

## **TAD Excellence Program for Doctoral Students in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science**

### **Program Overview:**

The TAD Excellence Program for doctoral students in the fields of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Science (DS) is designed to encourage PhD studies in these fields at Tel Aviv University and to provide outstanding students with a profound and interdisciplinary academic experience.

### **Research Areas (and Faculties):**

The program is open to students from all faculties, whose research topics involve AI or DS. Priority will be given to researchers working on the core topics of AI and DS or conducting interdisciplinary research.

### **Target Audience:**

- PhD students at Tel Aviv University, in Stage A (before the research proposal), or those planning to begin their doctoral studies in the upcoming academic year.
- PhD students at Tel Aviv University in Stage B (after the research proposal), with at least two years remaining in their studies (requires a confirmation letter from the advisor regarding the remaining study period).
- Master's degree graduates (from any recognized higher education institution in Israel) planning to join a doctoral program at Tel Aviv University.

### **Applicants who have not yet been accepted to a Doctoral program are required to:**

- Attach a letter of commitment from the intended advisor (including a commitment to provide financial support).
- Be accepted into a Doctoral program at Tel Aviv University during the upcoming academic year.

### **Scholarship and Academic Experience:**

- The scholarship offered is 50% per year for up to three years and will be added to the scholarships received from the advisor and/or other sources (subject to the university's and the student's unit regulations).
- Subject to program committee approval, fellows in the program will be eligible for an additional budget of up to \$10,000 for an extended visit to a leading lab in the field.
- Meetings, seminars, and collaborations will be held among students and their advisors across all cohorts of the program.

### Fellows' Commitments:

- Fellows must submit an annual progress report (approved by their advisor).
- Fellows are required to participate in TAD's relevant activities, including seminars and research workshops in AI topics.
- Fellows must include an acknowledgment in their publications, following provided guidelines.

### Advisors' Commitments:

- The advisor must commit to fund a scholarship of at least 100% per year for three years, beyond the guaranteed funding provided by the program. (This may include besides the advisor's funds also support from the student's academic unit or other sources.)

### Required Documents:

- Application form (printed).
- Curriculum Vitae (up to 2 pages, including contact details and a detailed list of academic education, scholarships, grants, and awards – excluding publications).
- List of publications, clearly separating published/accepted articles and submitted articles under review. Please include links to articles where possible.
- Transcripts from Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral studies.
- PhD research proposal (up to 4 pages in English including diagrams and graphs, bibliography excluded) and an abstract in English (up to 450 words).
- Two or three signed letters of recommendation:
  - From the doctoral advisor.
  - From academic faculty members who know or taught the applicant – either from another recognized higher education institution (in Israel or abroad) or from Tel Aviv University. The letter should include the recommender's details (field, institution, etc.) and the nature of their relationship with the applicant.
- Advisor's confirmation of participation in funding a scholarship of 100% per year for a period of three years, in addition to the guaranteed program scholarship.

---

**All documents, including letters of recommendation, should be submitted via this form by September 6th, 2025:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/132SJPI7EUdaHLSmx\\_vwW9e4hODHHGs7JNhtJdMQN2iE/edit?sharingaction=ownershiptransfer&ts=68340970](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/132SJPI7EUdaHLSmx_vwW9e4hODHHGs7JNhtJdMQN2iE/edit?sharingaction=ownershiptransfer&ts=68340970)