

## **Call for Applications:**

**Joint Postdoctoral and PhD Exchange Fellowships**  
**by the Tel Aviv University and the University of Potsdam**  
(published March 15, 2026)

The cooperation between Tel Aviv University and the University of Potsdam has greatly intensified over the past years. Research cooperation is already being funded, and the exchange of students and administration staff is ongoing. The number of joint publications is developing very well. Mutual interest in joint collaborative international e-learning and knowledge/technology transfer has also been identified.

As another important step to deepen our strategic partnership, the two universities announce a **Joint Postdoctoral and PhD Exchange Fellowship** for the academic year 2026/2027.

### **Postdoc exchange:**

At least one fellowship will be awarded to postdoctoral scholars who have either completed their doctoral studies at the University of Potsdam or are currently affiliated as postdocs at the same institution, enabling them to undertake a year-long residency at Tel Aviv University. Additionally, at least one fellowship will be granted to scholars who have completed their doctoral studies at Tel Aviv University or are currently affiliated as postdocs at the same institution, facilitating their stay of up to a year at the University of Potsdam. These scholarships will be allocated on a competitive basis, and the total number of available scholarships will be determined by the deadline of the call for applications. The scholarship amount is set at a minimum of 7,500 shekels per month, supplemented by an additional 2,000 shekels per month from the PI at Tel Aviv University and 2,200 EUR per month from the University of Potsdam. Stipends will be disbursed by the respective host institutions to the incoming postdoctoral fellows.

### **PhD exchange:**

At least one fellowship will be awarded to a PhD candidate who is currently enrolled in doctoral studies at the University of Potsdam, enabling them to undertake a residency of three to six months at Tel Aviv University. Additionally, at least one fellowship will be granted to a PhD candidate who is currently pursuing their doctoral studies at Tel Aviv University, facilitating their stay of three to six months at the

University of Potsdam. These scholarships will be allocated on a competitive basis, and the total number of available scholarships will be determined by the deadline of the call for applications. The scholarship amount is set at a minimum of 5,439 shekels per month at Tel Aviv University and 1,650 EUR per month at the University of Potsdam. Stipends will be disbursed by the respective host institutions to the incoming candidates. Candidates from all fields and disciplines are invited to apply.

### **Qualifications**

*for Postdocs:*

- The candidate must submit his/her Ph.D. thesis before 05/2026
- The Ph.D. degree must have been awarded no earlier than 12/2022

*for PhD candidates:*

- The candidate must be enrolled as a PhD student at the home university or in the case of Potsdam to have a PhD status.
- PhD students should be at least in the second year or above.

### **Application Documents**

*for all candidates:*

1. Motivation/Cover letter (including information on the intended duration of stay) by the applicant.
2. A short (1-2 pages) research proposal
3. List of publications (in case of PhD if available)
4. Curriculum vitae
5. Letter of support from the intended advisor at the host university (candidates interested in applying for this fellowship and are unable to find a relevant advisor will be assisted by the university authorities prior to submitting their application), including confirmation that a working space can be provided.

*for Postdocs:*

- A confirmation of the candidate's receipt of a doctoral degree and the date it was awarded, or an administrative confirmation that the doctoral thesis has been submitted.
- Three letters of recommendation, comprising one from the PhD advisor or the responsible professor, and ideally one from a different university than where the PhD was obtained.

*for PhDs candidates:*

- Confirmation that the candidate is a PhD student at the sending institution (or in case of UP having a PhD status).
- Two letters of recommendation (including one letter from the Ph.D. advisor).

### **Selection Criteria:**

The scholars who will receive the fellowship will be selected by a joint TAU-UP committee, giving particular attention to the following criteria:

- Clearly formulated goals for the time spent at the partner institution.
- Academic excellence
- Level of concreteness of future joint research
- Envisaged synergies between U Potsdam and Tel Aviv U

### **Further Information:**

The postdocs from TAU will be visiting scholars at the University of Potsdam. Incoming PhDs can be enrolled as PhD students or free movers in Potsdam.

The post docs at TAU will be registered as Postdocs and will need to be accepted by the university committee. The PhD would be visiting students at TAU.

Both universities would like to point out that it is the applicant's responsibility to consider language preparation for the stay at the partner university.

A prolongation needs to be applied during the application period for the upcoming year. For incoming scholars at UP a family allowance can be applied for (276 EUR per month).

For UP applicants: Due to the present situation in Israel, applications for business trips will be discussed and decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the situation. If a travel warning is in effect, a business trip cannot be granted.

### **Deadline:**

The application form and the supporting documents must be received not later than **May 1st, 2026**. The starting date for the exchange is October 1, 2026.

**Applications** from University of Potsdam's applicants and from Tel Aviv University's applicants should be uploaded using this [link](#).



**For further information please contact:**

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