

CALL FOR MEDITERRANEAN SEA RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS TO GRADUATE AND POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

Current Academic Year 2024

Tender No.: 24/3

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION 30/4/2024 AT 08:00

The Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel (hereafter MERCI) aims to advance Israeli-based marine research in the Mediterranean Sea by supporting student and post-doctoral research projects. MERCI will award research scholarships to selected candidates holding advanced degrees and performing Mediterranean Sea related research (from all perspectives) during the 2024 academic year.

MERCi hereby issues a call for research scholarships (Hereafter: “**The Scholarship**”). **supporting graduate and post-doctoral Mediterranean Sea research to students in its partner institutions** (University of Haifa, the Technion, the Weizmann Institute of Science, Tel Aviv University, Bar Ilan University, Ben Gurion University, the Hebrew University, The Ruppin Academic Center, Reichman University, Ariel University, The Geology Survey of Israel, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research).

MERCi will award up to ten (10) scholarships that will not exceed NIS 10,000 (in words: Ten Thousand New Shekels) per scholarship. The scholarships will directly benefit the student’s research project and provided to the student/post-doctoral fellow (which could include for example – scientific supplies and analyses, travel costs, scientific editing, software, etc).

Eligibility

Eligibility in the Call is contingent upon fulfilling all the following conditions:

1. The candidate is an active student for a Masters/ Doctorate degree, or a post-doctoral fellow at one of the partner institutions as defined above.
2. The candidate’s proposed research will be associated with topics of varying perspectives related to the Mediterranean Sea research.
3. The proposed research will be conducted during the 2024 academic year.
4. The application is submitted by the advertised deadline - **30/04/2024 at 08:00**.

The Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel
199 Abba Khoushy Ave. Mount Carmel, Haifa 3498838

Email: merci@univ.haifa.ac.il Tel: 04-8280789

5. Receiving the scholarship is subject to the winning candidate being a registered active student in one of the partner Institutions of MERCI and receiving signed confirmation from their institution in which the winning candidate studies in according to that required in Appendix B of these bylaws.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Applications will be submitted to MERCI no later than the effective deadline as defined above. Applications will be submitted via email to: merci@univ.haifa.ac.il.

The application will contain the following documents:

1. A detailed letter stating how the applicant's research is associated with Mediterranean Sea research and why MERCI should support it.
2. The applicant's Curriculum Vitae;
3. A list of the applicant's publications, if applicable;
4. Valid approval of studies from one of the Partner institutions;
5. The applicant's transcripts. For 1st year Master Degree students - Bachelor Degree grade sheet; for 2nd year Master Degree students - current grade sheet up to the current semester; for Doctorate students - grade sheet for Master Degree and current grades. For post-doctoral fellows – list of publications (see above).
6. Letter of recommendation from applicant's academic supervisor.
7. Confirmation from the student's academic institution of a submitted research plan.
8. The proposed research proposal. The scope of the research proposal will not exceed 5 pages (font size 11, line spacing 1.5). The research proposal will include:
 - A synopsis, not to exceed 250 words.
 - Background - purposes of the research and importance thereof.
 - The research plan - the main approaches and methods intended to execute the research.
 - The research status - description in a paragraph of the stage the candidate is at and what was done up to the stage the candidacy was submitted.
 - Preparation of a detailed budget with the required sections (ship-time, analyses, supplies, travel, etc.)

The applicant must submit the documents above as one file (document) in PDF format and according to the order presented above. Please attach as the first page a list of documents and checkmark the documents that are submitted.

MERCi will be entitled to request from the applicants supplementary documents or clarifications related to the proposal or all other submitted/necessary documents.

Selection of the Winners

Proposals that satisfy the participation conditions will be remitted to the Judging Committee on the Center's behalf who will review them and select the winning candidate/s. Every member of the Committee will examine all the proposals, except proposals from the Committee member's academic institution. The Committee will base its decision *inter alia* on the basis of the following criteria - average of grades (post doctorate - publications) (10%); academic degree held by candidate (5%); research excellence (35%); ranking assessment in respect of the proposal meeting the tender conditions (25%); the mentor's recommendations (10%); general evaluation (15%);

Notwithstanding the above, the Committee may refrain from selecting a proposal as the winner, to allow a variety of candidates to win from various disciplines/ departments and different institutions.

General

1. The scholarship will be awarded to candidates who win directly from the parent institution that they attend and in accordance with the regulations of each institution, and this subject to the fact that they meet all the conditions in these bylaws and only after he/they signed the format of the statement in Appendix A of the tender candidates and subject to fulfilling all the winner/s obligations pursuant to the tender candidates and the tender bylaws.
2. MERCi is entitled to award only part of the scholarship, not award any scholarship, or to split the scholarship between more than one candidate, all in accordance with its sole discretion.
3. MERCi may at any time, of its sole discretion and for any reason act as follows - to stop or cancel the tender and/or change the conditions in these bylaws and/or change the
4. Tender participation conditions and/or change the tender period and/or the dates and/or the funding amount and each participant waives any claim in respect thereto.
5. The tender will be executed in accordance with the **Tender Bylaws** detailed in the following link:

<https://merci.haifa.ac.il/calls-of-education-program/?lang=en> and merely submitting candidacy to the tender will be considered as consenting to all The Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel

such tender and bylaws conditions.

6. For further details and questions you may contact:

Mrs. Shimrit Haimzon merci@univ.haifa.ac.il

The Chairman of the Academic and Educational Committee: **Dr. Shiri**

Zemah Shamir shiri.zemahshamir@runi.ac.il



This is my name, this is my signature and the content of this statement of mine is true. : _____

Appendix B. By-laws. Confirmation by the Parent Institution
CALL FOR MEDITERRANEAN SEA RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS TO
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Tender No.: 24/3

Applicant's name: _____

Supervisor's name (academic or research faculty): _____

Applicant's Academic Institution (Hereinafter "The Institution")

The requested scholarship amount for the applicant within the framework of participating in the aforementioned tender is: NIS _____.

The Institution undertakes as follows:

1. If MERCi grants a scholarship to the applicant, the Institution undertakes to pay the applicant directly the scholarship amount he wins, as stipulated above.
2. The institution undertakes that the awarding of the scholarship will be in accordance with the rules practiced by it.
3. The Institution confirms that the applicant is engaged in Mediterranean Sea research that aligns with the conditions published on behalf of the Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel in Tender No. 24/3 and pursuant to the Center's procedures.
4. At the end of each academic year the Institution undertakes to remit to the University of Haifa a financial report signed by the Institution's accountant regarding the use of the above scholarship funds in the format required by the Planning and Budget Committee.

Date _____

Authorized Signatory's Signature

Name: _____ Name: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____