



HARVARD
MEDICAL SCHOOL



KALANIYOT

Kalaniyot Postdoctoral Fellowships at Harvard Medical School

The Harvard Medical School branch of the Harvard Kalaniyot Chapter (“HMS Kalaniyot”) is accepting post-doctoral fellowship applications from candidates who wish to perform research in Harvard Medical School laboratories. Selected fellows will be welcomed into a vibrant community and will be awarded a fellowship of 2-3 years with the possibility of extension.

HMS Kalaniyot supports scientists from Israel to conduct postdoctoral training in basic biomedical research at HMS. The program is open to applicants interested in research in all areas of fundamental biomedical research in laboratories on the Harvard Medical School (HMS) “Quadrangle” and in applicable HMS-affiliated hospitals. Kalaniyot fellowships are generously supported by the Dorot Foundation and the Blavatnik Family Foundation.

Eligibility

HMS Kalaniyot welcomes fellowship applications from individuals who meet the following criteria:

- Resident of Israel.
- Plan to conduct research at an HMS “Quadrangle” (Departments of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Biomedical Informatics, Cell Biology, Genetics, Immunology, Microbiology, Neurobiology, Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology, or Systems Biology) or affiliated hospital (Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston Children’s Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Massachusetts General Hospital, Joslin Diabetes Center, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Institute) laboratory. Please see Appendix B for the list of HMS-affiliated institutions and the HMS Kalaniyot Board of Academic Advisors, in case this is helpful for guidance in locating a mentor.
- Apply together with a mentor who is an assistant professor, associate professor, or professor who holds a primary or secondary appointment at HMS.
- Preference will be given to applicants within a year of completing their PhD at an Israeli university, or graduated with a PhD less than one year ago from an Israeli university as of the application deadline.
- Applicants can be current or prospective postdoctoral fellows at HMS. In the case of current fellows at HMS, preference will be given to applicants within one year of graduation from a PhD program at an Israeli institution.
- Fellows are expected but not required to return to Israel to continue their scientific careers.

Each HMS faculty mentor can support one application and each applicant can submit only one application. If desired, the applicant has the option to submit one application with multiple co-mentors. If multiple co-mentors are listed, one mentor must be listed as the lead mentor to accept and manage fellowship funds.

The anticipated start date of the fellowship is January 5, 2026. Alternative start dates may be acceptable upon request and should be justified in the application.

Award Amount

The Fellows who are accepted into the program will be awarded up to \$130,435 total costs per year for the duration of the fellowship. Fellowships will normally be two or three years in duration but may in individual cases be extended by one year with program approval. For the purposes of the research plan, the applicant should assume a three-year fellowship. The fellowship amount can be applied to allowable costs, as outlined below.

Allowable and Unallowable Costs

Allowable costs include: fellow compensation, fellow fringe benefits, fellow and family relocation travel, childcare for fellow’s children, fellow’s professional development such as publication costs or conference attendance, up to 15% indirect costs are allowed only for hospital-based fellowships

Unallowable costs include: Mentor PI effort, lab supplies, research costs, clinical research, equipment, any other cost not explicitly referenced as allowable

IRB and IACUC Requirements

The Fellow, department, and research institution are responsible for meeting all compliance requirements associated with the award, including any IRB or animal research approvals.

Review Process and Criteria

Completed applications submitted by the specified deadline will be reviewed for merit and feasibility. Proposals will be assessed on a competitive basis in a fair and impartial manner based on the criteria set forth below. Funding decisions will be made by a selection committee of faculty experts based on the following criteria:

1. Academic strength of candidate
2. Strength of mentor – commitment to the candidate and ability to execute the proposed project will be considered. Applications with early career mentors are encouraged.
3. Strength of project – focusing on criteria of scope, creativity, and impact.

Application Instructions

Applications will be submitted through the Harvard Medical School Office for Research Initiatives and Global Programs.

Proposal Submission Deadline: September 1, 2025

Submission: Proposals must be received by September 1, 2025 at 11:59pm ET as a single PDF file. Applications should be submitted via the Harvard Medical School online system at <https://forms.hms.harvard.edu/f/kalaniyot>

The single PDF should include the following sections in order:

- Applicant Name, Mentor Name and Mentor Institution/Department
- Statement confirming that applicant is a resident of Israel
- Applicant's curriculum vitae and publication list
- Mentor's NIH biosketch
- Statement describing applicant's PhD work (1 page)
- Brief abstract summarizing the proposed aims and research program (1 page)
- Detailed proposed three-year research program at HMS (3 pages)
- Three-year budget
 - If the mentor is based on the HMS Quadrangle, the postdoctoral compensation amount can be found on <https://postdoc.hms.harvard.edu/guidelines>. Benefits are currently calculated at 22.2% of compensation.
 - If the mentor is based at a hospital, the hospital's postdoctoral compensation and benefits rates will apply.
 - Estimates of anticipated allowable costs can also be included.
 - The maximum total budget is \$130,435 per year.
- If applicant has not yet graduated, include a short statement from the applicant's PhD advisor certifying the expected graduation timeline (month and year).
- A signed mentor letter confirming that they have read the research statement and, contingent on acceptance, they:
 - Are willing to serve as your HMS mentor
 - Will be responsible for providing you with adequate lab space and funds for the research program
 - Will be responsible for integrating you with their research group
 - Will be responsible for submitting your visiting appointment and visa request through the appropriate departmental channels at HMS or affiliated hospital
- One page statement: How will this fellowship contribute to your academic and personal growth?
- Three reference letters, including one from the PhD thesis supervisor
- Brief letter of support from the department administrator if the mentor is on the HMS Quadrangle or a Statement of Intent signed by an authorized official if the mentor is based at a Harvard-affiliated hospital

A selection committee composed of HMS faculty will review the applications and make the final selection. Finalists may be asked for a Zoom interview with the selection committee. Notifications of the review process outcome will be sent to the applicants by email from kalaniyot@hms.harvard.edu.

Questions?

Please view our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) page in Appendix A to learn more about the program. Additional questions regarding the program, the application process, identifying a mentor, or other topics not addressed in the FAQs should be directed to the Kalaniyot Chapter team at kalaniyot@hms.harvard.edu .

Appendix A: Frequently Asked Questions

- Is the HMS branch of the Harvard Kalaniyot Chapter supported by HMS?
The HMS branch is a faculty-led initiative that is funded by generous philanthropic donations and administered through HMS.
- I'm a Palestinian. Can I apply for a fellowship?
Yes. If you meet the eligibility requirements, you are welcome and encouraged to apply. HMS Kalaniyot does not consider religion or ethnicity in its selection process.
- How should I demonstrate that I am a resident of Israel?
Applicants are asked to submit a brief statement confirming that the applicant is a resident of Israel. No further documentation is necessary.
- Both my potential mentor and I are interested in a research program that is best facilitated by a remote appointment where I would be stationed away from HMS. Is that allowed?
Unfortunately, no. While we understand that some amount of travel might be required during your fellowship period, we require that all fellows' appointments be stationed at HMS, where they can interact with the campus community.
- Do references count against the research statement page limit?
No, including a list of references will not be counted against the page limit of the research proposal.
- Do figures count against the research statement page limit?
Yes. Please include your figures within the 3-page limit.
- Is there a fixed format that the CV and publication list must follow?
No, you may use any format desired.
- Can I update my application after submission?
No. Once submitted, the applications are sent to the selection committee and cannot be updated.
- What is the postdoctoral compensation and benefits rate at each hospital?
Your proposed mentor will be able to provide this information.
- Does the fellowship include health insurance?
Fellows will be eligible for health insurance through their host institutions. All administrative arrangements will be done with the host institution, as that institution is the fellow's employer.
- Does the fellowship program support visa applications?
When awarded the fellowship, your HMS host is expected to help and guide you through the visa application process. The institutional international offices are highly experienced. However, we cannot guarantee that a suitable work visa will be secured.
- What happens if I am awarded the fellowship and cannot secure a visa?
Obtaining a legal status that allows employment at HMS or affiliated hospital is required. If for any reason you are unable to secure a visa and/or proper legal status for employment purposes, your fellowship offer will be deferred for up to two years from the January 5, 2026 start date.
- I'd like to contact an HMS researcher with PI status to serve as my faculty mentor/host, but the individual doesn't have a 'Professor' title. Are they eligible to support my application?
No. Only HMS Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, and Professors are eligible to serve as a faculty mentor or host.
- Can multiple candidates reach out to the same faculty member to support their application?
A single faculty member can support only one candidate during the application process. If multiple candidates reach out to the faculty member, this faculty member will have to choose one candidate to sponsor.

- I'm an Israeli who is about to get my PhD from a university outside of Israel. Can I apply?
Applicants must be from Israel. Preference will be given to applicants who are enrolled or have recently received their PhD from an Israeli university. HMS Kalaniyot does not consider the applicant's religion or ethnicity in its selection process.
- Can the Kalaniyot fellowship be combined with other fellowships?
Yes, as long as the other fellowship is not simultaneous, or is a supplementary award.
- At my University, PhD theses are sent to external refereeing, a process which could take several months to conclude. Which date do you consider for the program eligibility preference: the thesis submission or approval?
We understand that the process by which a PhD thesis is reviewed and approved can differ between institutions. We therefore accept either the formal PhD thesis approval date, or the date on which the thesis was submitted and the University certifies the student met all of their requirements under the PhD program, whichever works for the candidate's benefit.
- I completed my PhD more than one year ago but would still like to apply to the program. Is this possible?
Yes. Graduation within a year of the application deadline is a preference, not a requirement.

Appendix B: Participating Institutions and Academic Leadership

List of Participating Institutions

Harvard Medical School “Quadrangle”:

Departments of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Biomedical Informatics, Cell Biology, Genetics, Immunology, Microbiology, Neurobiology, Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology, and Systems Biology.

Affiliated hospitals:

- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- Boston Children’s Hospital
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Joslin Diabetes Center
- Massachusetts Eye and Ear | Schepens Eye Research Institute
- Massachusetts General Hospital

Board of Academic Advisors for the HMS Branch of the Harvard Kalaniyot Chapter

Co-Chairs

Naama Kanarek, PhD

Assistant Professor of Pathology, Boston Children's Hospital

Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD

Charles A. Dana Chair in Human Cancer Genetics, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Professor of Genetics and Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Director, Center for Cancer Genomics, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Mark Poznansky, MD, PhD

Director - Vaccine and Immunotherapy Center, Physician, Infectious Diseases Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital
Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Board Members

Steve Blacklow, MD, PhD

Chair of the HMS Kalaniyot Fellowship Selection Committee

Chair, Department of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Harvard Medical School
Gustavus Adolphus Pfeiffer Professor of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Harvard Medical School

David Avigan, MD

Director, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Cancer Center
Chief, Division of Hematology and Hematologic Malignancies, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Rameen Beroukhim, MD, PhD

Associate Professor of Medicine, Medical Oncology, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Maurizio Fava, MD

Chair, Mass General Brigham Academic Medical Centers (AMC) Department of Psychiatry
Co-Chair, Mass General Brigham Research Oversight Committee (ROC)
Executive Director, Clinical Trials Network and Institute (CTNI), Mass General Brigham (MGB)
Slater Family Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School

Gary Fleisher, MD

Physician-in-Chief, Boston Children's Hospital
Egan Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School

Gad Getz, PhD

Professor of Pathology, Harvard Medical School
Director of Bioinformatics, Mass General Cancer Center and Department of Pathology
Director of Cancer Bioinformatics, Core Institute Member, Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT
Paul Zamecnik, MD Endowed Chair in Oncology Basic Research, Mass General Cancer Center
Director, Cancer Genome Computational Analysis Group, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard

Daphne Haas-Kogan, MD

Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology, Brigham and Women's Hospital
Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology, Massachusetts General Hospital
Chief, Enterprise Radiation Oncology, Mass General Brigham
Willem and Corrie Hees Family Professor of Radiation Oncology, Harvard Medical School

Isaiah Kletenik, MD

Associate Neurologist, Brigham and Women's Hospital
Assistant Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School

Daniel Kuritzkes, MD

Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases, Brigham and Women's Hospital
Harriet Ryan Albee Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Galit Lahav, PhD

Chair, Department of Systems Biology, Harvard Medical School
Novartis Professor of Systems Biology, Harvard Medical School

Raul Mostoslavsky, MD, PhD

Scientific Director, Krantz Family Center for Cancer Research, Massachusetts General Hospital
Laurel Schwartz Professor of Oncology, Mass General Cancer Center and Harvard Medical School

Paul Richardson, MD

Clinical Program Leader, Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center, Dana-Farber Cancer Center
Director of Clinical Research, Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center, Dana-Farber Cancer Center
Institute Physician, Dana-Farber Cancer Center
RJ Corman Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Gary Ruvkun, PhD

Professor of Genetics, Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital
Breakthrough Laureate, Nobel Laureate

David Scadden, MD

Gerald and Darlene Jordan Professor of Medicine, Harvard University
Co-Director, Harvard Stem Cell Institute
Professor, Chair Emeritus, Department of Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology, Harvard University