

Application Guidance

Collaborative Fellowships in Jewish Heritage

Deadline for submission: Wednesday 13 January 2027

References due by: Wednesday 20 January 2027

Support is available for universities and heritage institutions (e.g., archives, libraries, museums) to jointly recruit a PhD student or postdoctoral fellow to undertake research focused on the collections of the heritage institution.

The project will be jointly supervised by an academic at the university and a professional at the heritage institution. The application should demonstrate how the university-heritage relationship is *new* or structurally *transformative*.

A strong case should also be made for the importance of the collections to be researched. Applications should explain why the collections have not yet been examined and why it is pressing that they receive attention now.

For queries relating to this grant category please contact: [Dr Ruchama Johnston-Bloom](#).

For any other information including technical support please contact:
info@rothschildfoundation.eu.

**Please add the following emails to your contacts/safe senders list to ensure you receive all our communications regarding your grant application: noreply@yourcause.com;
noreply@blackbaud.com; adobesign@adobesign.com; message@adobe.com.**

Grant details

European universities and heritage institutions (e.g., archives, libraries, museums) may jointly apply for funding to enable them to host a doctoral or postdoctoral fellow.

Institutions should design the research project prior to applying and, if awarded a grant, recruit a suitable candidate to start the following academic year. If they already have a candidate in mind, they can submit his/her details alongside the application. The research project should be designed in such a way that the fellow will conduct significant independent research and not merely contribute to an ongoing project of the academic supervisor. Institutions can apply for up to £19,000 per year for up to three years for a doctoral fellowship, and up to £40,000 per annum for up to two years for a

postdoctoral fellowship. Additionally, they can apply for up to £6,000 extra per annum to support the project.

As with our standard doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships, applicants must provide evidence that what they are requesting is in keeping with the typical amounts awarded to doctoral and postdoctoral fellows at their institutions.

Eligibility

Eligibility criteria

We welcome applications from universities and organisations based in Europe, EU and non-EU states alike, **except for Ukraine, Russia and Belarus**.

The organisation's activities must operate on a not-for-profit basis and we will require proof of this status. This includes:

- UK organisations with charitable status under UK charity law (for further information please refer to the [Charity Commission](#) website and its list of [Charitable Purposes](#))
- International organisations that operate as non-profit or not-for-profit entities in their respective countries (e.g. state or private libraries, archives, museums, universities, research institutes or cultural centres)

Please note: if your organisation is in the process of obtaining not-for-profit or charitable status, no payments will be made until this status is confirmed. Additionally, if your organisation is awarded a grant but fails to secure this status within three months of receiving notification, the grant will be cancelled.

Universities may only submit one application during an AJS funding round. This does not apply to doctoral fellowships because individuals rather than institutions apply. If different departments, centres, etc., at the same university submit applications at the same time, we will decide which one, if any, to select for a grant.

Eligible topics

All topics within the broad field of Jewish Studies are considered eligible for the Foundation's Jewish Studies grants. This grant is specifically designed to enable emerging scholars to work with Jewish collections that have not yet been thoroughly studied.

In principle, projects only tangentially related to Jewish Studies are unlikely to be successful, nor will projects devoted to an individual or individuals who happen to be Jewish, but whose historical importance is not significantly contingent on that biographical fact. Secondary school education, informal education and documentary films will not be funded within the context of the Academic Jewish Studies grant programme.

For more information on Jewish Studies please read our [AJS FAQs](#).

Eligible costs

For a PhD fellowship, up to £19,000 per annum can go towards the costs of tuition, research, travel, and living.

For a postdoctoral fellowship, up to £40,000 per annum can go towards the full salary cost of employing a Postdoctoral Fellow. If this is not enough to fund a postdoctoral fellowship at the applying university, then the university must contribute to the cost of the fellowship. Institutions must ensure all the costs of the position (including social security, benefits, taxes, etc.) are considered before applying for the fellowship, and there must be a plan in place to cover all these costs. Award amounts will vary according to the local salary scales, costs of living and individual needs.

An additional £6,000 per annum can go toward other costs related to the project, including equipment needed for project, the time of the supervisor or other staff at heritage institution, and public engagement and dissemination activities.

If you are uncertain about the eligibility of your proposed project or project costs, please contact [Dr Ruchama Johnston-Bloom](#).

Open Access policy

A fundamental component of the Rothschild Foundation Hanadiv Europe's mission is to increase access to European Jewish heritage and culture.

We encourage grantees to publish their Foundation-funded research in peer-reviewed journals with an open access option, and to make their articles freely accessible whenever possible. Should an article based on Foundation-funded research be accepted for publication, grantees may apply to the Foundation for funding to cover costs associated with open access publication, such as article processing charges.

Application process

Application timeline

Your application form and supporting documents must be submitted by **Wednesday 13 January 2027**. References will be due by **Wednesday 20 January 2027** – please ensure you provide a copy of your application form and the reference form to your referees to complete.

You should expect notification via email by mid-May 2027 letting you know whether your application has been successful or unsuccessful. If your application is approved, you will receive an official award letter and agreement which you will need to e-sign and return with the necessary supporting documentation.

Required supporting documentation

Translations: For documents not originally written in English please include an English translation.

- This does not need to be an official or notarised translation, but it must be clear and accurate, *with document titles in English*.
- Original documents must be uploaded under the relevant attachment listed below along with their translated versions.

- Documents in a language other than English that are not accompanied by an English translation will not be processed.

If your application is approved, you will need to submit further [supporting documentation](#) once you receive your Grant Letter and Agreement.

1. **Proof of not-for-profit or charitable status:** This will vary from country to country and according to the type of organisation making the application.
 - o For UK applicants, this may be a UK charity number where applicable. Please refer to the [Charity Commission](#) website and its list of [Charitable Purposes](#).
 - o International applicants should provide original documentation or evidence demonstrating their non-profit status under their local regulations (e.g. a copy of the relevant portion of the organisation's statutes, a certificate from the tax authorities demonstrating not-for-profit status)
2. **Budget table and budget explanation for the proposed project:** Download and complete the budget form at the bottom of the [website page](#). An example of a completed budget form is also available. **Do not use your own format.**
3. **Evidence of standard postdoctoral salary or PhD living stipend:** Upload a document with information about postdoctoral salaries or PhD stipends at the applying university. This may be available on the university website or through the Human Resources department.
4. **CV of candidate if one has already been identified (maximum 5 pages in English):** This should include all relevant academic experience, publications, and prizes. Only the first 5 pages of CVs which exceed the 5-page limit will be forwarded to the Academic Advisory Committee for assessment.
5. **CVs of key staff people working on the project (maximum 5 pages for each staff member in English):** In most cases, this will be the CV of the proposed academic supervisor and the supervisor at the heritage institution.
6. **Project Update/Final Report:** Only required if the applying university or heritage institution currently receive funding from the Foundation. Please submit a one-page Project Update of your existing grant(s). If you have recently finished a grant funded by the Foundation, please ensure the Final Report has been submitted before the closing date for the current grant round as this will be assessed alongside your new application.
7. **Translated documents:** Upload translated versions of any of the above documents. .

Referees

Applicants must supply details for two, external referees able to evaluate their proposal. Referees must not be affiliated with the institution applying for the fellowship.

Both referees should be able to address the importance of the collection(s) the fellow will be working with, as well as the suitability of university department to supervise the project.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to send their referees the correct reference form and to ensure references are submitted by the referee deadline. Forms are available to download at the bottom of the [website page](#).

The Foundation will confirm receipt of your references to you via email no later than 5 working days after the referee deadline. If the Foundation has not received your reference(s) you will be contacted no later than 3 working days after the referee deadline. Please do not contact the Foundation during this period regarding your references as there will be a delay in responding to your query.

FAQs

You can find the most frequently asked questions relating to [Academic Jewish Studies here](#).

Contact

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information or advice as you prepare your application.

For queries relating to this grant category please contact: [Dr Ruchama Johnston-Bloom](#).

For any other information including technical support please contact info@rothschildfoundation.eu.

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