



Call for Applications: Noé-Sacks MA, PhD & Postdoctoral Scholarships

Academic Year 2026/27

The Jonathan Sacks Institute at Bar-Ilan University invites applications for the **Noé-Sacks Scholarships**. These scholarships are designed to support outstanding students whose **research engages with the ideas, writings, and practical concerns of Rabbi, Professor, Lord, Jonathan Sacks** in the fields of political studies, law, as well as the social sciences more generally.

Scholarship Details

- The scholarship will commence at the beginning of the **2026-27** academic year.
- The scholarship covers:
 - **MA: Tuition fees plus \$1,000 per year, for two years**
 - **PhD: Up to \$25,000 per year, for four years**
 - **Postdoc: Up to \$33,000 for one year**, with the possibility of renewal for a second year.

Eligibility Criteria

- Written confirmation from a faculty member in a relevant department at Bar-Ilan that they are willing, in principle, to serve as your supervisor.

MA

- An undergraduate degree completed by the end of the 2025-26 academic year.
- An undergraduate degree with a **minimum GPA of 90** from a recognized university.
- Acceptance into an MA Program in the relevant departments at Bar-Ilan University for the academic year **2026-27**.

PhD

- A graduate degree completed by the end of the 2025-26 academic year. The MA thesis grade must be submitted no later than 11 October 2026.
- A graduate degree with a **minimum GPA of 90** from a recognized university.
- Acceptance into a PhD Program in the relevant department at Bar-Ilan University for the academic year **2026-27**.
- Students who have already commenced their doctoral studies may also apply.
- PhD scholarship recipients must dedicate the majority of their time to research

Postdoc

- A PhD degree completed by the end of the 2025-26 academic year.

Research Requirements

- The proposed research must **engage with the academic contributions of Rabbi Jonathan Sacks in political Studies, law or the social sciences more generally.**
 - The research topic must align with the expertise of faculty members in the relevant departments at Bar-Ilan University.
 - Scholarship recipients must commit to presenting their research in a public forum, such as a lecture, podcast and/ publication.
 - Recipients must meet all standard requirements for MA/PhD/Postdoc students in their department
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Application Process

Candidates must submit the following materials in one PDF:

- **Curriculum Vitae (CV)**
- **Complete official transcript** of all degrees and **copies of degree certificates**
- **A short letter (maximum one page)** outlining the candidate's research interests and how these relate to the work of Jonathan Sacks
- Specify the faculty member(s) relevant to your research area
- **Two letters of recommendation** addressing academic excellence

Submission Instructions

- All application materials must be sent via email to **sacks.institute@biu.ac.il**
 - **Letters of reference** should be sent **directly** by referees to the same email address.
 - For both applicants and referees the **email subject line should be written thus: "Noé-Sacks MA/PhD/Postdoc Application – [Candidate's Name]"**
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About Jonathan Sacks' Intellectual Legacy

In works such as *The Dignity of Difference: How to Avoid the Clash of Civilizations*, *Morality: Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times*, *The Home We Build Together* and *Not In God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence*, among others, Rabbi Sacks addresses issues central to both the academic study of politics and social science, as well as issues, directly related the wellbeing of contemporary democratic societies. These include:

- Communitarianism, civic culture, civil society & social capital
- Identity politics, multiculturalism, polarization and social cohesion
- Religion and public life, religiously inspired violence, inter-faith relations
- The role of moral frameworks in sustaining democratic life, including ideas of mutual responsibility, the common good, and covenantal politics
- The Jewish tradition and political philosophy, Judaism and democracy
- Balancing universal moral commitments with particular identities

Sacks' work engages with leading thinkers in the social sciences, such as Robert Putnam, Michael Sandel, Charles Taylor, Jonathan Haidt, Daniel Elazar, and Peter Berger.

The Noé-Sacks Scholarships support research that continues Rabbi Sacks' intellectual legacy, while fostering new insights on these subjects.

For inquiries, please contact the Institute at sacks.institute@biu.ac.il

Extended Deadline for Submission: 30 June 2026