T.C.
TÜRKİYE BİLİMSEL VE TEKNOLOJİK ARAŞTIRMA KURUMU BAŞKANLIĞI
Uluslararası İşbirliği Daire Başkanlığı

Sayı : E-77913051-041.99-302840
Konu : TÜBİTAK-TWAS Doktora Sırası ve Doktora Sonrası Araştırma Burs Programları

YÜKSEKÖĞRETİM KURULU BAŞKANLIĞINA

TÜBİTAK ile TWAS (The World Academy of Sciences for the advancement of science in developing countries /Gelişmekte Olan Dünya için Bilimler Akademisi) arasında 2022 yılında bir iş birliği anlaşması imzalanmıştır. Söz konusu anlaşmayı müteakip ilk ortak çağrıya çıkılması hususunda mutabık kalınmış, 15 Eylül 2022 tarihinde çağrı başvuruya açılmıştır.

Adı geçen ortak çağrıda, gelişmekte olan ülkelerden, doktora sırası ve doktora sonrası çalışmalar yapan araştırmalar desteklenecektir. Araştırmacılar çalışmalarını ülkemizdeki üniversiteler ile TÜBİTAK Araştırma Merkezleri ve Enstitülerinde yürütecektir. 15 Kasım 2022'de kapanacak olan çağrının detayları https://tubitak.gov.tr/en/scholarship/postdoctoral/international-programmes/content-2216-b-tubitak-twas-postgraduate-and-postdoctoral-fellowship-programmes adresinde paylaşılmaktadır.

İlgi çağrının tüm üniversitelerimize duyurulması hususunda gereğini arz ederim.

Prof. Dr. Hasan MANDAL
Başkan

Ek:Çağrı Metni

Bu belge elektronik olarak imzalanmıştır.

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https://turkiye.gov.tr/ebd?eK=5445&eD=BSULUY6U37&eS=302840

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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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TÜBİTAK

POSTGRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES CALL TEXT

2216 -B

2216 -B

Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programs

TÜBİTAK-TWAS

Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Fellowship Programmes

TÜBİTAK

TÜBİTAK-BİDEB 2216-B
Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Fellowship Programmes
TÜBİTAK Tunus Caddesi
No:80 Kavaklıdere
ANKARA/TÜRKİYE
Tel: 444 66 90 bidebtwas@tubitak.gov.tr

1. Aim and Scope of the Call

The purpose of the programme, which was prepared in cooperation with BİDEB-TÜBİTAK and TWAS-UNESCO, is to advance international cooperation of Türkiye in science and technology by providing financial support to international researchers from developing countries who have received their PhD or are still registered to a doctoral programme abroad in the natural and the related applied sciences. This call announcement covers the procedures and obligations related to the applicants and/or international young researchers supported by the programme.

2. The Scope, Amount and Duration

2.1. Scope of the Fellowship

Within the scope of the programme, the young researchers are provided with the following support;

- Monthly fellowship (stipend) to cover living costs in Türkiye;
- Visa costs at the start of the programme;
- Air ticket to and from Türkiye.

2.2. The Amount and Duration

The support amounts to be provided to the fellows within the scope of the programme is stated in the website of the programme.

2.2.1. **For doctoral students**: the duration of the support is minimum 6 months and maximum 12 months.

2.2.2. **For postdoctoral researchers**: the duration of the support is minimum 6 months and maximum 36 months.

3. Eligibility Criteria, Required Documents and Application Method

3.1. Eligibility Criteria

3.1.1. Be permanent residents and nationals of a developing country other than the host

country (the dual citizens, the individuals who renounced Turkish citizenship for any reason are not eligible for the application). For the list of the developing countries, please see https://twas.org/developing-countries-south;

3.1.2. Candidates from Science and Technology Lagging countries (STLC) and women are especially encouraged to apply. For the list of STLC, please see https://twas.org/66-countries.

3.1.3. Must not hold any visa for temporary or permanent residency in Türkiye or any developed country;

3.1.4. Not currently residing in the host country (Türkiye);

3.1.5. Having a valid passport;

3.1.6. Having an English proficiency certificate;*

3.1.7. Having an official acceptance at an eligible department, institution or laboratory of a public or private university in Türkiye or TÜBİTAK Research Centers and Institutes*;

3.1.8. Not taking up other assignments during the fellowship period;

3.1.9. Not previously supported under this programme and 2216 – Research Fellowship Programme for International Researchers;

3.1.10. Candidates may apply for only one programme per calendar year in the TWAS and OWSD portfolio. Applicants will not be eligible to visit another institution in that year under the TWAS Visiting Professor programmes. One exception: The head of an institution who invites an external scholar to share his/her expertise under the TWAS Visiting Professor programmes may still apply for another programme;

3.1.11. Being financially responsible for any accompanying family members;

3.1.12. Committing to return to the home country on completion of the fellowship.

3.1.13. For doctoral students;

3.1.13.1. Holding a Master's or equivalent degree certificate in natural and related applied sciences (in the fields specified in the call text);

3.1.13.2. By the deadline date of the application, having registered to a doctoral in natural and related applied sciences (in the fields specified in the call text), in a higher education institution in the home country or another developing country. S/he must have successfully passed the PhD

qualifying exam or be in an advanced stage of their PhD research in natural and related applied sciences (in the fields specified in the call text). Applicants must certify this criterion with an official Registration & No Objection Certificate taken in the last three months before the application date. (It can also mention briefly the timeline and research work planned);

3.1.13.3. Being 35 years old or younger on 31 December of the application year.

3.1.14. For post-doctoral researchers;

3.1.14.1. Holding a PhD degree certificate in natural and applied sciences (in the fields specified in the call text);**

3.1.14.2. Being employed in a developing country (other than the host country) and hold a research assignment there. Applicants must certify a supporting statement from the head/director of the applicant's current employer on official headed paper to prove that you are employed there and will be given leave, if granted the award;

3.1.14.3. Being 45 years old or younger on 31 December of the application year.

*If the medium of education was not English: provide evidence in English, e.g. standardized test card (TOEFL, IELTS etc.) or a home university-issued letter certifying the knowledge of the language. If medium of education was English, please write a brief statement indicating what type of education was in English, e.g. high school, BSc or MSc degrees. This statement must be signed and dated by the applicant.

**Requests for acceptance must be directed to the chosen host institution(s) in Türkiye NOT to TÜBİTAK. Without preliminary acceptance, the application will not be considered for selection. The acceptance letter must be written on the letterhead of the inviting institution and signed by the highest authority of the Host Institute in Türkiye. The maximum number of academic advisors in Türkiye can be 2 (two).

For the list of universities in Türkiye, see:
https://www.yok.gov.tr/universiteler/universitelerimiz

For TÜBİTAK Research Centers and Institutes, see:

a. TÜBİTAK MAM, https://mam.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en
b. TÜBİTAK BİLGEM, https://bilgem.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en/frontpage
c. TÜBİTAK UZAY, https://uzay.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en
d. TÜBİTAK SAGE, https://www.sage.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en
e. TÜBİTAK RUTE, https://rute.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en
f. TÜBİTAK UME, https://www.ume.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en
g. TÜBİTAK TÜSSİDE, https://tusside.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en
h. TÜBİTAK TBAE, https://tbae.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en

i. TÜBİTAK ULAKBİM, https://ulakbim.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en
j. TÜBİTAK National Observatory, https://tug.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en
k. TÜBİTAK BUTAL, https://butal.TÜBİTAK.gov.tr/en

** Those having received their PhD from a university in Türkiye are required to receive an acceptance from a university other than the one where they received their doctorate degree, and carry out their research with an academic advisor(s) other than their doctoral thesis advisor.

3.2. Eligible fields:

a. Agricultural Sciences
b. Structural, Cell. & Molecular Biology
c. Biological Systems & Organisms
d. Medical & Health Sciences, including Neurosciences
e. Chemical Sciences
f. Engineering Sciences
g. Astronomy, Space & Earth Science
h. Mathematical Sciences
i. Physics
j. Computing and Information Technology.

3.2. Required Documents

It is mandatory to upload the Research proposal form prepared in the format determined by TÜBİTAK to the application system with the required attachments during the online application period. Templates for these documents are available for download.

3.3. Application Method

3.3.1. To be able to submit the online application form to TÜBİTAK, the candidate must first create a profile on the platform in the TÜBİTAK Researcher Information System (ARBIS) that is available at https://arbis.tubitak.gov.tr The information of the researchers in the Researcher Information System (ARBIS) to apply for the programme and the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye must be up-to-date before applying online.

3.3.2. Applications are submitted online via the TÜBİTAK online application system through https://ebideb.tubitak.gov.tr within the dates indicated in the call announcement.

3.3.3. During the application stage, it is sufficient to upload the documents into the application system and they are not required to be delivered to BİDEB by email or post.

3.3.4. Documents to be uploaded to the application system must be in English. Documents prepared in other languages must be accompanied by their certified English translations.

Within the application period, the application can be withdrawn from the online system. After the application period is over, a signed petition stating the application year and period for withdrawal process in the evaluation stage should be sent to BİDEB. An update will be made after the petition reaches to BİDEB.

4. Evaluation

A maximum of 25 researchers will be supported per year. The applications are evaluated in two phases.

4.1. Preliminary Assessment

Application documents are checked during a preliminary assessment. Applications which do not fulfil the requirements or are lacking any requested documents, missing documentation in the requested format or are not submitted within the application period, or submitted by fax or e-mail will be returned without being subjected to scientific evaluation.

4.2. Scientific Evaluation

A scientific evaluation is carried out by expert panelists/consultants based on the evaluation criteria.

4.2.1. Excellence

4.2.1.1. The Quality and credibility of the research/innovation project; level of novelty, inter/multidisciplinary aspects.

4.2.1.2. The Quality and appropriateness of the training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host.

4.2.1.3. The scientific competence of the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye and the integration of the researcher with the institution/organization in which the research will be conducted.

4.2.2. Implementation

4.2.2.1. Consistent and effective methodology and work plan: Work packages, Success Criteria.

4.2.2.2. Compliance of project management structure and monitoring processes including risk management.

4.2.2.3. Appropriateness of the infrastructure of the institution/organization to which the research will be conducted.

4.2.3. Impact

4.2.3.1. Widespread impact of project outputs.

4.2.3.2. Quality of delivery of project activities to different target groups.

4.2.3.3. Effects on career development of young researcher.

Evaluation is based solely on documents uploaded to the application system. For this reason, the documentation for each requirement must be uploaded to the system in clear and determined context. (Documents which only contain links of web pages will not be considered.)

The results of the evaluation are determined by Group Executive Committee and submitted to the Presidency. The applications which will be supported and the amount of the support will be finalized by the approval of the TÜBİTAK Presidency and TWAS.

5. Required Documents to Initiate the Fellowship

5.1. Selected candidates will be sent an official award letter jointly signed by TÜBİTAK and TWAS-UNESCO. Before any visa and travel arrangements can start, fellows must sign the award letter and return it to TWAS-UNESCO and BİDEB-TÜBİTAK.

5.2. Letter of Commitment signed by the researcher and the academic advisor(s) at the university in which the research will be carried out.

5.3. If the research requires, the approval certificate obtained from the Ethics Committee of the university in which the research will be conducted or from any relevant Ethics Committee, should be submitted to BİDEB.

After the submission of the above-mentioned documents to BİDEB, support payments of the fellow will be initiated based on the starting date of the research.

6. Monitoring and Finalization

6.1. General Provisions

6.1.1. The fellow is obliged to initiate the research and fellowship within 12 months of the date of the award letter. The status of the fellows who cannot start their research due to health, natural disaster and similar *force majeure* and other reasons can be evaluated by GYK and the fellowship initiation period can be deferred up to 6 months at the most. A fellow who does not begin his/her research within 12 months without the decision of the GYK cannot claim any rights on the fellowship.

6.1.2. The fellow is obliged to report all kinds of fellowship or financial support, which are received from another institution in Türkiye during the fellowship period to BİDEB

within 15 days from the starting date of the support. If the fellow has some financial support received from another institution, the amount of the support within the scope of this programme might be separately determined by the GYK.

6.1.3. The fellows have to maintain their research studies full-time during the fellowship period. The fellow is obliged to inform TÜBİTAK about any short or long-term visits away from the host institution and the duration of such visits within 10 days of the occurrence causing the time away. Duration of time away for less than 15 days per year shall not interrupt the fellowship payment. For any durations longer than 15 days GYK and the Presidency may consider temporary suspension, repeal or cancelation of the fellowship. In such a scenario, any stipend paid for this period will have to be returned to BİDEB by the fellow.

6.1.4. Those who receive fellowship within the scope of this programme cannot receive project incentive bonus (PTI), fees, royalties, and similar financial support from other projects supported by TÜBİTAK at the same time.

6.1.5. In the case of those who receive or are eligible to receive fellowship from other programmes of TÜBİTAK, this situation should be reported to TÜBİTAK in writing by the fellow. If otherwise determined, the fellow is obliged to pay back the entire fellowship amount to BİDEB along with the legal interest.

6.1.6. It is essential for the fellows to complete his/her research successfully within the fellowship period assigned by TÜBİTAK and TWAS-UNESCO. If fellows, who are supported for less than the maximum support period wish to extend their fellowship, they should deliver the following documents to BİDEB 2 months before the end date of the fellowship period:

6.1.6.1. Request Form for Fellowship Extension. The form must include the summary of the research carried out by the fellow during the period of support and justification for the fellowship extension. The form must be signed by both, the fellow and academic advisor(s) in Türkiye.

6.1.6.2. A detailed research report on the studies that will be carried out within the requested period. This report should be prepared in the "Progress Report" format in the Application Forms available on the official programme website.

If the request for extension is deemed appropriate by GYK, it will be finalized with the approval of the TÜBİTAK Presidency and UNESCO-TWAS. The extended period cannot exceed fifty percent of the initially awarded support period of the fellowship.

Once the extension is approved, an official addendum to the TÜBİTAK-TWAS-UNESCO award letter will be sent to the fellow for signing. The signed addendum must be returned to BIDEB and UNESCO-TWAS.

6.1.7. In case of non-compliance with the obligations, action is taken in accordance with the provisions of this Call Announcement and the Letter of Commitment.

6.2. Progress and Final Reports

6.2.1. In relation to their research, the fellows should upload progress and final reports to the online monitoring system on the dates specified by TÜBİTAK. It is sufficient to upload the reports to the online monitoring system and it is not required to deliver them to BİDEB by post.

6.2.2. A progress report is not requested from the fellows whose support periods are less than 10 months, and it is sufficient for them to upload their final reports to the online monitoring system on the dates specified by TÜBİTAK. Fellows whose support period is determined as 10 months and more are required to upload progress report(s) every 6 months following the start date of their research and a final report within 2 months of the end date of their research.

6.2.3. Progress reports can be uploaded to the online monitoring system no more than 10 days after the submission dates specified by TÜBİTAK. In case of any delay of the submission of progress reports, the fellowship payments will not be paid and the fellow will be given an additional period of 2 months. The fellowship payments of the fellows who submit their progress reports within the given time period will continue where they left off. The support given to the fellows who do not submit their progress reports to BİDEB within 2 months without relying on *force majeure* reasons may be repealed or canceled with the decision of the Group Executive Committee (GYK) and the approval of the Presidency.

6.2.4. If the final report is not uploaded to the online monitoring system within 2 months following the research end date, the fellow can request additional time with a reasoned and signed petition. If the request is considered appropriate by the GYK, additional time may be given for the completion of the report. The fellowship support of the fellow who does not submit their final reports to BİDEB in the additional time given, can be repealed or canceled by the GYK decision and the approval of the Presidency.

6.2.5. Progress and final reports are evaluated by academic experts to be assigned by BİDEB. Reports that are not sufficient as a result of the evaluation are requested to be revised within 2 months. The support of the fellow who does not send the necessary revisions within the given time period or whose revised reports are not accepted can be repealed or canceled by the decision of the GYK and with the approval of the Presidency.

6.2.6. TÜBİTAK and TWAS-UNESCO support should be stated in the publications within the scope of the programme and, if available, the publication should be uploaded to the online monitoring system in addition to the progress and final reports.

6.3. Change of Host Institution, Mentor or Research Title

6.3.1. In case of a request to change the host institution/organization or the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye, the fellow should apply to BİDEB submitting the following documents:

6.3.1.1. Request Form to Change of Host Institution/Academic Advisor(s). The fellow and the current, and the new academic advisor(s) in Türkiye must be signed the relevant parts of the this form.

6.3.1.2. The acceptance letter from the highest authority of the new host university in which the research will be conducted.

If GYK decision approves the request, the transfer can proceed. Following the approval, the Letter of Commitment of the fellow will be renewed.

6.3.2. In case the fellow requests to make changes on the research title without changing the research subject to which it is entitled to support, the fellow must apply to BİDEB along with a letter of justification signed by the fellow and the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye. With the GYK approval, the research title can be changed.

6.4. Suspension and Early Cessation

6.4.1. In the event of a situation requiring the suspension of fellowship based on *force majeure*, the fellow and the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye must apply to BİDEB with a justification within 20 days from the date of the incident. Fellowship support can be suspended if GYK deems appropriate. The suspension period may be up to 12 months during the support period and no payment will be made to the fellow during this period. Upon request of the fellow and the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye regarding the resumption of the discontinued support, if deemed appropriate by the GYK, the fellowship support will recommence and the suspension period will be added to the fellowship period.

6.4.2. In the event that no request is submitted by the fellow and the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye for the resumption of support within the suspension time, the support of the fellow can be repealed or canceled by the decision of the GYK and with the approval of the Presidency.

6.4.3. If the fellow wants to leave the programme earlier than the end date of the fellowship without completing the research, the fellow and academic advisor(s) in Türkiye must apply to BİDEB with appropriate justification. In the case of abandonment of the

fellowship without successful completion of the programme the following conditions will apply:

6.4.3.1. The fellowship stipend will no longer be paid from the date of abandonment. If a payment was already made, the fellow must refund it.

6.4.3.2. The final report that is prepared for research results and outputs obtained until the date the research was stopped must be uploaded to the online monitoring system within 2 months.

6.4.3.3. The fellowship support will be repealed or canceled by the decision of the GYK and the approval of the Presidency.

6.4.4. If the fellow completes the research earlier than the end date of the fellowship, the fellow and academic advisor(s) in Türkiye must apply to BİDEB with a justification. In case of early completion of the research the following applies:

6.4.4.1. The monthly fellowship payments will not be paid from the date of completion. If a payment was already made, the fellow must refund.

6.4.4.2. The support of the fellow is terminated with GYK decision and with the approval of the Presidency, based on the approval of the final report as a result of the monitoring evaluation by scientific experts.

7. Ethical Rules

7.2. The fellow and the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye must comply with universal scientific research and scientific publishing rules during the conduct of the research. Where necessary, it is obligatory to obtain the Ethics Committee Approval document and the legal permission from the relevant institutions for the research to be done.

7.3. In case of a violation of the above-mentioned rules, legal actions shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of TÜBİTAK Directive in Research and Publication Ethics Committee (AYEK) or Industrial Ethics Committee (ENDEK).

8. Other Provisions

8.2. TÜBİTAK will be responsible for a monthly allowance to cover accommodation/living expenses and medical facilities for minor ailments as available in Türkiye at amounts to be specified by TÜBİTAK.

8.3. TWAS will cover one air ticket to reach Türkiye at the beginning of the fellowship and the return journey on completion of the fellowship, and visa related expenses incurred at the start of the programme.

8.4. Candidates must organize their own comprehensive medical insurance for the period of their stay to meet any untoward incidents and major ailments before travelling to Türkiye.

8.5. There is no retroactive payment to the fellows who choose to arrive to Türkiye by their own means before the date on the acceptance letter.

9. Call Calendar

Call Terms	Call Opening Date	Call Closing Date
1st Call	15 September 2022	15 November 2022

10. Relevant Legislation (Directive, Programme Instruction, Evaluation Instruction)

10.2. Directive on the Programmes to be carried out by the Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes under The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye.

10.3. Rules and Procedures with regard to the running of the Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes under The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye.

10.4. Instruction on Evaluation of Applications and Reports in BİDEB Fellowship and Support Programmes by Panel/Advisor/Advisor Board Method.

10.5. TWAS-UNESCO regulations as detailed in the TWAS-TÜBİTAK award letter.

10.6. In cases not specified in the relevant legislation and in the announcement of this call, the decisions of the GYK are implemented.

11. Definitions and Abbreviations

- **Academic Advisor in Türkiye**: The academicians to be working in the university/research infrastructure in Türkiye during the course of the research.
- **Academic Expert**: The expert person who is assigned to examine the activities related to support and who makes his/her assessment in accordance with the format determined by TÜBİTAK and if necessary by visiting on site.

- **Advisor:** Expert persons in the field appointed by BİDEB to evaluate, advise, or assist the boards on fellowship/support/activity applications.
- **AYEK:** TÜBİTAK Research and Publication Ethics Committee.
- **BİDEB:** Science Fellow and Grant Programmes Department.
- **ENDEK:** TÜBİTAK Industrial Ethics Committee.
- **Fellow:** The undergraduate or graduate student who receives a fellowship from BİDEB for the purpose of university undergraduate or graduate studies at home and/or abroad and the researchers who receive a postdoctoral research fellowship.
- **Fellowship:** Monthly payments made to the fellows for the amount and duration determined by The Science Board in order to cover the living expenses of the students and researchers who are undergraduate and/or graduate students at home or abroad and who are determined in accordance with the special rules and principles.
- **Final Report:** The report to be prepared by the fellows and the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye in accordance with the forms and procedures determined by TÜBİTAK indicating the added value and gains obtained from the research results and outputs at the end of the support period.
- **Group Executive Committee (GYK):** The Executive Committee of the Scientist Support Groups that form opinions, suggestions and decisions on issues related to group activities,
- **Institution's Highest Authority:** In the case of public universities, the rector or the authorized vice-chancellor, the person authorized by the board of trustees in the foundation universities, the director of the center in case of a research infrastructure that is qualified under the Law No. 6550, the person/persons authorized to represent and bind the organization in the broadest way in case of private sector.
- **Letter of Commitment:** A signed statement that the person benefiting from the support will comply with the rules and obligations set out in the programme legislation.
- **Management Board:** Means the Management Board of TÜBİTAK.
- **Panel:** Meeting held by scientists who are experts in their respective fields and having duty for the evaluation of fellowship and support applications.
- **Panel Member:** Expert persons in the field assigned to give opinions at the meeting of the evaluation of fellowship and support applications conducted by BİDEB.

- **Presidency:** TÜBİTAK Presidency.
- **Programme:** Fellowship, support and/or competition programmes conducted by BİDEB in order to fulfil the duties stated in (h) and (j) clauses of Article 2 of Law No. 278.
- **Progress Report:** The report prepared by the fellow and the academic advisor(s) in Türkiye in accordance with the forms and procedures determined by TÜBİTAK in order to monitor periodical developments on the dates specified by TÜBİTAK.
- **Research Infrastructure:** Research infrastructures that have obtained proficiency under the Law No. 6550 on the Support of Research Infrastructures.
- **TÜBİTAK:** Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye.
- **TWAS-UNESCO:** The World Academy of Sciences - for the advancement of science in developing countries.