activities abroad
- d) Intended dates of travel (must fall between 1 September to 31 December 2025)

### 7. What kind of academic activities should my stay abroad comprise?

Activities may, for example, include:

- Meeting with cooperation partners
- Research activities

- Lab visits
- Research visits to libraries or archives
- Attending academic conferences
- Further network activities

8. What is the application deadline and when will announce which applicants have been chosen

The application deadline is **31 July 2025**. In early August, we will inform you if your application has been successful.

9. How do I submit my application?

Applications must be sent to the **Scientific Coordination Office Bavaria-Israel** at [avidan@bayfor.org](mailto:avidan@bayfor.org).

10. What is the time frame for my planned stay abroad?

Your stay abroad must take place between 1 September and 31 December 2025 for a minimum of 25 days. If you've been chosen to participate in the program, you're expected to participate in a welcome and information webinar, which will take place in early September.

## Funding and Logistics

11. What is the amount of the scholarship?

Each participant receives a **lump sum of €2,000** to cover travel, accommodation, and living expenses.

12. Will the scholarship be paid to me directly?

Yes, the €2,000 lump sum is paid directly to the grantee, not to their institution.

13. Will you organize my accommodation and flight?

Selected participants are in charge of organizing the logistics of their stay abroad – including accommodation, flight, health insurance, and food – themselves. Please take into consideration our advice below for some general logistical advice.

## Questions relevant for applicants from Bavaria

14. How safe is it to visit Israel?

Due to the volatile security situation in Israel, we strongly recommend that you familiarize yourself with the latest security assessment published by the [German Foreign Ministry](#) and follow the recommendations provided.

In addition, the following actions are recommended if you plan to visit Israel in the near future:

- Familiarize yourself with the recommended protective measures and instructions of the Israeli [Home Front Command](#). You may also want to download the [Red Alert App](#) or others.
- If you're a German citizen, register with [the Crisis Prevention List](#) of the German Foreign Ministry.
- Before you book the accommodation for your stay, inquire if the building has a protected space. If this is not the case, inquire how close the nearest one is.

#### 15. What official documents do I need to enter Israel?

As a German citizen, you can enter Israel with a valid passport and are allowed to stay there for up to three months without having to apply for a visa. As a visitor from a visa-exempt country, you must apply for the electronic travel authorization ETA-IL prior to entering Israel. The Israeli authorities recommend that applications be submitted via [this online portal](#) at least 72 hours before booking a flight or accommodation in Israel. The application fee is 25 NIS.

If you're a citizen of any other state, we strongly recommend you visit the homepage of your foreign ministry or the Israeli embassy in your home country to find out which travel documents are required in your case.

#### 16. How can I find short-term housing in Israel?

Some universities in Israel offer short-term housing at their on-campus facilities for guests and students from abroad. To check if this option is available for your host university, you should contact the respective international office.

If you prefer off-campus housing, a good option is looking for a sublet by publishing a post in one of the many dedicated Facebook groups that exist for most bigger cities in Israel (such as [Sublet Tel Aviv](#), [Sublet Jerusalem](#), [Apartments/roommates in Haifa](#), [Sublets in Israel](#), etc.). Once you have found a suitable sublet, it is strongly advisable that you clarify whether the rental price includes all utilities and that you sign a sublease agreement.

Alternatively, you can also opt for booking a room or an apartment via Airbnb or a hotel.

### Questions relevant for Israel applicants

#### 17. What official documents do I need to enter Germany?

As an Israeli citizen, you can enter Germany with a valid passport and are allowed to stay there for up to 90 months without having to apply for a visa. For more information, please consult [this website](#).

If you're a citizen of any other state, we strongly recommend you visit the homepage of your foreign ministry or the German embassy in your home country to find out which travel documents are required in your case.

#### 18. How do I find housing in Bavaria?

At first you should contact the International Office or Welcome Center of your host university in Bavaria. The staff can advise you if short-term housing on campus is available. For a list of the Welcome Centers of all Bavarian universities, click [here](#).

Even if you prefer to stay off campus, the International Office can most likely give you valuable advice on where to look for offers. You might want to inquire, for example, if the university has a list of apartments by private landlords or if they can put you in touch with the local Student Affairs Office (Studierendenwerk), which may also be able to provide guidance. The website [www.wg-gesucht.de](http://www.wg-gesucht.de) also regularly lists offers for short-term subletting. Of course, you can also consider booking a room in a hotel or via Airbnb.

Regardless of which type of housing you choose, bear in mind that in Germany it is common to arrange for one's accommodation several months before moving. Especially university housing is very popular, and it can be challenging to find affordable options last minute.

### Your question is not listed?

Please contact Ms. Nadine Avidan, Project Manager at the Scientific Coordination Office Bavaria-Israel at [avidan@bayfor.org](mailto:avidan@bayfor.org).