

# CIFAR AZRIELI GLOBAL SCHOLARS



**DETAILED PROGRAM OVERVIEW  
2023/2024**

# CIFAR AZRIELI GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

CIFAR invites outstanding early-career researchers from across the natural, biomedical, life and social sciences and the humanities to join one of our interdisciplinary research programs that address some of the most important questions facing science and humanity.

The CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program is designed to accelerate the development of early-career researchers in their pivotal first years as independent principal investigators in an academic or research institution, with responsibilities for research and teaching. CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars are emerging leaders in their field, with a high-impact record of innovative research, who are motivated to advance their influence through interdisciplinary collaboration with some of the world's most renowned researchers, expand their networks, access mentorship and training in leadership and communication, and gain cross-sector exposure, to position themselves as influential leaders and agents of change in academia and beyond.

The CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program is generously supported by the Azrieli Foundation.



CIFAR is a registered charitable organization supported by the governments of Canada and Quebec, as well as foundations, individuals, corporations, and Canadian and international partner organizations.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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1	<b>Program Overview</b>
3	<b>Eligibility</b>
4	<b>Duration and Value</b>
4	<b>Expectations</b>
5	<b>Deadline and How to Apply</b>
7	<b>Application Review Process and Criteria</b>
8	<b>Administrative Guidelines and Policies</b>
9	<b>Frequently Asked Questions</b>

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program includes three core components, each contributing toward the development of tomorrow's research leaders:

## 1) PARTICIPATING IN A CIFAR RESEARCH PROGRAM — AN INTERDISCIPLINARY, COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars join a CIFAR [research program](#) for two years, interacting within an international network of world-renowned researchers pursuing a fundamental research question through interdisciplinary collaboration. CIFAR Fellows, Advisors and Azrieli Global Scholars in a program meet twice yearly in locations around the world to share their expertise, develop a common language, and spark new insights and collaborations that lead to new research directions and fields of inquiry.

All CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars receive:

- **\$100,000 CAD in unrestricted research support over two years.** Possible uses include, but are not limited to: research projects, teaching release, trainee support, conference travel, etc.
- **Mentorship from one or more Fellows in their CIFAR research program.** Mentors provide a resource for career-related questions and concerns, and may help open unexpected new doors. CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars are encouraged to connect with Fellows outside of their own immediate field to help stretch their scope of vision and perspective.
- **Opportunities to apply for time-limited seed funding to support new interdisciplinary collaborations.** CIFAR Catalyst Funds motivate and support the launch of high-risk/high-reward interdisciplinary collaborations with CIFAR Fellows and Advisors and/or other CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars in their own or in other CIFAR research programs.

## 2) STRENGTHENING LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars from across CIFAR's research programs meet regularly as a peer group to strengthen their core skills in leadership and communication.

**Leadership Development Workshops:** The program offers a variety of virtual leadership development workshops throughout the year. These interactive, expert-led training sessions provide tools and insights that are essential to academic leadership, yet often receive little attention in terms of formal training.

Workshop topics may include:

- Strategic communications (e.g., influencing others, managing difficult conversations, leading team meetings, negotiating)
- Mentorship and resilience (e.g., setting goals, giving and receiving feedback, identifying and overcoming imposter syndrome, unconscious bias training, maintaining wellness and boundaries, empathic communication)
- Strategic and creative thinking for problem-solving and decision-making
- Framing and communicating research to non-expert audiences (e.g., op-eds, public talks, media interviews, social media)

**Leadership Development Fund:** CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars may also request funds to support additional training and development opportunities.

### CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars Annual Meeting:

This retreat brings together all active Global Scholars for networking and community-building, shared learning, and exchanging research ideas across wide-ranging fields, with opportunities to brainstorm innovative, cross-programmatic collaborations and work on proposals for seed funding.

The next CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars Annual Meeting will take place from **June 12-14, 2024 in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.** CIFAR looks forward to welcoming the 2024 cohort of scholars at this meeting.



**“CIFAR is probably my only affiliation that offers unrestricted funds and a world-class, globe-spanning interdisciplinary research network. It has supercharged my research program in ways that I hadn't anticipated.”**

**MICHAEL MUTHUKRISHNA**  
CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar 2021-2023, Boundaries, Membership & Belonging; London School of Economics and Political Science

### 3) INCREASING IMPACT WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF ACADEMIA

CIFAR supports and facilitates opportunities for CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars to put their expertise and leadership skills into action.

To extend their impact, CIFAR works with its research programs to help identify and support initiatives that engage thought leaders, policy-makers and practitioners in ways that will drive meaningful dialogue and mutual benefit. Opportunities abound for Global Scholars to become involved in such initiatives or to take leadership in other influence-building activities with support from CIFAR.

Examples of potential leadership opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- Leading a research project in collaboration with other CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars or CIFAR Fellows
- Organizing a Winter/Summer School aligned with a CIFAR research program
- Leading or contributing to a knowledge mobilization activity with CIFAR Fellows
- Discussing research with stakeholders in academia, policy or business to understand different perspectives and influence change
- Writing and publishing an op-ed piece
- Delivering a public lecture



**“CIFAR is unique, in that they do not focus on supporting one of your research projects, but on supporting you as an individual. Through my CIFAR experience, I have grown professionally along dimensions that I would not have even considered before. CIFAR meetings bring together inspiring collections of attendees and speakers from very diverse fields. They encourage you to ask deeper questions, start ambitious projects, and focus on making an impact on society.”**

**BENJAMIN ROSMAN**

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar 2022-2024, Learning in Machines & Brains;  
University of the Witwatersrand

# ELIGIBILITY

CIFAR is seeking to assemble a global cohort. There are no geographical restrictions on who may apply.

To be eligible for this program, you must:

- Hold a PhD (or equivalent).
- Be employed at an institution of higher education or research and be **within the first five years of starting a full-time position** that includes responsibility for both conducting an independent research program and supervising/teaching trainees toward the completion of a degree.
- Typically, you are an Assistant Professor in the North American system or the equivalent in other academic systems around the world. Some examples of accepted positions include, but are not limited to: Level B Lecturer or Research Fellow (Australia); Chargé de Cours or Docent (Belgium); Professor adjunto (Brazil); Maître de Conférences (France); Junior Professor or Research Group Leader (Germany); Ricercatore Tipo A and B (Italy); Profesor Titular A (Mexico); Universitair Docent (Netherlands); Ramón y Cajal Scholar (Spain); Lecturer (United Kingdom, Israel).
- Your position must be secure for the duration of the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar active term (to March 31, 2026).
- Your start date in this position must be no earlier than **July 1, 2019**. Note that special consideration may be given to those who have taken parental leave or have exceptional circumstances.
- **NOTE: Postdoctoral fellows are NOT eligible to apply to this program, with the following exception:**
- If you have a pending first full-time position that meets the criteria above and starts no later than July 1, 2024, you are eligible to apply. In this case, you must submit a copy of your letter of appointment with your application.
- Engage in research that complements the themes and goals of a recruiting CIFAR research program (see page 5).
- Demonstrate an outstanding level of research achievement and promise of future impact in your field, as evidenced by the quality of your publications, awards received, and statements by referees.
- Be motivated to engage across disciplines, as well as sectors beyond academia, to enrich and extend the impact of your research.
- Be available to attend a virtual interview between March 20-21, 2024.
- Have a valid passport, and if required, be able to obtain travel visas to attend CIFAR meetings around the world (2-3 times per year).
- Be fluent in spoken and written English.

If you have any questions regarding your eligibility, please contact us at [global.scholars@cifar.ca](mailto:global.scholars@cifar.ca).

## STATEMENT ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

CIFAR is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion. We recognize that bringing together individuals from multiple backgrounds, perspectives and experiences is integral to advancing excellence and increasing the impact of our organization. Ensuring that every person feels valued and welcome is vital to achieving our mission, and embodies our values of diversity, creativity, excellence, risk taking, respect and collaboration. CIFAR strives to foster the active participation and inclusion of all, including those from underrepresented groups in research, such as but not limited to women, members of racialized groups, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, members of sexual and gender minority groups – across geographic borders, disciplines, and career stage. In the pursuit of excellence, CIFAR embraces diverse ideas and perspectives, and proactively seeks to increase equity, diversity and inclusion within our community. CIFAR aims to create a culture that embodies these principles of equity, diversity and inclusion in all aspects of our work. For more information, see [CIFAR's Action Plan on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion](#).

# DURATION & VALUE

## DURATION

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars join a CIFAR research program and participate in leadership development opportunities for a term of two years. The term will begin on April 1, 2024 and end on March 31, 2026. At the end of the term, Scholars retain the title 'CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar' and are encouraged to remain connected to CIFAR through CIFAR's Next Generation Initiatives and research programs.

## VALUE

Scholars receive \$100,000 CAD in unrestricted research support, administered through their home institution. Possible uses include, but are not limited to: research projects, teaching release, trainee support, conference travel, etc. CIFAR separately covers travel costs associated with attendance at CIFAR meetings.



**“Quite simply, my participation in the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program has changed my academic trajectory. I have been empowered to think broadly about and initiate research projects that I think will be the most meaningful. [...] CIFAR has expanded my academic world in all directions and showed me what is possible when you think broadly and have the resources to work on big ideas. It is academia at its most inspirational and idyllic.”**

**ALEEZA GERSTEIN**  
CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar 2021-2023,  
Fungal Kingdom: Threats & Opportunities; University of Manitoba

# EXPECTATIONS

During the two-year term, CIFAR expects CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars to fulfill the following commitments:

- **Attend CIFAR research program meetings** (usually two per year) in various locations around the world.\*
  - **Attend CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar annual meetings** (held in-person, usually in May or June. In 2024, the annual meeting will take place from June 12-14 in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada)\*
  - **Attend at least two virtual leadership development workshops** for CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars per year.
  - **Report** on successes and activities annually and where possible and appropriate, interact with CIFAR stakeholders and funders.
  - **Acknowledge CIFAR** by using 'CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar' in their professional signature and indicating CIFAR as an affiliation. Scholars should also acknowledge CIFAR as a funder in research publications, presentations and media interviews supported by this program's funding.
- \*To support attendance at CIFAR meetings of individuals with a dependant under 12 years of age, CIFAR will reimburse costs associated with childcare at the meeting location, or at another location (including at home). These costs may include travel and accommodation expenses for an accompanying caregiver, according to the terms of CIFAR's travel policy.*



# DEADLINE & HOW TO APPLY

## 1) APPLICATION DEADLINE:

October 30, 2023 - 11:59 PM  
Pacific Daylight Time (UTC -7)

## 2) APPLICATION PROCESS:

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar applications are accepted annually. This year's application cycle opens on August 30, 2023. Applications must be submitted online, using the application form provided at: [cifar.ca/global-scholars](https://cifar.ca/global-scholars). Instructions for starting an application are available [here](#).

As an applicant, your research is expected to complement the themes and goals of a recruiting CIFAR research program (see list below). If you wish to apply to more than one program, you must complete a separate application for each program.

In 2023/2024, the CIFAR research programs accepting applications are:

- [Future Flourishing](#)
- [Gravity & the Extreme Universe](#)
- [Humanity's Urban Future](#)
- [The Multiscale Human](#)

CIFAR's programs are interdisciplinary, and the areas of research in each program are diverse. An objective of CIFAR's programs is to stimulate new interdisciplinary collaborations among researchers in pursuit of new knowledge advances. We welcome applications that have the potential to bring a new perspective or approach into a research program.

For more information on the fields and projects represented in your program of interest, we encourage you to review the program descriptions provided for applicants on each of the program pages linked above.

## 3) APPLICATION COMPONENTS:

As an applicant, you are required to submit the following information:

### a) Summary Section

1. A summary of the value you anticipate from the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar experience, aside from the unrestricted research support. (400 words maximum)
2. A brief statement about three areas of leadership and/or communications skills that you would like to strengthen through your participation in the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program. (100 words maximum)
3. A brief statement about how your skills and knowledge will contribute to advancing CIFAR's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. (250 words maximum)
4. A short description of your research interests using lay terms for a general audience and public use. (100 words maximum)

### b) Detailed Section

1. A detailed discussion of your research background and proposed future directions, how this agenda would contribute to the themes and goals of the CIFAR research program to which you are applying, and how participating in the program would advance your research. Propose areas of potential research interaction and collaboration with Fellows and Advisors of the program. (1000 words maximum)
2. A discussion of how you have engaged with non-academic communities to extend the impact of your research. If you have not been active outside of academia, discuss the type of activities you would like to pursue. In your response, please identify expert communities (e.g., policy makers, industry, educators, social workers, etc.) who are most relevant to your academic work. (1000 words maximum)



**“My time with CIFAR represents a key step for advancing my research career. The support and resources provided by the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars Program allowed me to push the boundaries of my research and make meaningful contributions to my field, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a dynamic and innovative community.”**

**IULIANA ENE**  
CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar 2021-2023,  
Fungal Kingdom:  
Threats & Opportunities;  
Institut Pasteur

3. An up-to-date CV, including publication list, uploaded as a .pdf document. Files must include the .pdf extension as part of the file name.

**In addition:**

1. You must arrange to have two letters of recommendation submitted to your online application. Note: Some applicants will require a third letter. For details, please read the section on Letters of Reference.
2. If you have a pending first full-time eligible position starting no later than July 1, 2024, you must upload a copy of your appointment letter to your application.

**Your application MUST include the required recommendation letters, directly submitted by your referees, before it can be submitted as final.** You will not be able to edit your application after submitting it. **You are responsible for ensuring that your application is complete and successfully submitted by 11:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time (UTC -7) on October 30, 2023.**

All applications must be submitted through the online application system. Applications received by other means will not be considered. **Applications that are not complete or are not submitted as final after the deadline will not be reviewed.**

If you have any questions, contact us at [global.scholars@cifar.ca](mailto:global.scholars@cifar.ca).

#### **4) LETTERS OF REFERENCE:**

##### **a) Who Should Provide Reference Letters?**

You must arrange to have **two letters** of recommendation submitted as part of your application. **Please note an important exception:** if a CIFAR program member (Fellow, Associate Fellow or Advisor) provides a letter, your application must include **three letters**, of which two must be from non-program members. One letter from a CIFAR program member is permitted only if they were your supervisor, a member of your committee, a collaborator, or another role through which you have had a direct relationship.

Referees are asked to comment on one or both of the following:

**1. Scholarly achievements** in terms of research excellence, productivity, creativity, breadth and interest in engaging across disciplines, and potential for future leadership in the field, compared to others at the same career stage.

**2. Demonstrated leadership capacity** within or outside of academic settings, as well as desire and potential to expand research impact by engaging with communities outside the academic sphere.

We recommend that at least one letter be provided by an individual who is well-placed to understand your scholarly achievements and their impact in the field, e.g., a PhD or postdoctoral supervisor or a colleague. One letter may be (but is not required) from a leader outside the academic sphere.

##### **b) How Do Referees Submit Their Letters?**

All letters of reference must be submitted through the online application system. Letters submitted by other means will not be accepted.

You will enter the names and email addresses of your referees in your application form. Upon doing so, your referees will receive an auto-generated email providing instructions on how to upload a confidential letter to your application. We recommend that you contact your referees both in advance, to confirm their availability to provide a letter, and after you submit their contact details, to confirm that they have received the request.

Referees may only upload a letter after they receive the email with instructions from CIFAR. If a referee does not receive or misplaces the email, you can resend the request from your application form. If you learn that one of your referees cannot provide a letter, you may replace them with a new referee. If a referee is unable to use the online system or does not use email, contact [global.scholars@cifar.ca](mailto:global.scholars@cifar.ca) for support on how to provide the letter.

Both you and your referee will receive a confirmation message when a reference letter has been uploaded successfully to your application. You may also track the status of your reference letters within your application form.

**Your required letters of reference MUST be submitted before 11:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time (UTC -7) on October 30, 2023. You are responsible for tracking the submission of reference letters and for following up with referees to ensure all letters are submitted on time.**



**“I had not previously recognized how valuable it would be to have a network of talented colleagues in completely different fields. This provides an incredible support network for talking about mutual challenges related to life as a starting faculty member.”**

**TIMOTHY GOUDGE**  
CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar 2021-2023,  
Earth 4D: Subsurface Science & Exploration;  
University of Texas at Austin



# APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS & CRITERIA

CIFAR is strongly committed to equity, diversity and inclusion. At each stage of the application review and selection process, committees consider principles of equity, diversity and inclusion, in accordance with CIFAR's EDI Statement and [Action Plan](#) (see page 3). This process is conducted in English, the commonly accepted language of international scientific exchange and collaboration.

The period from application deadline to final selection is about five months. The table below summarizes key dates for 2023/2024.

The application review and selection process:

**1. Basic Eligibility:** CIFAR ensures all applications meet basic eligibility requirements.

**2. Application Review:** Each recruiting program elects a sub-committee of program members. These committees review and assess the applicants to their program based on three criteria: i) research excellence, ii) potential to contribute to the program by adding new and diverse perspectives and approaches that complement existing membership, and iii) leadership potential (both within and outside of academia). Each program selection committee recommends up to 5 shortlisted finalists who will be invited to attend a virtual interview.

**3. Final Selection:** CIFAR invites the shortlisted finalists to attend a virtual interview between March 20-21, 2024. Interviews will be conducted by an independent and diverse committee of academic researchers and experienced leaders in areas such as policy, communications and leadership development. The Selection Committee evaluates candidates' communication skills, capacity and motivation to engage with peers across disciplines, and potential for leadership and impact.

**NOTE: The interview schedule will be developed after the shortlisted finalists have been identified. Candidates must be available on both dates until notified of their place in the schedule. Interviews are generally scheduled between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM Eastern Time.**

## SUMMARY OF KEY DATES:

<b>AUGUST 30, 2023</b>	Call for applications opens.
<b>OCTOBER 30, 2023</b>	Application deadline <b>11:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time (UTC -7)</b>
<b>BY JANUARY 31, 2024</b>	Shortlisted finalists are notified and invited to attend a virtual interview. All other applicants will be notified after the finalists have confirmed their attendance.
<b>MARCH 20-21, 2024</b>	The Selection Committee interviews the shortlisted finalists via Zoom.
<b>BY MARCH 29, 2024</b>	Finalists are notified of the competition results.
<b>MAY 2024</b>	CIFAR publicly announces 2024 CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars.
<b>JUNE 12-14, 2024 IN VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA</b>	CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars annual meeting.

# ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES AND POLICIES

## 1) TERM

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars' active term is two years, beginning in April 2024.

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars must hold a full-time position at an institution of higher education or research, with responsibility for both conducting an independent research program and supervising/teaching trainees toward their completion of a degree, for the full duration of their term.

## 2) ELIGIBLE USE OF FUNDS

CIFAR expects that CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars will use the \$100,000 CAD in unrestricted research support to enhance their capacity to conduct research. Possible uses include, but are not limited to: research projects, teaching release, trainee support, conference travel, etc.

## 3) DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

Funds will be administered through the recipient's institutional department. CIFAR will provide a financial letter to the department to arrange the transfer of funds. CIFAR requests that the funds be placed in a special account to be managed by the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar. Please note that

CIFAR does not support indirect costs. Interaction costs — i.e., costs of attending CIFAR research program meetings, the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars annual meeting, and other pre-approved CIFAR-related travel — will be covered or reimbursed by CIFAR through the completion of an expense claim form.

## 4) PARENTAL LEAVE POLICY

1. CIFAR normally expects that the home institution's parental leave policy will apply, with salary funding for any leave coming from the home institution. Where applicable, the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar's term will be extended by the length of the parental leave.
2. Notice of parental leave should be given to CIFAR before the leave is anticipated to begin.

## 5) UNDERSTANDING LONGER-TERM IMPACT

CIFAR will continue to engage with Scholars to measure the longer-term impacts of the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program. CIFAR will conduct exit surveys and follow-up surveys at intervals to track career progression, interaction patterns, and other outcomes.



**“CIFAR has been an extraordinary journey for me, offering a distinctive and dynamic setting that encourages creative problem-solving and cross-disciplinary teamwork. What I appreciate most about CIFAR is its commitment to nurturing meaningful connections and supporting researchers in tackling complex, global challenges with fresh perspectives.”**

### QIONG MA

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar 2021-2023, Quantum Materials; Boston College

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 1) WHAT IS A CIFAR RESEARCH PROGRAM?

CIFAR's global research programs connect many of the world's leading researchers — across disciplines and borders — to shape new perspectives and spark ground-breaking ideas. A central feature of every CIFAR research program is the sustained interaction among its Fellows. Each program assembles a unique combination of top-tier researchers who contribute different disciplinary perspectives and research approaches to collectively tackle a complex challenge facing the world. Program members meet in-person usually twice per year over a five-year, renewable period. This sustained pattern of interaction engenders a “safe” environment where Fellows freely share and debate new ideas and research-in-progress. They become inspired to think creatively, disruptively and without limitations and to pursue innovative new collaborations with one another. Through this simple model, CIFAR's programs are able to expand the boundaries of understanding in ways that would otherwise not be possible.

## 2) DOES MY RESEARCH NEED TO FIT WITH THE THEMES OF A CIFAR RESEARCH PROGRAM?

Yes. To be eligible as a CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar, your research needs to complement the themes and goals of one of the CIFAR research programs accepting applications in 2023/2024. Recruiting programs are listed on page 5.

CIFAR's programs are interdisciplinary, and the areas of research in each program are diverse. An objective of CIFAR's programs is to stimulate new interdisciplinary collaborations among researchers in pursuit of new knowledge advances. We welcome applications that have the potential to bring a new perspective or approach into a research program. We encourage you to explore the descriptions of our [programs](#) on our website, along with the profiles and web pages of CIFAR Fellows and Advisors, for insights into the kinds of fields and projects represented in your program of interest.

In your application, you are expected to demonstrate how your research could contribute to the program to which you are applying. Your application should clearly articulate how you envision your work contributing to your selected program, and how your research would benefit from engaging with the program. CIFAR strongly encourages applicants with diverse backgrounds and perspectives not presently represented in our programs.

## 3) THE APPLICATION DOESN'T SEEM TO ASK FOR A SPECIFIC RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL. DID I UNDERSTAND CORRECTLY?

Yes. Different than a grant proposal for a specific project, we are seeking to understand how your research background to date, and your ideas for future research, would contribute to and benefit from interdisciplinary interaction and collaboration with Fellows in your CIFAR research program of interest.

## 4) I HAVE APPLIED TO THIS PROGRAM IN THE PAST. MAY I APPLY AGAIN?

There is no restriction on the number of times you may apply to the program over the period of your eligibility.

## 5) ARE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS (OR EQUIVALENT) ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM?

No, postdoctoral fellows may not apply to this program, with the following exception: If you have a pending first full-time position that meets the criteria listed on page 3 and starts no later than July 1, 2024, you are eligible to apply. In this case, you must submit a copy of your letter of appointment with your application.

## 6) IF I DO NOT HAVE THE TITLE OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, AM I ELIGIBLE?

CIFAR welcomes junior faculty from all over the world to apply, and recognizes that different academic systems assign different titles to such positions. Some examples of accepted positions include, but are not limited to: Level B Lecturer or Research Fellow (Australia); Chargé de Cours or Docent (Belgium); Professor adjunto (Brazil); Maître de Conférences (France); Junior Professor or Research Group Leader (Germany); Ricercatore Tipo A and B (Italy); Profesor Titular A (Mexico); Universitair Docent (Netherlands); Ramón y Cajal Scholar (Spain); Lecturer (United Kingdom, Israel). If you need assistance in determining your eligibility, please contact: [global.scholars@cifar.ca](mailto:global.scholars@cifar.ca).

**7) I STARTED MY FIRST FULL-TIME RESEARCH POSITION WITH INDEPENDENT RESEARCH AND SUPERVISION/TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES MORE THAN FIVE YEARS AGO, BUT I SPENT PART OF THAT TIME ON PARENTAL/MEDICAL LEAVE. AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?**

If you took a parental or medical leave before July 1, 2019, your eligibility normally will be extended by the equivalent length of your leave. If you wish CIFAR to consider an extension of your period of eligibility, you must provide an explanation in your application. CIFAR reserves the right to make the final determination of your eligibility.

**8) I HOLD A PROFESSIONAL, TERMINAL DEGREE, BUT NOT A PHD. AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?**

CIFAR will consider your eligibility on the basis of your overall experience. Applicants with formal research training, who are in their first five years of a full-time position with a significant proportion of responsibility dedicated to conducting independent research and supervising/teaching trainees toward their completion of a degree, may be considered eligible. CIFAR reserves the right to make the final determination of your eligibility.

**9) DOES IT MATTER WHICH COUNTRY I LIVE IN OR COME FROM TO BE ELIGIBLE?**

No. CIFAR is seeking to develop a diverse and global cohort. There are no geographic restrictions on who may apply to this program.

**10) WOULD I NEED TO RELOCATE FROM MY CURRENT INSTITUTION IF I AM SELECTED?**

No. CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars remain at their home institution and country throughout their two-year term. The research funding associated with the award is administered through the recipient's institutional department.

**11) IF I AM UNAVAILABLE FOR A VIRTUAL INTERVIEW BETWEEN MARCH 20-21, 2024 DUE TO A PRIOR COMMITMENT, SHOULD I APPLY?**

No. Unfortunately, we cannot be flexible about the interview dates. Applicants unable to attend on these dates will not be considered. Applicants should hold both dates until receiving further notice.

Should you require assistance, CIFAR can offset support for dependant care, consistent with our dependant care policy. Candidates who require other types of support or accommodations should contact [global.scholars@cifar.ca](mailto:global.scholars@cifar.ca).

**12) WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME, IF I AM SELECTED AS A CIFAR AZRIELI GLOBAL SCHOLAR?**

During your two-year term as a CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar, CIFAR expects that you will fulfill the commitments listed on page 4.

CIFAR will work with you to accommodate individual exceptional circumstances. However, if over time these expectations are not adhered to, your term in the program may be reconsidered.

**13) WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF CIFAR AZRIELI GLOBAL SCHOLARS?**

The CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars annual meeting is an intellectual retreat for peer networking and learning, sharing research ideas, brainstorming cross-programmatic collaborations and working on proposals for seed funding. It aims to build a supportive and stimulating community of early-career researchers across a wide spectrum of disciplines.

**14) WHAT HAS BEEN THE SUCCESS RATE OF APPLICANTS?**

Each recruiting CIFAR program will accept up to three new CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars. Over the past eight years, an average of 6% of eligible applicants have been selected to become CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars.



CIFAR is a Canadian-based global research organization that convenes extraordinary minds to address the most important questions facing science and humanity.

MaRS Centre, West Tower,  
661 University Ave., Suite 505  
Toronto, ON, M5G 1M1 Canada

Contact: Rachel Parker  
Senior Director, Research  
[rachel.parker@cifar.ca](mailto:rachel.parker@cifar.ca)

Charitable Registration Number:  
11921 9251 RR0001