

# A Guide to Converting a Foreign Driver's License to an Israeli Driver's License

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For the most up-to-date information, please choose "Foreign residents" at the following link: [https://www.gov.il/en/service/convert\\_driving\\_license](https://www.gov.il/en/service/convert_driving_license)  
Read carefully the "Conditions for receiving the service", the "Required documents", the "Payment options" and particularly the "Ways to receive the service".

A foreign driver's license (including an International License) is only valid in Israel for a period of one year (from the date of first entry); before this year elapses, one needs to convert his foreign license to an Israeli driver's license. Note that insurance coverage may depend on it.

Since 2017, the Ministry of Transportation introduced a policy for foreign journalists who hold a valid B1 visa and a GPO card - they are now exempt from the road test (as well as the theory test) when converting their driver's license. The conversion process is now straightforward and conditioned only on an eye test and a general medical examination. No fees will be charged for the conversion process; the eye test costs 50 NIS and the Israeli license itself costs about 250 NIS for 5 years.

Please note:

- The minimum remaining period on your B1 visa, required for the beginning of the conversion process, is three months. We recommend renewing your B1 visa and GPO card just before converting your driver's license.
- The applicant is also required to present an "Israel entry and exit report". such a document can be obtained at the Population and Immigration Office (where you get your B1 visa, so it is a good idea to ask for it just in case upon the renewal of your visa).
- Converting to an Israeli license **does not** mean that you have to give up your foreign national license – it remains valid.

## The conversion process is as follows:

- You must arrive in person at the licensing office (see the main addresses below), without making an appointment, and present a valid passport and visa, plus a valid driver's license from the country of origin for at least five years. At the licensing office you will receive an ID number (89).
- Complete the [online driver's license application](#) and health declaration (English available) using the number you received (89) in the "ID number" field.
- After filling out the form, you must go to one of the [photo stations](#) with your passport and the document with your ID number, have your photo taken, and pass a vision test.
- You will then receive a text message or phone call confirming that you are able to proceed.
- Schedule your appointment at the Licensing Office via [govisit](#) with a help of a Hebrew speaker...
- At the Licensing Office, a temporary paper license (valid for six months) will be issued on the spot and becomes valid upon stamping the payment at any postal office.
- The Israeli plastic driver's license, valid for 5 years and bearing your photo, will be sent to you by post to the address you have given to the Ministry of Interior upon your B1 visa application. The permanent plastic license should be received within a month (if it does not – inquire at 08-9949700) – but meanwhile your paper license is valid. Congratulations, drive safely!

### **Licensing offices:**

**Jerusalem:** 10 Haoman Street, Talpiot

**Holon (center):** 1 Halokhamim Street

**Haifa:** 2 Edison Street

**Be'er Sheva:** 5 Hamanof Street