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 To: ["dfd\\_cellis\\_workshops@sympa.sun.ac.za"](mailto:'dfd_cellis_workshops@sympa.sun.ac.za)  
 Subject: CALLS: CIFAR AZRIELI GLOBAL SCHOLARS 2022  
 Date: Wednesday, 09 September 2021 15:03:45  
 Attachments: [msg013.png](#)  
[Global Scholar Program Overview.pdf](#)  
 Importance: High

*Let asb daar dat hierdie inligting aan 'n verspreidingslys van alle US-navorsers gestuur word. Dit mag dus wees dat hierdie spesifieke oproep nie van toepassing is op u studieveld nie. Ons vertrou dat toekomstige oproepe wel relevant mag wees./ Please note that this information is sent to a distribution list of all SU researchers. It may, therefore, be possible that this specific call is not applicable to your specific research field. We trust that future calls will be relevant.*

| Funding Opportunity           | Programs that may be applied for:<br>Research areas  | Categories to be funded   | Funding  | Eligibility / Special Conditions  | Duration of the program                                 | Internal & external closing dates                           |
|-------------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| CIFAR AZRIELI GLOBAL SCHOLARS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fields include, but not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bio-inspired Solar Energy</li> <li>Child &amp; Brain Development</li> <li>Gravity &amp; the Extreme Universe</li> <li>Learning in Machines &amp; Brains</li> <li>Quantum Information Science</li> <li>Quantum Materials</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | Not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research projects</li> <li>Teaching release</li> <li>Trainee support</li> <li>Conference travel</li> </ul> Note: CIFAR separately covers travel costs associated with attendance at meetings | \$100,000 CAD in unrestricted research support | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must hold a PhD</li> <li>Full-time academic staff member within 5 years of the position</li> <li>Position start date must be no earlier than 1 July 2017</li> <li>If you have a pending first full-time position that meets the criteria above and starts no later than July 1, 2022, you are eligible to apply. In this case, you must submit a copy of your letter of appointment with your application.</li> </ul> Postdoctoral fellows are not eligible to apply to this program | The term will begin 1 April 2022 and end 31 March 2024. | <b>27 October 2021, 11:59 Pacific Day Time Zone (UTC-7)</b> |

**Submission of applications:**

Applications are to be completed online: <https://cifarportal.smapply.io/>

See page 5 & 6 of the Guidelines for Application specifics.

**PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE GUIDELINES TO ENSURE THAT YOU MEET ALL THE REQUIREMENTS**

Queries and proposal guidance: [global.scholars@cifar.ca](mailto:global.scholars@cifar.ca)

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CIFAR AZRIELI  
GLOBAL SCHOLARS



**ACCELERATE  
YOUR CAREER**



**DETAILED PROGRAM OVERVIEW**  
2021/2022

# CIFAR AZRIELI GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

CIFAR invites exceptional early-career researchers from across the natural, biomedical 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 accelerates the development of the next generation of research leaders and positions them to heighten their impact in academia and beyond.

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



CIFAR is supported by the governments of Canada, Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario, and Quebec as well as international partner organizations, individuals, foundations, and corporations.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | <a href="#">Program Overview</a>                        |
| 3 | <a href="#">Eligibility</a>                             |
| 4 | <a href="#">Duration and Value</a>                      |
| 4 | <a href="#">Expectations</a>                            |
| 5 | <a href="#">Deadline and How to Apply</a>               |
| 7 | <a href="#">Application Review Process and Criteria</a> |
| 8 | <a href="#">Administrative Guidelines and Policies</a>  |
| 9 | <a href="#">Frequently Asked Questions</a>              |

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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

## PARTICIPATING IN A CIFAR RESEARCH PROGRAM - AN INTERDISCIPLINARY NETWORK OF FELLOWS

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars join a CIFAR [research program](#) for two years, interacting within a global network of internationally renowned researchers pursuing a fundamental research question. In the setting of twice-yearly program meetings, held in cities across Canada and in other parts of the world (or virtually as travel restrictions dictate), CIFAR's programs bridge disciplines, develop a common language, and regularly spark collaboration and inspiration 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.** These funds are intended to strengthen their capacity to conduct research. Possible uses include, but are not limited to: research projects, teaching release, trainee support, conference travel, etc.
- **Mentorship from a Fellow 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 consider Fellows outside of their own field to help stretch their scope of vision and perspective.
- **Opportunities to apply for time-limited seed funding to support collaboration across disciplines.** CIFAR's Collaborative Research Catalyst Funds motivate and support the launch of high-risk/high-reward interdisciplinary collaborations with other CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars or CIFAR Fellows within or across research programs.

## 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. The program offers several virtual leadership development workshops throughout the year. These highly interactive, expert-led training sessions provide tools and insights that are applicable to scholars' daily work and life.

Examples include:

- Strategic communications (e.g., influencing others, managing difficult conversations, negotiating)
- Mentorship and resilience (e.g., setting goals, giving and receiving feedback, identifying and overcoming imposter syndrome, unconscious bias training, seeking help to maintain wellness, 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)
- In addition, CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars have access to a Leadership Development Fund which supports additional training and development opportunities, provided through expert coaches and consultants, courses or conferences, according to scholars' personal interests and needs.

In addition, CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars have access to a Leadership Development Fund which supports additional training and development opportunities, provided through expert coaches and consultants, courses or conferences, according to scholars' personal interests and needs.

The CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars Annual Meeting



*"CIFAR allows me to meet and interact with people who are at my career stage, and are as curious and enthusiastic to learn as I am, but are in different fields which I would otherwise never have the chance to make connections with. These are the kinds of interactions where I can learn and intellectually grow the most, and I thoroughly enjoy them."*

**IAIR ARCAVI**  
GEU Azrieli Global Scholar 2019-2021,  
Tel Aviv University

offers an invigorating intellectual retreat for peer networking and learning, sharing research ideas, brainstorming cross-programmatic collaborations and working on proposals for seed funding.

**Pending any extended travel restrictions, the 2022 CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars Annual Meeting will take place in-person in Fall 2022, as a special gathering of all seven cohorts of scholars appointed to date.** Dates and location will be announced in due course. CIFAR looks forward to welcoming the 2022 cohort of scholars at this meeting.

## **INCREASING IMPACT WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF ACADEMIA**

Reflecting CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars' desire to heighten their impact within academia and beyond, CIFAR supports and facilitates opportunities to put their knowledge, expertise and skills training into action.

CIFAR is committed to sharing and mobilizing ideas with knowledge users across sectors, including policy-makers, business leaders and practitioners. Opportunities abound for scholars to become involved

in knowledge mobilization activities, reaching audiences that may benefit from learning about the latest research. CIFAR works with our research programs to help identify and support initiatives that engage thought leaders, policy-makers and practitioners in a way that will drive meaningful dialogue and mutual benefit.

Some 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 other 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



***“The CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars events are truly fantastic: I have never before been in sessions where everybody works so hard to engage in open, honest reflection and self-improvement. Scientifically, at my program meetings I have learned a great deal. The feedback I get from CIFAR fellows is extremely beneficial to my theoretical and scientific approach, and has pushed me to think in new and interesting ways about the goals of my own research program in both the near and far future.”***

**MEGAN PETERS**

BMC Azrieli Global Scholar 2019-2021, University of California, Irvine

# ELIGIBILITY

CIFAR is seeking to assemble a global cohort. There are no geographical restrictions on who may apply. CIFAR is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI).

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 research position** that includes responsibility for both conducting an independent research program and supervising/teaching trainees toward their completion of a degree.
- Typically, you are an Assistant Professor (or the equivalent in other academic systems).
- Your position must be secure for the duration of the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar active term (to March 31, 2024).
- Your start date in this position must be no earlier than **July 1, 2017**. Note that special consideration may be given to those who have taken parental leave or those with exceptional circumstances.
- If you have a pending first full-time position that meets the criteria above and starts no later than July 1, 2022, you are eligible to apply. In this case, you must submit a copy of your letter of appointment with your application.
- **NOTE: Postdoctoral fellows are NOT eligible to apply to this program.**
- Engage in research that complements or contributes to the themes and goals of an *eligible* 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 interested in engaging 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 21-23, 2022.
- Have a valid passport, and if required, be able to obtain travel visas to attend CIFAR meetings in Canada and other countries around the world (2-4 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 are provided research funding and participate in a CIFAR research program over a two-year term. The term will begin on April 1, 2022 and end on March 31, 2024. 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. The funds are administered through their home institution and are intended to support their capacity to conduct research. 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.



*"The CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program provides the type of support and resources that early career scientists really need – from leadership workshops to seminars on public engagement. The opportunity to engage with other early career faculty, especially in the time of COVID-19, has been immensely helpful as we build our collaborative network. I have been truly inspired while engaging with my fellow Global Scholars across the various programs."*

### HIUTUNG CHU

HMB Azrieli Global Scholar  
2019-2021, University of  
California, San Diego

# EXPECTATIONS

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

- **Attend CIFAR research program meetings** (usually 2-3 per year, depending on the program) in Canada and various locations around the world.\* While at meetings and where appropriate, we encourage scholars to interact and collaborate with fellow program members on research areas of common interest to the program.
- **Attend CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar annual meetings** (held in-person, usually in early- to mid-May; as an exception, the annual meeting in 2022 will take place in the fall). We expect that each scholar will attend two in-person annual meetings.\*
- **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 2 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

## APPLICATION DEADLINE:

October 27, 2021 - 11:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time (UTC -7)

## APPLICATION PROCESS:

CIFAR accepts CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar applications annually. This year's application cycle opens on September 1, 2021. Applications must be submitted online, using the application form provided at: [cifar.ca/global-scholars](http://cifar.ca/global-scholars).

Instructions for starting an application are available [here](#).

As an applicant, your research is expected to complement or contribute to the themes and goals of an eligible CIFAR research program, listed below. If you wish to apply to more than one program, you must complete a separate application for each program.

In 2021/2022, the CIFAR research programs eligible to accept applications are:

- [Bio-inspired Solar Energy](#)
- [Child & Brain Development](#)
- [Gravity & the Extreme Universe](#)
- [Learning in Machines & Brains](#)
- [Quantum Information Science](#)
- [Quantum Materials](#)

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 CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar applicants on each of the program pages linked above.

## 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 financial benefits. (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)
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, 2022, 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 27, 2021.**



*"CIFAR is such a unique platform that not only provides us as early career researchers with great expertise inside our specific research field and supportive mentorship from the field's well-established researchers, but also a wide range of interdisciplinary studies. This is something very valuable to us and something that we could not get from other institutions."*

**HAOTIAN WANG**  
BSE Azrieli Global Scholar  
2019-2021, Rice University



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).

## 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 current CIFAR program member (Fellow, Associate Fellow or Advisor) provides a letter, your application must also include a third letter. (Of the three letters in total, two should come from non-program members.) One letter from a current CIFAR program member is permissible **only** if they were your supervisor or a member of your committee.

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

- **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.
- **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 27, 2021. 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 was able to use the leadership development funds to enroll in the Faculty Success Program offered by the U.S. National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity. I'm in the eighth week of the program and it has been life-changing. I've learned so many skills on how to set goals, prioritize, and build a daily writing habit. My productivity, work-life balance, and overall wellness have all improved significantly from taking this program."*

**ALANNAH HALLAS**

QM Azrieli Global Scholar 2020-2022, University of British Columbia

# 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 total span of time from application deadline to final selection is about five months. Candidates invited to a virtual interview will be contacted by January 25, 2022. The table below summarizes key dates for 2021/2022.

The application review and selection process:

- 1. Basic Eligibility:** CIFAR ensures all applications meet basic eligibility requirements.
- 2. Application Review:** A sub-committee of CIFAR Fellows and/or Advisors is assembled for each eligible CIFAR research program. 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 build on or 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 21- 23, 2022. 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 desire to engage with peers across disciplines, and potential for leadership and impact. This committee provides their scores and recommendations to CIFAR for the new cohort of CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars.

**NOTE: The interview schedule will be developed after the shortlisted finalists have been identified. Candidates must be available on all three dates until notified of their place in the schedule.**

## SUMMARY OF KEY DATES:

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>SEPTEMBER 1, 2021</b>   | Call for applications opens.   |
| <b>OCTOBER 27, 2021</b>    | Application deadline<br><b>11:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time (UTC -7)</b>   |
| <b>BY JANUARY 25, 2022</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 21-23, 2022</b>   | The Selection Committee interviews the shortlisted finalists via Zoom.   |
| <b>BY MARCH 31, 2022</b>   | Finalists are notified of the competition results.   |
| <b>APRIL 2022</b>          | Virtual orientation meeting for the new cohort.  |
| <b>MAY 2022</b>            | CIFAR publicly announces the 2022 CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars.   |
| <b>FALL 2022</b>           | CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars annual meeting with special all-cohort assembly.   |

# ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES AND POLICIES

## 1) TERM

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars' active term is two years, beginning in April 2022.

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars must hold a full-time research 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. The taxation treatment of these funds is the sole responsibility of the scholar's home institution. 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 reimbursed by CIFAR through the completion of an expense claim form.

## 4) PARENTAL LEAVE POLICY

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. 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.



*“The CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program has sparked so many new ideas and opportunities for collaboration. It is incredibly exciting to see the state of the art emerge through these interdisciplinary interactions. I’m very grateful that CIFAR supports ambitious, out-there research with a long time horizon – society needs that.”*

**ANDREW SAXE**

LMB Azrieli Global Scholar 2020-2022, University of Oxford

# 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 one to three times 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 or contribute to the themes and goals of one of the CIFAR research programs accepting applications in 2021/2022. Eligible 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 or complementing 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 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.

To be eligible, you must be employed at an institution of higher education or research and be within the first five years of starting a full-time research position that includes responsibility for both conducting an independent research program and supervising/teaching trainees toward their completion of a degree. Typically, applicants will be an Assistant Professor (or the equivalent in other academic systems). See page 3 for full eligibility requirements. If you have questions, please contact: [global.scholars@cifar.ca](mailto:global.scholars@cifar.ca).

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

CIFAR recognizes that different academic systems around the world assign different titles to junior faculty positions. We welcome junior faculty from all over the world to apply. 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?**

To be eligible to apply, you will have started your first full-time research position with independent research and supervision/teaching responsibilities no earlier than July 1, 2017. However, if you took a parental or medical leave before that date, 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 21-23, 2022 DUE TO A PRIOR COMMITMENT, SHOULD I APPLY?**

No. Applicants unable to attend on these dates will not be considered. Applicants should hold all three 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 COMMITMENTS ARE 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 following requirements:

- **Attend the in-person interaction meetings of your designated CIFAR research program.** Programs generally meet two to three times per year, depending on the program. Meetings are held in Canada and various other locations around the world. While at meetings and where appropriate, we encourage you to interact and collaborate with fellow program members on research areas of common interest to the program.
- **Attend CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar annual meetings** (in-person, usually held in early- to mid-May; as an exception, the annual meeting in 2022 will take place in the fall). We expect that each scholar will attend two in-person annual meetings.
- **Attend at least two virtual leadership development workshops** for CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars per year.
- **Report** on your successes and activities annually, and where possible and appropriate, interact with CIFAR stakeholders and funders.
- **Acknowledge CIFAR** by using 'CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar' in your professional signature and indicating CIFAR as an affiliation. You should also acknowledge CIFAR as a funder in research publications and presentations supported by this program's funding.

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 serves as an invigorating 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 eligible CIFAR program will accept up to three new CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars. Over the past six 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.

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