



The Israel Student Authority

Much more than just a scholarship!



משרד העלייה והקליטה
Ministry of Aliyah and Integration

המינהל לסטודנטים עולים | Israel Student Authority





Olim Students in Israel

Experience a unique and empowering journey with independence and a sense of belonging, with academic quality and excellence, with connection to roots and identity, with career guidance and planning for the future, with funding of studies and support - by the Israel Student Authority.

Everything to make you feel at home

Who are we?

The Israel Student Authority is a division of the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration. The Authority works to encourage Aliyah and higher education in Israel for young people from around the world, and assists with their integration into higher education institutions and into Israeli society.

The Authority accompanies Olim students all the way from the early planning stages of academic studies while still abroad, and up to the completion of their degree in Israel and finding a suitable job. The Authority provides tuition scholarships throughout the years of degree studies, conducts pre-academic integration programs and academic Aliyah programs, operates personal counselling services to help choose a study track, and maintains a wide range of programs for social, personal and academic support, as well as social and volunteering activities for optimal integration into Israeli society.



Photography: Bruno Sharvit, GPO

What assistance is provided to Olim students?

- Tuition scholarships throughout all years of the degree
- Funding of English and Hebrew language courses necessary for the degree
- Pre-Aliyah and Pre-studies services, including counseling, checking education documents, and creating a customized study plan for young people before their Aliyah and for Olim who haven't begun their studies
- Funding of study preparation programs tailored for Olim students: TAKA (Pre-Academic Program), Olim preparatory programs (Mechinat Olim), and summer Hebrew language ulpan programs
- Professional counseling in various languages for choosing a field of study
- Funding of a preparation course for the YAEL (Hebrew Proficiency for Academia) exam
- Unique academic Aliyah programs tailored for new Olim
- A network of multilingual social counselors providing personal and social support
- Academic support and study assistance
- SHAHAK Project (Community Social Service) – Olim students volunteer in the community
- "Rising Leadership in Academia Program" – The Authority's social leadership and entrepreneurship program in cooperation with Mifal HaPais and local municipalities
- Ofek Program – Employment Mentors – preparatory program for integration into the work force towards the end of studies

Eligibility criteria for assistance from the Israel Student Authority

Status in Israel

Students who meet one of the following:

- Olim/ children of Olim;
- Returning minors (Ktinim Chozrim);
- Citizen Olim (Ezrachim Olim).

*Those who stayed in Israel as tourists for over 3 years should check their eligibility with an integration advisor.

Age at the beginning of studies

- For the Olim preparatory program / Bachelor's degree / practical engineering / certificate programs – up to age 27;
- For Master's degree / retraining for degree holders / certificate studies for degree holders – up to age 30;
- For TAKA (Pre-Academic Program) – The determining age is according to the intended study track after this program. Academics not interested in continuing studies with Authority scholarship – up to age 32;
- For Master's degree in a unique academic Aliyah program – up to age 35.

Beginning of studies (with Authority assistance, self-funding or other funding)

Students must begin their studies within 3 years of receiving Aliyah status from the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration.

*NAALE (Youth Aliyah Before Parents) graduates are eligible for assistance provided that no more than 3 years have passed from either their status change date or date of program completion – whichever is later – until studies begin.

Please note! In certain cases, eligibility for assistance may continue after 3 years – if one of the following conditions applies:

- Mandatory military service and up to one year of career service;
- National-Civil Service;
- Pre-military service year (Shnat Sherut), subject to approval from the Ministry of Defense;
- Service through the Hesder Yeshiva framework – for 4 years only;
- Continuous stay abroad exceeding 6 months.

These periods are not counted within the 3-year period indicated above. If Olim began their service / traveled abroad before 3 years from their Aliyah has passed, their eligibility is "frozen" and preserved, to be continued after completing service / returning to Israel.

Students before military service

Olim required to serve in the military who wish to study before their IDF enlistment must present approval from Meitav (Recruitment Office) for "enlistment deferral for studies" (Olim Academic Reserve). This approval is a condition for receiving assistance. Students are required to present this IDF approval from the end of their first year in Israel.

Returning minors / Citizen Olim must report to the IDF recruitment office immediately upon arrival in Israel.

For more information: <https://www.mitgaisim.idf.il/> > international

Previous studies

Students with a high school matriculation or equivalent certificate from their country of origin are eligible for assistance with their Bachelor's degree studies.

Students with a Bachelor's degree, from abroad or Israel, are eligible for assistance with their Master's degree studies.

They are not eligible for funding of an additional Bachelor's degree unless they belong to one of the following groups:

- Students wishing to study an additional Bachelor's degree in one of the STEM fields (Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science

subjects, Physical Sciences and Engineering studies);

- Students who made Aliyah from a country that requires a preliminary Bachelor's degree in the field in which they registered in Israel (for example, a student with a Bachelor's degree from the USA wishing to study towards a Bachelor's degree in Law);

Students with a Master's degree, from abroad or from Israel, are not eligible for funding of an additional Master's degree, unless they have a "Specialist" degree or "Master 1".

Studies in Israel

The Israel Student Authority assistance is provided only to students studying and living in Israel.

A student staying abroad during the academic year is not eligible for Authority assistance, even if the study program allows for remote learning.

Recognized institutions and tracks for assistance

The Israel Student Authority assists students studying in approximately 170 higher education institutions recognized by the Malag (Council for Higher Education).

It is advisable to verify recognition of the chosen institution/track with the Israel Student Authority before registration.

Recognized study tracks for assistance:

- For academic degrees: Bachelor's or Master's degree studies at institutions recognized by the Malag;
 - Practical Engineering studies;
 - Certificate studies: in design and arts*, Alternative Medicine*, Registered Nursing, Dental Hygiene, senior certified teaching in the ultra-orthodox sector / post-degree certificate studies / retraining for degree holders;
- *selected tracks only.

Required documents:

- Students for Bachelor's degrees / Practical engineering / Certificate studies must present high school matriculation documents or a recognized high school completion certificate from abroad, or a recognized pre-academic preparatory program completion certificate from Israel.
- An acceptance letter from a recognized educational institution.

Conditions for continued assistance in subsequent years of study

- During the first year of studies with Authority assistance, students will have a personal "one-on-one" meeting with an Israel Student Authority advisor. This meeting is required in order to continue receiving assistance. For continued assistance and study scholarship in the following years, students must present a transcript (with a total average grade of at least 60) and an approval to continue to the next year of studies.
- Students studying in a track that is not taught in Hebrew are required to present certification of Hebrew ulpan completion by the beginning of their second year of studies.

Main assistance

Tuition scholarship

The Israel Student Authority provides tuition scholarship assistance for each year of studies according to the student's personal study schedule (number of courses). The number of assistance years is determined by the official duration of studies in each track.

Important to remember!

- At the beginning of each academic year, an online application for tuition funding for that year must be submitted (during the dates published each year).
- Receiving full assistance (for all years of study) is contingent on completing volunteer hours through SHAHAK – Community Social Service, according to guidelines.
- No retroactive assistance is available.

Scholarship amount

The tuition scholarship amount is subject to the rate set by government authorities (Council for Higher Education or relevant ministries) and is updated annually. There are institutions and tracks in which tuition is higher than the government rate. In these institutions and tracks, the Authority provides tuition scholarship up to the government rate only, and students must fund the remainder independently. The tuition scholarship does not include additional payments or other expenses (such as fees for security, library, student union, etc.).



Photography: Oz Schecter, GPO

Higher education preparation programs

The Israel Student Authority runs a series of academic preparation programs designed for young Olim who are interested in studying in Israel and to meet the particular needs of Olim.

Hebrew language and proper preparation are the foundation for your success in Israeli academia!

TAKA – Pre-Academic Program

A unique program for Olim students to advance integration into Israeli academia.

TAKA is a pre-academic program of the Israel Student Authority in cooperation with academic institutions, the Division for Adult Education at the Ministry of Education, and the Jewish Agency.

The duration of the program is about 5 months and it is intended for those who are exempt from Olim preparatory program requirements (see below), as well as for those with a degree or previous academic background (two semesters or more). The program is intended for young Olim with a Hebrew language level of B/B+.

Program information

The program includes advanced Hebrew language studies, English language courses towards an exemption level, academic courses in simple Hebrew (depending on the educational institution), an academic reading and writing course, YAEL exam preparation course, counseling and guidance for choosing a study track (available in the Olim's mother tongue), personal social guide, and various social activities. The program is accompanied by professional academic and social welfare teams.

Additionally, program graduates are eligible for partial funding of a preparation course for a psychometric, GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test), or MITAM exam. The program operates nationwide.

Olim preparatory programs

The Israel Student Authority assists with tuition scholarships and support services for students in university preparatory programs for Olim. The preparatory program is for one academic year and includes Hebrew language studies, English language studies, counseling for choosing a study track, YAEL (National Institute for Testing and Evaluation) exam preparation course, and pre-academic introductory courses.

The preparatory program grade is weighed together with the psychometric exam score for purposes of decisions regarding acceptance into higher education.

Funding of the TAKA program / Oleh preparatory program is in addition to a higher education scholarship (in accordance with conditions).

Summer ulpan

The Israel Student Authority, in cooperation with the Division for Adult Education at the Ministry of Education, and academic institutions, conducts summer Hebrew courses for young students and academics. Summer ulpan courses usually take place during the summer months (July-August) and last about 4-5 weeks, 5 days a week, about 5-6 hours each day. Additional information can be found on the Israel Student Authority website.



Photography: Gideon Sharon, GPO

Unique tracks for higher education – Academic Aliyah Programs

The Israel Student Authority develops various unique programs tailored for Olim: programs integrating ulpan studies with academic courses for Bachelor's or Master's degree studies in selected professions, with comprehensive support.

These programs operate in cooperation with leading academic institutions and the Jewish Agency. The first year includes supplementary courses and academic introduction courses in a foreign language (English / French / Russian) as well as an advanced Hebrew ulpan (over 800 hours). In subsequent years, students integrate into the academic courses in Hebrew. The advantages of these programs are a "soft landing" on campus, admission criteria adapted for Olim, academic support, and personal guidance by an instructor who speaks the Olim's language throughout the program. Some programs include subsidized housing. Additional information can be found on the Israel Student Authority website.Olim.



The Israel Student Authority – Much more than just a scholarship!

Olim students receive personal, academic, and social guidance and support throughout their years of study in order to allow them to succeed in their studies and to integrate optimally into the job market and Israeli society. There are teams of social counselors in all academic institutions throughout Israel who make every effort to maintain close contact with all Olim students. These teams run social activities, including trips around the country, throughout the academic year.

In addition, the Israel Student Authority offers emotional support, social worker guidance, subsidized testing for learning disabilities, academic assistance during studies (tutoring, mentoring and GOOL coupons), unique programs in leadership and employment preparation, and various unique volunteer programs for integration into Israeli society (SHAHAK) and more!



Photography: Hurta Navominsky, GPO



**Our team is here to help you, even before you
make Aliyah!**

For more information:

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<https://go.gov.il/eng-prog>

Eligibility conditions are subject to the basic assistance rules of the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, the Israel Student Authority procedure and temporary directives, and State budget approval each year. Conditions are updated regularly on the Israel Student Authority website.