



T.C. SANAYİ VE  
TEKNOLOJİ BAKANLIĞI

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# INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR EARLY STAGE RESEARCHERS

2232-B

2025  
CALL TEXT

# 2232-B

## International Fellowship for Early Stage Researchers Programme

### Contact Us



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## 1. AIM AND SCOPE OF THE CALL

In order to contribute to projects that will be executed in research fields that are of strategic importance for our country within the scope of the programme, it is aimed to promote young researchers under the age of 40 who have come to the fore with their high-level science and/or technology-oriented research in their fields and who have experience to work in an international environment, to conduct their research in Türkiye, and to provide support for them to pursue their work in state or foundation universities, public institutions, research infrastructures deemed competent within the scope of Law no. 6550, TÜBİTAK Research Centers or Institutes, private sector companies with R&D or design centres, or equity companies settled in Türkiye operating within techno parks. This call text covers procedures and liabilities related to researchers who apply to the programme and/or who are supported by the programme. TÜBİTAK hereby reserves the right to amend this call announcement at any time.

## 2. THE SCOPE, AMOUNT AND DURATION

### 2.1. The Scope and Duration

#### 2.1.1. The programme will include

- a. Scholarship for the coordinator,
- b. Family allowance (if applicable),
- c. Initial research grant,
- d. Research project grant,
- e. Grant intended for establishing a research team (scholarship for up to 5 graduate students and post-doctoral researchers within the scope of the research to be conducted in Türkiye),
- f. Project Incentive Bonus for researchers involved within the scope of the research project (up to 5 researchers),
- g. Institutional share allowance for host institution,
- h. Health insurance for the coordinator and his/her family,
- i. Travel allowance for the coordinator and his/her family and
- j. Mentorship support, provided by 2232 project leaders.

#### 2.1.2. Fellowship period is minimum 24 months and maximum 36 months. Fellowship period for graduate scholarship holders is indicated in Article 9.2.4 of this call text.

### 2.2. The Amount

#### 2.2.1. Fellowship amounts for each item defined under the scope of the programme can be found on the programme's [website](#).

- 2.2.2.** The coordinator is allowed to stay abroad for 3 months each year during the support period in order to transfer the knowledge and experience acquired at the institution/organization abroad to our country; overseas visits carried out for other reasons are also included in this period. The coordinator must notify TÜBİTAK about the duration of his/her stay abroad. As long as the stay abroad does not exceed the upper limits indicated in this article, the project shall not be suspended, and fellowship and payments shall continue. Progress reports shall present detailed justifications regarding the periods spent abroad. If this duration is exceeded, the decision regarding the continuation of the scholarship and project support shall be made by the Group Executive Committee.
- 2.2.3.** If the coordinator finds full-time/contractual paid employment in any institution/organisation, the scholarship payments shall continue for the coordinator and, if applicable, his/her family.
- 2.2.4.** Initial research grant payment is offered to help the coordinator launch his/her research activities in Türkiye and to establish a suitable research environment within project period following the award of the grant.
- 2.2.5.** On the application date, if the host institution is;
- Small and medium-sized enterprises, 25% of the scholarship specified 2.1.1.a and 2.1.1. b is covered by the host institution,
  - Large-scale company, 40% of the scholarship specified 2.1.1. a and 2.1.1. b is covered by the host institution,
  - Foundation University, 25% of the scholarship specified 2.1.1. a and 2.1.1. b is covered by the host institution,
  - Public Institution, TÜBİTAK Research Centers or Institutes, or a State University: 100% of all support items specified in 2.1.1. are covered by TÜBİTAK.
- 2.2.6.** The coordinator is expected to complete his/her research within the support period. The project duration may be extended provided that it does not exceed the maximum support limit of 36 months. The coordinator's justified application shall be decided with the approval of the TÜBİTAK Presidency based on the evaluation of the Group Executive Committee
- 2.2.7.** Upon the coordinator's justified application, supplementary allowance that can be granted within the scope of the project is resolved, provided that it does not exceed the upper limit valid on the relevant date, with the approval of the TÜBİTAK Presidency based on the evaluation of the Group Executive Committee.
- 2.2.8.** Grant amounts within the scope of clauses c, d, e, f and g are transferred to a private account to be opened by the host institution/organization. Grants in other clauses are directly transferred to the coordinator's account by TÜBİTAK.
- 2.2.9.** Expenses related to transferred grants, depending on the type of institution to which the amount will be transferred, "Principles and Procedures on the Expenditure of the Amounts to be Transferred from TÜBİTAK Funds to General

Budget Public Administrations and Special Budget Administrations in Return for Projects, and on the Expenses of Externally Supported Projects Carried Out by TÜBİTAK”, “Principles on the Transfer, Expenditure, Accounting and Audit of the Amounts to be Granted by TÜBİTAK to Private Institutions and Foundation Universities in Return for Projects”, or “Procedures and Principles to be Applied in the Financial Transactions concerning the Amounts to be Transferred from TÜBİTAK funds to Research Infrastructures and Public Administrations Falling Outside the Scope of Public Finance Management and Control Law No. 5018 in Return for Projects”.

### 3. CALL CALENDAR

The opening and closing dates of the call are available on the programme’s [website](#).

## 4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND APPLICATION METHOD

### 4.1. Eligibility Criteria

- 4.1.1. Researchers applying to the programme must be under the age of 40<sup>1</sup> as of the call opening date.
- 4.1.2. As of the call opening date, researchers applying to the programme must not have resided in Türkiye for more than 1 year within the last 3 years and must not be working in Türkiye. Force majeure accepted by the Group Executive Committee and compulsory military service are excluded from this period.
- 4.1.3. As of the call opening date, any of the work experiences set forth below shall be met:
  - Early-stage researchers who, after completing their doctoral degrees within the last 4 years, have at least 1 year of postdoctoral research experience abroad.
  - Researchers who have 4 years of full-time research experience abroad, provided that, after completing their undergraduate education, they have worked in the private sector for at least 1 year (up to 1 year of a master’s degree with thesis completed abroad or up to 3 years of a doctoral degree completed abroad may be counted towards this research experience).
- 4.1.4. Researchers applying must meet at least one of the following requirements:
  - Being on the "[Highly Cited Researchers List](#)" published by Thomson Reuters in any year within the last 5 years as of the call opening date
  - Having worked for at least 12 months in total at the institutions among those

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<sup>1</sup> For women applicants, one year is added up for each birth.

ranked below in the last 5 years as of the call opening date:

- ✚ Top 150 universities in the field-based rankings according to [QS \(Quacquarelli Symonds\)](#) or [THE \(Times Higher Education\)](#) World University Rankings
- ✚ [World's Top 2500 Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard](#) published by the European Commission Joint Research Centre
- ✚ Top 250 institutions in the sub-fields of health, universities, government and companies according to [Scimago Institutions Ranking](#)
- ✚ Successful start-up and unicorn companies receiving the most investment
  - “[Unicorn](#)” companies list published by CB Insights and reached 1 billion USD and over valuation from its venture level
  - Top 1000 companies founded within the last 5 years and received the most investment in the last 5 years according to databases of Crunchbase and CB Insights

**4.1.5.** Researchers who have fellowship from any other public institution and already have compulsory service obligation cannot apply to this programme.

## 4.2. Required Documents

**4.2.1.** [Research plan and project proposal](#), which must be prepared by the applicant coordinator, covering the purpose of coming to Türkiye, the research projects/plans to be carried out, and the post-programme career plan.

Applications will be evaluated based only on the information/documents uploaded to the system. Therefore, documents related to each requirement must be submitted with clear and required content. If necessary, additional information/documentation may be requested. Before the application, [the Researcher Information System \(ARBIS\)](#) record must be updated. (See: Article 5. Evaluation)

## 4.3. Documents Required to Initiate The Fellowship

**4.3.1.** The coordinator must upload the required information/[documents](#) to [bideb-pts.tubitak.gov.tr](#) and submit a project initiation request within 12 months at the latest upon the notification of the fellowship decision. After the documents are reviewed, the fellowship agreement is prepared by TÜBİTAK. The agreement must be submitted to TÜBİTAK once it is signed by the following representatives of the host institution/organisation where the research will be conducted.

- Top level director/representative (rector, general manager, president, etc.) of the host institution/organisation;



- Top director (dean, institute director, etc.) of the research unit and unit director (head of department) in case the host institution is a university, or
- Director if the host institution is a research infrastructure deemed competent within the scope of Law No. 6550, or
- Person(s) with the most extensive representation and signature authority if the host institution is a private sector company.

**4.3.2.** The coordinator may request postponement for a period of maximum 6 months due to force majeure. If deemed appropriate by Group Executive Committee, such extension may be granted.

## 4.4. Application Method

**4.4.1.** Applications will be made online via <https://tybs.tubitak.gov.tr/> within the dates indicated in the call text.

**4.4.2.** At the application stage, candidates are not required to upload any additional documents to the application system (TYBS) other than the research plan and project proposal form. Candidates must undertake that the information they enter into the system is correct and they will comply with the programme obligations. Education, exam etc. information is displayed through online systems. However, candidates whose information cannot be viewed through online systems are required to upload their documents such as training certificates, exams, etc. to the application system. Documents to be uploaded to the application system must be in Turkish or English.

**4.4.3.** No documents are required to be submitted to BİDEB at the application stage.

**4.4.4.** Coordinators who are awarded with support must upload the required documents to the system in order to initiate the support after the support decision is announced (See: Article 4.3).

**4.4.5.** Application can be withdrawn at any stage. For withdrawal, a petition must be submitted to BİDEB stating the application year and period. BİDEB will update the status of the application after receipt of the petition.

## 5. EVALUATION

Applications will be evaluated in three stages.

### 5.1. Eligibility Check

At this stage, the information/documents submitted to the system during the application will be checked. Applications which do not meet any of application criteria, submitted after the application deadline, and submitted via fax or e-mail will be eliminated in



eligibility check stage and will be returned to the applicant without being subject to scientific evaluation.

## 5.2. Information / Document Control

At this stage, the candidate must upload the [documents](#) containing the information declared during the application to [tybs.tubitak.gov.tr](http://tybs.tubitak.gov.tr) within 15 days from the date of notification to the candidate. The applications of the candidates who submits documents that are incomplete, incorrect, or different from the information declared in the application will be returned to applicants.

## 5.3. Scientific Evaluation

Scientific evaluation will be carried out by Turkish and/or international field experts, panelists/supervisors according to the following criteria.

### 5.3.1. Scientific Competence of the Applicant (Weight 40%)

- Academic career of the applicant and his/her academic achievements to date (mobility, decisiveness, thematic scope, academic efficiency) **(weight 13,33%)**
- 5-year research plan of the applicant during and after the fellowship (research subject/subjects, research calendar, complementary financial forecast, academic and personal development goals) **(weight 13,33%)**
- Publication quality constituting the basis of research plan of the applicant (scientific quality, innovativeness, evaluation of contribution in publications with multiple authors) and/or his/her patents **(weight 13,33%)**

### 5.3.2. Scientific Qualification of Research Project (Weight 60%)

- Excellence (within the scope of the purpose of the call, scientific and technological qualification of research project, its innovation level (innovation and invention potential) and its interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary characteristics, if any) **(weight 24%)**
- Implementation **(weight 12%)**
  - Consistency and efficiency of the work plan,
  - Feasibility of the work packages and the budget,
  - Management structure of the project, including risk management, and compliance of monitoring processes,
  - Suitability of the infrastructure of the host institution.
- Impact **(weight %24)**
  - Within the scope of the purpose of the call, potential of project's expected outputs and outcomes for tackling problems, commercialisation, reducing country's foreign trade deficit and/or

increasing its competitiveness,

- The plan to disseminate project activities and outputs to various target groups.

**5.3.3.** For applications in critical technology fields specified in the 12th Development Plan and the 2030 Industry and Technology Strategy, as well as in priority R&D and Innovation topics, the minimum support score may be determined separately.

**5.3.4.** Panel evaluation results will be finalised upon the consent of Group Executive Committee and the approval of TÜBİTAK Presidency.

## **6. MONITORING AND FINALIZATION**

### **6.1. General Provisions Regarding Support Transfer and Expenditures**

**6.1.1.** Monthly scholarship and family allowance will be transferred to the account of the coordinator by TÜBİTAK, within the framework of budget and cash possibilities, from the start of the support until the tenth of each month.

**6.1.2.** Initial research grant payment shall be transferred to project's special account opened by the host institution upon the signing of agreement within the framework of budget and cash status. If the host institution is a private sector company, a warrant equivalent to initial research grant shall be provided by this private sector company over values specified in Law no. 4734. Initial research grant is spent within the scope of procedures and principles mentioned in Article 2.2.9.

**6.1.3.** First term allowance of the budget approved for research project grant will be transferred to project's special account upon the signing of the agreement by both parties, and other term allowances will be transferred depending on the approval of progress reports within the framework of budget and cash status. If the host institution is a private sector company, a warrant equivalent to the highest term allowance of the research project shall be provided by this private sector company over values specified in Law No. 4734.

**6.1.4.** Within the scope of research project grant, researchers (except for the coordinator) taking part in services related to the project are paid Project Incentive Bonus (PIB) in amounts determined by Board, upon approval of the progress and result reports and the acceptance of the PIB payment. If the host institution is a private sector company, researchers working in this organisation are paid an amount equivalent to project incentive bonus.

**6.1.5.** Scholarship expenses of scholarship holders, who will be included in research team by the coordinator for research he/she will conduct in Türkiye, will be transferred to project's special account opened by the host institution as of the

periods determined within the scope of research grant and within the framework of budget and cash status. Scholarships are paid by the host institution within the first week of the subsequent month.

- 6.1.6.** Expenses are incurred accordance with the feature of the host institution/organization and within the framework of the principles to be subject to TÜBİTAK legislation. The host institution/organisation will be responsible for the compliance of expenses with agreement provisions and legislation.
- 6.1.7.** The institutional share allowance for the host institution shall be transferred to the project's special account by TÜBİTAK following the approval of the progress report, within the scope of principles and procedures specified in Article 2.2.9 and within the framework of budget and cash status. The host institution/organisation is responsible for the expenditure of the institutional share allowance within the scope of R&D activities.
- 6.1.8.** Allowance for the coordinator and his/her entire family's travel to Türkiye is covered for once by TÜBİTAK during the project in return for submitted documents. Transportation expenditures are not covered. This allowance is not paid for coordinators working on a permanent basis in Türkiye at the start date of support.
- 6.1.9.** Insurance support for the coordinator and his/her entire family is covered by TÜBİTAK within the scope of upper limits, in return for documents. If the coordinator starts working within the scope of Law no. 5510, insurance support is interrupted.

## **6.2. Progress and Final Reports**

- 6.2.1.** In line with the detailed work plan proposed during the application, the coordinator is responsible for submitting progress reports on the dates specified in the agreement as well as a final report covering project's all scientific, technical, administrative, financial developments and outcomes by the end of fellowship period.
- 6.2.2.** Progress reports are expected to be submitted on the date specified in the agreement, while the final report is expected to be submitted within two months following the research completion date. Scholarship payments of the coordinator, who has not submitted progress reports until the specified date, are suspended. A financial report covering reasons and breakdown of expenses of relevant period should be included in the appendices of progress reports and final report. If the host institution is a private sector company or a foundation university, certified councillorship report is also sought.
- 6.2.3.** TÜBİTAK, if deems necessary, may invite the coordinator to inquire about the progress or assign person and/or persons it will determine to inspect and audit the research in scientific, technical, administrative and financial terms.
- 6.2.4.** Progress and final reports are approved or rejected by Group Executive

Committee decision as a result of the evaluation carried out by field expert counsellors assigned by TÜBİTAK. The project whose final report is approved is deemed to be completed. For the project whose final report is rejected, abolition and cancellation provisions are applied, depending on the rejection reason. After the project is completed, the outstanding balance in the project's special account is returned to TÜBİTAK's account.

### 6.3. Suspension, Abolition and Cancellation

**6.3.1.** Project's suspension, abolition or cancellation is carried out in accordance with Principles and Procedures on the Implementation of Scholarship and Fellowship Programmes of Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes.

### 6.4. Other Provisions

**6.4.1.** The coordinator's host institution change is subject to the approval of TÜBİTAK. While a demand is made by the coordinator, opinion letter of the existing host institution and support letter of the new host institution should be submitted.

**6.4.2.** If the host institution is a university, the coordinator must lecture at least two courses every year in the host institution.

**6.4.3.** It is the responsibility of the coordinator to update address, e-mail or telephone number changes in two weeks at the latest within Researcher Information System (ARBİS) and to notify BİDEB.

## 7. OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarship holders (PhD students and post-doctoral researchers) who take part in projects supported under this programme are provided with support opportunities within the scope of BİDEB 2250 - Performance-Based Scholarships Programme for PhD and Post-Doc Scholars.

## 8. OBLIGATIONS

This call text covers procedures and liabilities related to researchers who apply to the programme and/or who are supported by the programme. The administrative and financial obligations that researchers applying to and/or supported by the programme, as well as the host institutions, must fulfill during the application, evaluation, and support stages are specified in the relevant articles of the call. If the applying researcher qualifies for support, they will also fulfill the obligations stated in the contract to be signed, even if not explicitly mentioned in the call. According to the regulations, except in cases where the use of the logo is not permitted, it is mandatory to indicate

TÜBİTAK support and to use the TÜBİTAK logo in all publications. The TÜBİTAK logo must be used in compliance with the design and standards provided on the TÜBİTAK website. For obligations not explicitly stated in the call, the relevant provisions and legislations published by TÜBİTAK are applicable.

## 9. OTHER PROVISIONS AND RELEVANT LEGISLATION

### 9.1. Provisions Regarding Researchers in the Project Team

- 9.1.1. Those who have been working in the project, and, at least, have a bachelor's degree may take part in the project as researcher upon the request of the coordinator and the consent of Group Executive Committee.
- 9.1.2. Researchers can take part in the project as of the date they are declared to BİDEB by the coordinator. Researchers cannot be added to the project retrospectively.
- 9.1.3. Changes related to researcher, including appointment and dismissal are made upon the justified application of the coordinator and the approval of Group Executive Committee.
- 9.1.4. After the project takes effect, status of researchers going abroad temporarily will be determined by TÜBİTAK upon the written notification of the coordinator.

### 9.2. Provisions Regarding Scholarship Holders in the Project Team

- 9.2.1. Turkish and international students (except for special students and preparatory foreign language students) receiving graduate education in Turkish higher education institutions and Turkish and international post-doctoral researchers pursuing their post-doctoral studies in Türkiye can take part in the project as scholarship holders. A maximum of two scholarship holders in the project team can be master's student, and at most one can be a post-doctoral researcher.
- 9.2.2. Scholarship holders who are awarded a scholarship within the scope of this programme may not simultaneously receive any other BİDEB scholarship except for 2250 - Performance-Based Scholarships Programme for PhD and Post-Doc Scholars. In order to be eligible for a scholarship within the scope of this programme, other BİDEB scholarship needs to be suspended during this fellowship period. This act of suspension does not eliminate his/her obligations for the other BİDEB scholarship programme.
- 9.2.3. Matters related to scholarship holders' appointment, dismissal or similar changes shall be resolved based on the justified application of the coordinator and relevant decision of Group Executive Committee. If there are less than 3 months left until the end of the project, no new scholarship holders may be added.

- 9.2.4.** Scholarship holders involved in the programme cannot be granted a scholarship after the project end date. The maximum duration of scholarships is 24 months for master's students, 48 months for post-master's doctorate students, and 60 months for post-bachelor's doctorate students. In addition, if the education period exceeds 6 semesters from the date of registration to the master's degree, 12 semesters from the date of registration to the doctorate for post-master's doctorate education, or 14 semesters from the date of registration to the doctorate for post-bachelor's doctorate education, no scholarship payments can be made.
- 9.2.5.** If doctorate or master scholarship holders generate income from another place in the form of fee, wage, commercial revenue, etc., the scholarship will be partially paid. If post-doctoral researchers generate income from another place in the form of fee, wage, commercial revenue, etc., the scholarship will be terminated.
- 9.2.6.** Scholarship holders whose study is suspended by the institute will not be paid within these periods. Scholarship periods and maximum periods of those who are in this situation can be extended as much as the suspension periods. When necessary, TÜBİTAK may request documents on this subject from the scholarship holder.

### **9.3. Ethical Rules**

- 9.3.1.** All parties signing the fellowship agreement must abide by universal scientific research and scientific publication rules during the implementation of the project. If the study requires, due legal and special permissions must be obtained with the approval certificate of Ethics Committee. In case of a violation of the rules listed above, proceedings on concerned parties will start as per the provisions of Regulation on Research and Publication Ethics Board.

### **9.4. Relevant Legislation**

- 9.4.1.** Regulation on Programmes Executed by TÜBİTAK Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes
- 9.4.2.** Principles and Procedures on the Implementation of Scholarship and Fellowship Programmes of Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes
- 9.4.3.** Directive on Evaluation and Monitoring of Applications and Reports in BİDEB Fellowship and Grant Programmes through Panel/Advisor/Advisory Board method
- 9.4.4.** Principles and Procedures on the Expenditure of the Amounts to be Transferred from TÜBİTAK Funds to General Budget Public Administrations and Special Budget Administrations in Return for Projects, and on the Expenses of Externally Supported Projects Carried out by TÜBİTAK



**9.4.5.** Principles on the Transfer, Expenditure, Accounting and Audit of the Amounts to be Granted by TÜBİTAK to Private Institutions and Foundation Universities in Return for Projects

**9.4.6.** Principles on the Expenditure of the Amounts to be Transferred from TÜBİTAK Funds to Public Institutions and Organisations Falling Outside the Scope of General and Special Budget Administrations in Return for Projects

Group Executive Committee decisions will be implemented in cases that are not specified in relevant legislations and programme call text and in avoiding doubts that may arise during the implementation of the programme.

## 10. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- **Research Plan:** The coordinator's 5-year research plan covering fellowship duration and post-fellowship research subject/subjects, research calendar, complementary financial forecast, academic and personal development goals,
- **Researcher:** Individuals, other than the coordinator, who hold at least a bachelor's degree, possess the necessary expertise in the relevant field of science and/or technology, share the scientific and technical responsibility of the project with the coordinator, and are to be listed in the final report,
- **President:** President of TÜBİTAK,
- **Presidency:** Presidency of TÜBİTAK,
- **BİDEB:** Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes,
- **Scholarship Holder:** Individuals participating in the project for practical purposes, including students pursuing postgraduate education and those with doctoral degrees at higher education institutions established in Türkiye,
- **Call Text:** The announcement text and its annexes that define the subject, scope, application requirements, duration, funding amount, call schedule, and specific provisions of the call,
- **Fellowship Duration:** Time from project start date to project completion date as specified in the agreement,
- **Intellectual and Industrial Property Rights:** All legal rights pertaining to an intellectual product owned or co-owned by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye, in the scientific, industrial, literary, or artistic domain, regardless of whether it is registered or certified, and protected either under specific legislation and/or under general provisions such as unfair competition,
- **Intellectual Product:** Any intellectual or artistic work that may constitute the subject of intellectual and industrial property rights, including but not limited to patents, utility models, designs, integrated circuit topographies, new plant and animal species and their breeding methods, computer programs and their source codes, and know-how, which arise during or as a result of the



execution of the project, regardless of whether registered or certified, and protected under specific legislation and/or under general provisions such as unfair competition,

- **Progress Report:** A report prepared on the dates specified in the agreement by the coordinator in accordance with format and procedures determined by TÜBİTAK in order to monitor periodical developments of research plan and research project,
- **Group:** Units established to develop and implement systems that will promote and support science and technology related research, development and innovation activities, which are under the responsibility of BİDEB,
- **Group Executive Committee:** Executive Committee for Science Fellowship Groups that provides opinions, suggestions and decisions about group activities,
- **Institutional Share:** The amount calculated in accordance with the principles and procedures determined by TÜBİTAK, added to the project budget as compensation for the utilization of the Institution/Organization's resources during the execution and completion of the project,
- **Special Account:** A bank account which will be opened by the host institution/organisation in any bank, to which grant awarded within the scope of the programme will be transferred and which will only be used for expenditures within the scope of the project,
- **Private Sector Company:** Equity companies which are settled in Türkiye or located within the bodies of techno parks, that have obtained R&D or design centre certificate within the scope of Law no. 5746 on Supporting Research, Development and Design Activities, that have R&D units,
- **Panel:** A meeting held by expert scientists assigned for evaluating scholarship and fellowship applications,
- **Panellist:** Experts assigned for submitting their opinions at meetings where applications for scholarship and fellowship programmes, which are executed by BİDEB, are evaluated,
- **Project:** All activities undertaken for achieving a result, whose success criteria and goals are defined, and carried out in a certain period of time and with a specific amount of resource,
- **Project Team:** The team consisting of the Coordinator, Researchers, and any scholarship holders involved in the project,
- **Project Duration:** The period from the project start date specified in the contract until the end date, including any extensions,
- **Project Incentive Bonus:** Provided that it is limited to the project duration, amounts paid to staff of or any individual holding a position in public institutions or organisations who work within the scope of the project and assigned in services related to this project, which are determined in the project agreement according to principles set forth by Board of Directors and which do not exceed 75% of the monthly wage of project staff depending on

their positions,

- **Host Institution/Organization:** The institution or organization in which the coordinator's project is actually carried out,
- **Final Report:** A document prepared in compliance with the format specified by TÜBİTAK, which demonstrates added value and achievements obtained from project outcomes and outputs at the end of the fellowship,
- **Agreement:** Written agreement and its annexes signed by and between TÜBİTAK and the coordinator and host institution/organisation after fellowship decision is made by TÜBİTAK, which set forth scope of the fellowship, its duration, legal, administrative and financial provisions, intellectual and industrial property rights, special terms and responsibilities of parties,
- **University:** State and foundation universities,
- **TYBS:** TÜBİTAK Management Information System,
- **TÜBİTAK:** Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye,
- **Mentorship Support:** Support provided by coordinators who were previously entitled to support in the 2232 International Fellowship for Outstanding Researchers Programme,
- **Coordinator:** A researcher who comes to Türkiye to conduct research within the scope of the programme, holds all kinds of scientific, technical, administrative, financial and legal responsibilities of the project, and submits scientific, technical, administrative and financial reports to TÜBİTAK within time intervals defined in the project agreement,
- **Board of Directors:** TÜBİTAK's Board of Directors.



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# INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR OUTSTANDING RESEARCHERS

2232-A

2025  
CALL TEXT

The Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programs (BİDEB)

# 2232-A

## International Fellowship for Outstanding Researchers Programme

### Contact Us



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## 1. AIM AND SCOPE OF THE CALL

In order to contribute to projects that will be executed in research fields that are of strategic importance for our country within the scope of the programme, it is aimed to promote qualified researchers who have come to the fore with their high-level science and/or technology-oriented research in their fields and who have experience to work in an international environment, to conduct their research in Türkiye, and to provide support for them to pursue their work in state or foundation universities, public institutions, research infrastructures deemed competent within the scope of Law no. 6550, TÜBİTAK Research Centers or Institutes, private sector companies with R&D or design centres, or equity companies settled in Türkiye operating within techno parks. This call text covers procedures and liabilities related to researchers who apply to the programme and/or who are supported by the programme. TÜBİTAK hereby reserves the right to amend this call announcement at any time.

## 2. THE SCOPE, AMOUNT AND DURATION

### 2.1. The Scope and Duration

#### 2.1.1. The programme will include

- a. Scholarship for the coordinator,
- b. Family allowance (if applicable),
- c. Initial research grant,
- d. Research project grant,
- e. Grant intended for establishing a research team (scholarship for up to 5 graduate students and post-doctoral researchers within the scope of the research to be conducted in Türkiye),
- f. Project Incentive Bonus for researchers involved within the scope of the research project (up to 5 researchers),
- g. Institutional share allowance for host institution,
- h. Health insurance for the coordinator and his/her family,
- i. Travel allowance for the coordinator and his/her family and
- j. Mentorship support, provided by 2232 project leaders.

#### 2.1.2. Fellowship period is minimum 24 months and maximum 36 months. Fellowship period for graduate scholarship holders is indicated in Article 9.2.4 of this call text.

### 2.2. The Amount

#### 2.2.1. Fellowship amounts for each item defined under the scope of the programme can be found on the programme's [website](#).

- 2.2.2.** The coordinator is allowed to stay abroad for 3 months each year during the support period in order to transfer the knowledge and experience acquired at the institution/organization abroad to our country; overseas visits carried out for other reasons are also included in this period. The coordinator must notify TÜBİTAK about the duration of his/her stay abroad. As long as the stay abroad does not exceed the upper limits indicated in this article, the project shall not be suspended, and fellowship and payments shall continue. Progress reports shall present detailed justifications regarding the periods spent abroad. If this duration is exceeded, the decision regarding the continuation of the scholarship and project support shall be made by the Group Executive Committee.
- 2.2.3.** If the coordinator finds full-time/contractual paid employment in any institution/organisation, the scholarship payments shall continue for the coordinator and, if applicable, his/her family.
- 2.2.4.** Initial research grant payment is offered to help the coordinator launch his/her research activities in Türkiye and to establish a suitable research environment within project period following the award of the grant.
- 2.2.5.** On the application date, if the host institution is;
- Small and medium-sized enterprises, 25% of the scholarship specified 2.1.1.a and 2.1.1. b is covered by the host institution,
  - Large-scale company, 40% of the scholarship specified 2.1.1. a and 2.1.1. b is covered by the host institution,
  - Foundation University, 25% of the scholarship specified 2.1.1. a and 2.1.1. b is covered by the host institution,
  - Public Institution, TÜBİTAK Research Centers or Institutes, or a State University: 100% of all support items specified in 2.1.1. are covered by TÜBİTAK.
- 2.2.6.** The coordinator is expected to complete his/her research within the support period. The project duration may be extended provided that it does not exceed the maximum support limit of 36 months. The coordinator's justified application shall be decided with the approval of the TÜBİTAK Presidency based on the evaluation of the Group Executive Committee.
- 2.2.7.** Upon the coordinator's justified application, supplementary allowance that can be granted within the scope of the project is resolved, provided that it does not exceed the upper limit valid on the relevant date, with the approval of the TÜBİTAK Presidency based on the evaluation of the Group Executive Committee.
- 2.2.8.** Grant amounts within the scope of clauses c, d, e, f and g are transferred to a private account to be opened by the host institution/organization. Grants in other clauses are directly transferred to the coordinator's account by TÜBİTAK.
- 2.2.9.** Expenses related to transferred grants, depending on the type of institution to which the amount will be transferred, "Principles and Procedures on the Expenditure of the Amounts to be Transferred from TÜBİTAK Funds to General



Budget Public Administrations and Special Budget Administrations in Return for Projects, and on the Expenses of Externally Supported Projects Carried Out by TÜBİTAK”, “Principles on the Transfer, Expenditure, Accounting and Audit of the Amounts to be Granted by TÜBİTAK to Private Institutions and Foundation Universities in Return for Projects”, or “Procedures and Principles to be Applied in the Financial Transactions concerning the Amounts to be Transferred from TÜBİTAK funds to Research Infrastructures and Public Administrations Falling Outside the Scope of Public Finance Management and Control Law No. 5018 in Return for Projects”.

### 3. CALL CALENDAR

The opening and closing dates of the call are available on the programme’s [website](#).

## 4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND APPLICATION METHOD

### 4.1. Eligibility Criteria

**4.1.1.** As of the call opening date, researchers applying to the programme must not have resided in Türkiye for more than 1 year within the last 3 years and must not be working in Türkiye. Force majeure accepted by the Group Executive Committee and compulsory military service are excluded from this period.

**4.1.2.** As of the call opening date, any of the work experiences set forth below shall be met:

- Researchers who have completed their doctoral degrees and have worked full-time for at least 3 years after their PhD studies at a university or public research centre abroad with the title of at least faculty member or team leader, or have carried out independent academic research.
- Researchers who have 6 years of full-time research experience abroad, provided that, after completing their undergraduate education, they have worked in the private sector for at least 3 years (up to 1 year of a master’s degree with thesis completed abroad or up to 3 years of a doctoral degree completed abroad may be counted towards this research experience).

**4.1.3.** Researchers applying must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Being on the "[Highly Cited Researchers List](#)" published by Thomson Reuters in any year within the last 5 years as of the call opening date
- Having worked for at least 30 months in total at the institutions among those ranked below in the last 5 years as of the call opening date:

 Top 100 universities in the field-based rankings according to [QS](#)

[\(Quacquarelli Symonds\)](#) or [THE \(Times Higher Education\)](#) World University Rankings

+ [World's Top 2500 Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard](#) published by the European Commission Joint Research Centre

+ Top 250 institutions in the sub-fields of health, universities, government and companies according to [Scimago Institutions Ranking](#)

+ Successful start-up and unicorn companies receiving the most investment

➤ “[Unicorn](#)” companies list published by CB Insights and reached 1 billion USD and over valuation from its venture level

➤ Top 1000 companies founded within the last 5 years and received the most investment in the last 5 years according to databases of Crunchbase and CB Insights

**4.1.4.** Researchers who have fellowship from any other public institution and already have compulsory service obligation cannot apply to this programme.

## 4.2. Required Documents

**4.2.1.** [Research plan and project proposal](#), which must be prepared by the applicant coordinator, covering the purpose of coming to Türkiye, the research projects/plans to be carried out, and the post-programme career plan.

Applications will be evaluated based only on the information/documents uploaded to the system. Therefore, documents related to each requirement must be submitted with clear and required content. If necessary, additional information/documentation may be requested. Before the application, [the Researcher Information System \(ARBIS\)](#) record must be updated. (See: Article 5. Evaluation)

## 4.3. Documents Required to Initiate The Fellowship

**4.3.1.** The coordinator must upload the required information/[documents](#) to [bideb-pts.tubitak.gov.tr](https://bideb-pts.tubitak.gov.tr) and submit a project initiation request within 12 months at the latest upon the notification of the fellowship decision. After the documents are reviewed, the fellowship agreement is prepared by TÜBİTAK. The agreement must be submitted to TÜBİTAK once it is signed by the following representatives of the host institution/organisation where the research will be conducted.

- Top level director/representative (rector, general manager, president, etc.) of the host institution/organisation;
- Top director (dean, institute director, etc.) of the research unit and unit

director (head of department) in case the host institution is a university, or

- Director if the host institution is a research infrastructure deemed competent within the scope of Law No. 6550, or
- Person(s) with the most extensive representation and signature authority if the host institution is a private sector company.

**4.3.2.** The coordinator may request postponement for a period of maximum 6 months due to force majeure. If deemed appropriate by Group Executive Committee, such extension may be granted.

## 4.4. Application Method

**4.4.1.** Applications will be made online via <https://tybs.tubitak.gov.tr/> within the dates indicated in the call text.

**4.4.2.** At the application stage, candidates are not required to upload any additional documents to the application system (TYBS) other than the research plan and project proposal form. Candidates must undertake that the information they enter into the system is correct and they will comply with the programme obligations. Education, exam etc. information is displayed through online systems. However, candidates whose information cannot be viewed through online systems are required to upload their documents such as training certificates, exams, etc. to the application system. Documents to be uploaded to the application system must be in Turkish or English.

**4.4.3.** No documents are required to be submitted to BİDEB at the application stage.

**4.4.4.** Coordinators who are awarded with support must upload the required documents to the system in order to initiate the support after the support decision is announced (See: Article 4.3).

**4.4.5.** Application can be withdrawn at any stage. For withdrawal, a petition must be submitted to BİDEB stating the application year and period. BİDEB will update the status of the application after receipt of the petition.

## 5. EVALUATION

Applications will be evaluated in three stages.

### 5.1. Eligibility Check

At this stage, the information/documents submitted to the system during the application will be checked. Applications which do not meet any of application criteria, submitted after the application deadline, and submitted via fax or e-mail will be eliminated in eligibility check stage and will be returned to the applicant without being subject to

scientific evaluation.

## 5.2. Information / Document Control

At this stage, the candidate must upload the [documents](#) containing the information declared during the application to [tybs.tubitak.gov.tr](http://tybs.tubitak.gov.tr) within 15 days from the date of notification to the candidate. The applications of the candidates who submits documents that are incomplete, incorrect, or different from the information declared in the application will be returned to applicants.

## 5.3. Scientific Evaluation

Scientific evaluation will be carried out by Turkish and/or international field experts, panelists/supervisors according to the following criteria.

### 5.3.1. Scientific Competence of the Applicant (Weight 60%)

- Academic career of the applicant and his/her academic achievements to date (mobility, decisiveness, thematic scope, academic efficiency) **(weight 20%)**
- 5-year research plan of the applicant during and after the fellowship (research subject/subjects, research calendar, complementary financial forecast, academic and personal development goals) **(weight 20%)**
- Publication quality constituting the basis of research plan of the applicant (scientific quality, innovativeness, evaluation of contribution in publications with multiple authors) and/or his/her patents **(weight 20%)**

### 5.3.2. Scientific Qualification of Research Project (Weight 40%)

- Excellence (within the scope of the purpose of the call, scientific and technological qualification of research project, its innovation level (innovation and invention potential) and its interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary characteristics, if any) **(weight 16%)**
- Implementation **(weight 8%)**
  - Consistency and efficiency of the work plan,
  - Feasibility of the work packages and the budget,
  - Management structure of the project, including risk management, and compliance of monitoring processes,
  - Suitability of the infrastructure of the host institution.
- Impact **(weight %16)**
  - Within the scope of the purpose of the call, potential of project's expected outputs and outcomes for tackling problems, commercialisation, reducing country's foreign trade deficit and/or increasing its competitiveness,

- The plan to disseminate project activities and outputs to various target groups.
- 5.3.3.** For applications in critical technology fields specified in the 12th Development Plan and the 2030 Industry and Technology Strategy, as well as in priority R&D and Innovation topics, the minimum support score may be determined separately.
- 5.3.4.** Panel evaluation results will be finalised upon the consent of Group Executive Committee and the approval of TÜBİTAK Presidency.

## **6. MONITORING AND FINALIZATION**

### **6.1. General Provisions Regarding Support Transfer and Expenditures**

- 6.1.1.** Monthly scholarship and family allowance will be transferred to the account of the coordinator by TÜBİTAK, within the framework of budget and cash possibilities, from the start of the support until the tenth of each month.
- 6.1.2.** Initial research grant payment shall be transferred to project's special account opened by the host institution upon the signing of agreement within the framework of budget and cash status. If the host institution is a private sector company, a warrant equivalent to initial research grant shall be provided by this private sector company over values specified in Law no. 4734. Initial research grant is spent within the scope of procedures and principles mentioned in Article 2.2.9.
- 6.1.3.** First term allowance of the budget approved for research project grant will be transferred to project's special account upon the signing of the agreement by both parties, and other term allowances will be transferred depending on the approval of progress reports within the framework of budget and cash status. If the host institution is a private sector company, a warrant equivalent to the highest term allowance of the research project shall be provided by this private sector company over values specified in Law No. 4734.
- 6.1.4.** Within the scope of research project grant, researchers (except for the coordinator) taking part in services related to the project are paid Project Incentive Bonus (PIB) in amounts determined by Board, upon approval of the progress and result reports and the acceptance of the PIB payment. If the host institution is a private sector company, researchers working in this organisation are paid an amount equivalent to project incentive bonus.
- 6.1.5.** Scholarship expenses of scholarship holders, who will be included in research team by the coordinator for research he/she will conduct in Türkiye, will be transferred to project's special account opened by the host institution as of the periods determined within the scope of research grant and within the framework

of budget and cash status. Scholarships are paid by the host institution within the first week of the subsequent month.

- 6.1.6.** Expenses are incurred accordance with the feature of the host institution/organization and within the framework of the principles to be subject to TÜBİTAK legislation. The host institution/organisation will be responsible for the compliance of expenses with agreement provisions and legislation.
- 6.1.7.** The institutional share allowance for the host institution shall be transferred to the project's special account by TÜBİTAK following the approval of the progress report, within the scope of principles and procedures specified in Article 2.2.9 and within the framework of budget and cash status. The host institution/organisation is responsible for the expenditure of the institutional share allowance within the scope of R&D activities.
- 6.1.8.** Allowance for the coordinator and his/her entire family's travel to Türkiye is covered for once by TÜBİTAK during the project in return for submitted documents. Transportation expenditures are not covered. This allowance is not paid for coordinators working on a permanent basis in Türkiye at the start date of support.
- 6.1.9.** Insurance support for the coordinator and his/her entire family is covered by TÜBİTAK within the scope of upper limits, in return for documents. If the coordinator starts working within the scope of Law no. 5510, insurance support is interrupted.

## **6.2. Progress and Final Reports**

- 6.2.1.** In line with the detailed work plan proposed during the application, the coordinator is responsible for submitting progress reports on the dates specified in the agreement as well as a final report covering project's all scientific, technical, administrative, financial developments and outcomes by the end of fellowship period.
- 6.2.2.** Progress reports are expected to be submitted on the date specified in the agreement, while the final report is expected to be submitted within two months following the research completion date. Scholarship payments of the coordinator, who has not submitted progress reports until the specified date, are suspended. A financial report covering reasons and breakdown of expenses of relevant period should be included in the appendices of progress reports and final report. If the host institution is a private sector company or a foundation university, certified councillorship report is also sought.
- 6.2.3.** TÜBİTAK, if deems necessary, may invite the coordinator to inquire about the progress or assign person and/or persons it will determine to inspect and audit the research in scientific, technical, administrative and financial terms.
- 6.2.4.** Progress and final reports are approved or rejected by Group Executive Committee decision as a result of the evaluation carried out by field expert



counsellors assigned by TÜBİTAK. The project whose final report is approved is deemed to be completed. For the project whose final report is rejected, abolition and cancellation provisions are applied, depending on the rejection reason. After the project is completed, the outstanding balance in the project's special account is returned to TÜBİTAK's account.

### 6.3. Suspension, Abolition and Cancellation

**6.3.1.** Project's suspension, abolition or cancellation is carried out in accordance with Principles and Procedures on the Implementation of Scholarship and Fellowship Programmes of Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes.

### 6.4. Other Provisions

**6.4.1.** The coordinator's host institution change is subject to the approval of TÜBİTAK. While a demand is made by the coordinator, opinion letter of the existing host institution and support letter of the new host institution should be submitted.

**6.4.2.** If the host institution is a university, the coordinator must lecture at least two courses every year in the host institution.

**6.4.3.** It is the responsibility of the coordinator to update address, e-mail or telephone number changes in two weeks at the latest within Researcher Information System (ARBİS) and to notify BİDEB.

## 7. OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarship holders (PhD students and post-doctoral researchers) who take part in projects supported under this programme are provided with support opportunities within the scope of BİDEB 2250 - Performance-Based Scholarships Programme for PhD and Post-Doc Scholars.

## 8. OBLIGATIONS

This call text covers procedures and liabilities related to researchers who apply to the programme and/or who are supported by the programme. The administrative and financial obligations that researchers applying to and/or supported by the programme, as well as the host institutions, must fulfill during the application, evaluation, and support stages are specified in the relevant articles of the call. If the applying researcher qualifies for support, they will also fulfill the obligations stated in the contract to be signed, even if not explicitly mentioned in the call. According to the regulations, except in cases where the use of the logo is not permitted, it is mandatory to indicate TÜBİTAK support and to use the TÜBİTAK logo in all publications. The TÜBİTAK logo must be used in compliance with the design and standards provided on the TÜBİTAK



website. For obligations not explicitly stated in the call, the relevant provisions and legislations published by TÜBİTAK are applicable.

## 9. OTHER PROVISIONS AND RELEVANT LEGISLATION

### 9.1. Provisions Regarding Researchers in the Project Team

- 9.1.1. Those who have been working in the project, and, at least, have a bachelor's degree may take part in the project as researcher upon the request of the coordinator and the consent of Group Executive Committee.
- 9.1.2. Researchers can take part in the project as of the date they are declared to BİDEB by the coordinator. Researchers cannot be added to the project retrospectively.
- 9.1.3. Changes related to researcher, including appointment and dismissal are made upon the justified application of the coordinator and the approval of Group Executive Committee.
- 9.1.4. After the project takes effect, status of researchers going abroad temporarily will be determined by TÜBİTAK upon the written notification of the coordinator.

### 9.2. Provisions Regarding Scholarship Holders in the Project Team

- 9.2.1. Turkish and international students (except for special students and preparatory foreign language students) receiving graduate education in Turkish higher education institutions and Turkish and international post-doctoral researchers pursuing their post-doctoral studies in Türkiye can take part in the project as scholarship holders. A maximum of two scholarship holders in the project team can be master's student, and at most one can be a post-doctoral researcher.
- 9.2.2. Scholarship holders who are awarded a scholarship within the scope of this programme may not simultaneously receive any other BİDEB scholarship except for 2250 - Performance-Based Scholarships Programme for PhD and Post-Doc Scholars. In order to be eligible for a scholarship within the scope of this programme, other BİDEB scholarship needs to be suspended during this fellowship period. This act of suspension does not eliminate his/her obligations for the other BİDEB scholarship programme.
- 9.2.3. Matters related to scholarship holders' appointment, dismissal or similar changes shall be resolved based on the justified application of the coordinator and relevant decision of Group Executive Committee. If there are less than 3 months left until the end of the project, no new scholarship holders may be added.
- 9.2.4. Scholarship holders involved in the programme cannot be granted a scholarship after the project end date. The maximum duration of scholarships is 24 months

for master's students, 48 months for post-master's doctorate students, and 60 months for post-bachelor's doctorate students. In addition, if the education period exceeds 6 semesters from the date of registration to the master's degree, 12 semesters from the date of registration to the doctorate for post-master's doctorate education, or 14 semesters from the date of registration to the doctorate for post-bachelor's doctorate education, no scholarship payments can be made.

- 9.2.5.** If doctorate or master scholarship holders generate income from another place in the form of fee, wage, commercial revenue, etc., the scholarship will be partially paid. If post-doctoral researchers generate income from another place in the form of fee, wage, commercial revenue, etc., the scholarship will be terminated.
- 9.2.6.** Scholarship holders whose study is suspended by the institute will not be paid within these periods. Scholarship periods and maximum periods of those who are in this situation can be extended as much as the suspension periods. When necessary, TÜBİTAK may request documents on this subject from the scholarship holder.

### 9.3. Ethical Rules

- 9.3.1.** All parties signing the fellowship agreement must abide by universal scientific research and scientific publication rules during the implementation of the project. If the study requires, due legal and special permissions must be obtained with the approval certificate of Ethics Committee. In case of a violation of the rules listed above, proceedings on concerned parties will start as per the provisions of Regulation on Research and Publication Ethics Board.

### 9.4. Relevant Legislation

- 9.4.1.** Regulation on Programmes Executed by TÜBİTAK Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes
- 9.4.2.** Principles and Procedures on the Implementation of Scholarship and Fellowship Programmes of Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes
- 9.4.3.** Directive on Evaluation and Monitoring of Applications and Reports in BİDEB Fellowship and Grant Programmes through Panel/Advisor/Advisory Board method
- 9.4.4.** Principles and Procedures on the Expenditure of the Amounts to be Transferred from TÜBİTAK Funds to General Budget Public Administrations and Special Budget Administrations in Return for Projects, and on the Expenses of Externally Supported Projects Carried out by TÜBİTAK
- 9.4.5.** Principles on the Transfer, Expenditure, Accounting and Audit of the Amounts to be Granted by TÜBİTAK to Private Institutions and Foundation Universities

in Return for Projects

#### 9.4.6. Principles on the Expenditure of the Amounts to be Transferred from TÜBİTAK Funds to Public Institutions and Organisations Falling Outside the Scope of General and Special Budget Administrations in Return for Projects

Group Executive Committee decisions will be implemented in cases that are not specified in relevant legislations and programme call text and in avoiding doubts that may arise during the implementation of the programme.

## 10. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- **Research Plan:** The coordinator's 5-year research plan covering fellowship duration and post-fellowship research subject/subjects, research calendar, complementary financial forecast, academic and personal development goals,
- **Researcher:** Individuals, other than the coordinator, who hold at least a bachelor's degree, possess the necessary expertise in the relevant field of science and/or technology, share the scientific and technical responsibility of the project with the coordinator, and are to be listed in the final report,
- **President:** President of TÜBİTAK,
- **Presidency:** Presidency of TÜBİTAK,
- **BİDEB:** Department of Science Fellowships and Grant Programmes,
- **Scholarship Holder:** Individuals participating in the project for practical purposes, including students pursuing postgraduate education and those with doctoral degrees at higher education institutions established in Türkiye,
- **Call Text:** The announcement text and its annexes that define the subject, scope, application requirements, duration, funding amount, call schedule, and specific provisions of the call,
- **Fellowship Duration:** Time from project start date to project completion date as specified in the agreement,
- **Intellectual and Industrial Property Rights:** All legal rights pertaining to an intellectual product owned or co-owned by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye, in the scientific, industrial, literary, or artistic domain, regardless of whether it is registered or certified, and protected either under specific legislation and/or under general provisions such as unfair competition,
- **Intellectual Product:** Any intellectual or artistic work that may constitute the subject of intellectual and industrial property rights, including but not limited to patents, utility models, designs, integrated circuit topographies, new plant and animal species and their breeding methods, computer programs and their source codes, and know-how, which arise during or as a result of the execution of the project, regardless of whether registered or certified, and protected under specific legislation and/or under general provisions such as

unfair competition,

- **Progress Report:** A report prepared on the dates specified in the agreement by the coordinator in accordance with format and procedures determined by TÜBİTAK in order to monitor periodical developments of research plan and research project,
- **Group:** Units established to develop and implement systems that will promote and support science and technology related research, development and innovation activities, which are under the responsibility of BİDEB,
- **Group Executive Committee:** Executive Committee for Science Fellowship Groups that provides opinions, suggestions and decisions about group activities,
- **Institutional Share:** The amount calculated in accordance with the principles and procedures determined by TÜBİTAK, added to the project budget as compensation for the utilization of the Institution/Organization's resources during the execution and completion of the project,
- **Special Account:** A bank account which will be opened by the host institution/organisation in any bank, to which grant awarded within the scope of the programme will be transferred and which will only be used for expenditures within the scope of the project,
- **Private Sector Company:** Equity companies which are settled in Türkiye or located within the bodies of techno parks, that have obtained R&D or design centre certificate within the scope of Law no. 5746 on Supporting Research, Development and Design Activities, that have R&D units,
- **Panel:** A meeting held by expert scientists assigned for evaluating scholarship and fellowship applications,
- **Panellist:** Experts assigned for submitting their opinions at meetings where applications for scholarship and fellowship programmes, which are executed by BİDEB, are evaluated,
- **Project:** All activities undertaken for achieving a result, whose success criteria and goals are defined, and carried out in a certain period of time and with a specific amount of resource,
- **Project Team:** The team consisting of the Coordinator, Researchers, and any scholarship holders involved in the project,
- **Project Duration:** The period from the project start date specified in the contract until the end date, including any extensions,
- **Project Incentive Bonus:** Provided that it is limited to the project duration, amounts paid to staff of or any individual holding a position in public institutions or organisations who work within the scope of the project and assigned in services related to this project, which are determined in the project agreement according to principles set forth by Board of Directors and which do not exceed 75% of the monthly wage of project staff depending on their positions,
- **Host Institution/Organization:** The institution or organization in which the

- coordinator's project is actually carried out,
- **Final Report:** A document prepared in compliance with the format specified by TÜBİTAK, which demonstrates added value and achievements obtained from project outcomes and outputs at the end of the fellowship,
  - **Agreement:** Written agreement and its annexes signed by and between TÜBİTAK and the coordinator and host institution/organisation after fellowship decision is made by TÜBİTAK, which set forth scope of the fellowship, its duration, legal, administrative and financial provisions, intellectual and industrial property rights, special terms and responsibilities of parties,
  - **University:** State and foundation universities,
  - **TYBS:** TÜBİTAK Management Information System,
  - **TÜBİTAK:** Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye,
  - **Mentorship Support:** Support provided by coordinators who were previously entitled to support in the 2232 International Fellowship for Outstanding Researchers Programme,
  - **Coordinator:** A researcher who comes to Türkiye to conduct research within the scope of the programme, holds all kinds of scientific, technical, administrative, financial and legal responsibilities of the project, and submits scientific, technical, administrative and financial reports to TÜBİTAK within time intervals defined in the project agreement,
  - **Board of Directors:** TÜBİTAK's Board of Directors.