

המשרד לקליטת העלייה
Ministry of Immigrant Absorption



ENGLISH

אָרְטִיסְטִים

Artists

5th Edition



Produced by
The Publications Department

Ministry of Immigrant Absorption
15 Rehov Hillel, Jerusalem 94581

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Jerusalem 2013

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Catalogue Number: 0101513050

הופק על ידי

אגף מידע ופרסום

המשרד לקליטת העלייה

רח' הלל 15, ירושלים 94581

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ירושלים 2013

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הודפס על ידי המדפיס הממשלתי

Special thanks to **Ronit Reuven**, Director, The Center for
Absorption of Immigrant Artists, the Ministry of Immigrant
Absorption for her assistance in updating this booklet.

Table of Contents

The Israeli Cultural Scene	5	תרבות ואמנות בישראל
Assistance to Immigrant Artists	6	סיוע לאמנים עולים
Assistance to Athletes	14	סיוע לספורטאים
Finding Work	16	חיפוש עבודה
Hebrew	26	עברית
Art Training in Israel	28	לימודי אמנות בישראל
Useful Addresses	29	כתובות וטלפונים





The Israeli Cultural Scene

The cultural scene in Israel is varied and dynamic. Plays and concerts, exhibitions, films, dance, literature, and poetry - ranging from extreme avant-garde to strictly classical - all have a place in Israeli society. Many of Israel's artistic institutions enjoy worldwide acclaim.

Israel is also experiencing the renaissance of creative Judaica. Modern designs and new interpretations of ancient crafts have made Israel the world center for beautiful and popular items of both everyday and ritual use. At the same time, Israeli jewelry and fashion designs enjoy considerable popularity both at home and abroad.

Although there is some governmental support of artistic institutions, it is usually necessary for artists in Israel to take the initiative in promoting themselves. Competition in many fields can be quite stiff.

While most of Israel's artistic activity takes place in the main cities of Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa, almost every town has its *Matnas - Mercas L'Tarbut, Noar V'Sport* (center for culture, youth and sport), and many of Israel's towns are noted for their dance troupes, orchestras, and theater groups. In addition, there are artists' colonies scattered throughout the country.

Note: this is the fifth edition of this booklet, and hereby nullifies any previous editions. The information contained in this booklet is based on data provided by various official sources. Details are subject to change. In case of any discrepancy, the regulations of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, the Ministry of Economy (Trade, Industry and Labor,) and other official bodies will prevail.



Assistance to Immigrant Artists, Writers, and Athletes

The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption recognizes the special character of new-immigrant and returning-resident artists, writers, and athletes. The Ministry offers financial assistance, guidance and advice, and helps artists and writers to promote their work.



The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption offers aid to new-immigrant and returning-resident artists, including:

- Musicians/Composers
- Singers
- Actors/Stage directors
- Writers
- Dancers/Choreographers
- Plastic Artists (e.g., painters, graphic artists, sculptors, photographers, etc.)
- Film and Television Artists

In order to receive assistance, a new-immigrant or returning-resident artist must first meet with a vocational counselor at a branch or district office of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption. It is also worthwhile to meet with a personal absorption counselor in order to find out how much assistance is available. Bring the following documents:

- *Te'udat oleh*
- Diploma or other documents that attest to artistic training
- In the absence of a diploma, bring any documentation that verifies background in the artistic discipline, for

example press clippings, posters, photographs, disks, videos, or other records.

Following submission of documents to the vocational counselor, a coordinator of artists invites the candidate to appear before a professional committee in order to audition or present work. The professional committee assesses the candidate and decides whether to grant recognition, and assigns the candidate to one of four categories: "good," "talented," "exceptionally talented," and "not up to standard." Those in the "good," "talented," and "exceptionally talented" categories can be eligible for financial assistance according to profession and category.

The financial assistance is intended to help new-immigrant and returning-resident artists make a start in their career, e.g., pay for an instrument, paint, special costumes, dance shoes, lessons, etc.

Conditions of Eligibility

In order to be eligible for assistance, it is necessary to meet the following criteria:

- Applicants must be at least age 15 at the date of aliyah, and at least age 17 up to age 75 at the time of requesting assistance.
- Gifted children ages 10-17, who have recommendations from the educational institution in which they study, can request to appear before a professional committee and receive recognition and a classification as "uniquely gifted" or "outstanding" artists.
- The period of eligibility for new immigrants is 10 years from the date of receipt of new-immigrant status. The period of regular, compulsory IDF service is not included in the 10-year period.
- Returning residents can be eligible for assistance for two years from the date of receiving "returning resident" status.



- According to Ministry of Immigrant Absorption regulations, applicants must present a diploma or other professional documentation that verifies their involvement in their artistic field. Artists who engage in applied arts (pottery, experts in folk art, etc.) must prove their background according to professional documentation that the work was the main source of employment in the country of origin.

In cases of married couples, both of whom are artists or athletes, the assistance is on an individual basis.

Note: assistance to immigrant artists is in no way connected with the regular aid to which all new immigrants are entitled. Receipt of assistance for immigrant artists does not jeopardize the rights of new immigrants to receive regular assistance.

For more information about new immigrant rights, consult the "Guide for the New Immigrant." See the order form at the back of this booklet.

Note: Make sure to prepare a sufficient number of photocopies of all documents. NEVER give original documents to anyone!

The Committee's decision is forwarded to the Coordinator for Immigrant Artists, who in turn informs the applicant of their classification, and makes the necessary arrangements for receipt of the financial assistance to which the artist is entitled. The time it takes to receive the evaluation varies from case to case.

Immigrants employed by major, recognized cultural institutions such as specific orchestras and theaters can be eligible for assistance without having to appear before a committee. To receive assistance, present authorization of employment from the director of the institution to a personal absorption counselor at the Ministry of Immigrant

Absorption. Consult with a personal absorption counselor for more information.

Recognition Committees

There are three types of regional recognition committees: The Committee for Music, the Committee for Literature, and the Committee for Plastic Arts (graphic art, metal-work, jewelry-making, sculpture, photography, etc.). Additionally, there are national committees for the following fields:

- Theater arts and acting (including stage arts, circus, and puppetry).
- Dance and choreography
- Music (for composers)

The vocational counselor is responsible for organizing meetings of the committees. Consult with a vocational counselor or personal absorption counselor for more information.

The Recognition Procedure

The first step is to register with the Department for Absorption of Immigrant Artists. A personal absorption counselor can help fill out the necessary forms. Next, the applicant appears before the professional evaluation committee, made up of prominent artists in the relevant field. During this appearance, it is necessary to audition or present examples of work. It is also required to have a CV (resume) that lists all relevant professional experience. The CV should be in Hebrew. Further, it is necessary to present any documentation of professional experience in the artistic field. Translate any documents that are not in English or Hebrew. Be sure to have extra copies of original documents, which should be for presentation purposes only. Never give original documents to anyone!



Recognition Committee for Writers and Poets

Writers and poets should submit a resume, educational documents, a list of published work, and a manuscript. An author who passes the Committee can receive assistance for publishing a book, or for translating an already-published work into Hebrew. Therefore, an author should decide in advance the type of assistance they are interested in receiving, and submit to the Committee the work they wish to publish.

Recognition Committee for Musicians

Musicians must perform several different styles of music for the Committee. The Committee may, at any stage of the audition, stop a performance if the musician establishes a level of professionalism to the Committee's satisfaction.

Composers must submit the following to a personal absorption counselor:

- CV (resume)
- Recording of compositions, or adaptations and a score. It is recommended to submit compositions in a variety of styles.

The counselor forwards the material to the Musicians Committee for review. In most cases, the Committee does not personally interview composers. Following assessment of the composer's material, the Committee forwards its verdict to the Department for Absorption of Immigrant Artists. The composer receives a letter with the Committee's decision.

The Committee does not assess music teachers, but teachers may be eligible for other assistance from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption.

Recognition Committee for Dance

Dancers must perform several pieces in front of the Committee. It is recommended to perform a variety of styles. Choreographers and directors must submit a CV

(resume,) posters, and any other documents that attest to professional activities.

Theater and Stage Arts

Actors must prepare two pieces and perform them for the Committee. It is recommended to perform at least one scene in Hebrew, even if the actor is only beginning to learn the language, in order for the Committee to assess their potential to learn. The regulations for auditions in stage arts and puppetry are similar. Theater directors must present a CV (resume) and all other documents that attest to their involvement in the theater (posters, photographs, press reviews, etc.).

Film and Television

Directors, cinematographers, and editors should submit a tape of their work along with a CV (resume). They are then invited to an interview according to the Committee's judgment.

Plastic Arts

Painters, jewelry-makers, sculptors, photographers, ceramicists, doll-makers, etc., should present examples of their work (applicants must display several original works as well as photographs and slides,) posters, press clippings and any other items that can help to successfully pass the assessment.

Note that in order to be eligible for assistance, an applicant's artistic endeavor must be their main source of employment; for example, an engineer or teacher who writes a book is not eligible for assistance as an immigrant artist.

Gifted Children

Gifted children ages 10-17 can be eligible for assistance from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption upon receipt of recognition by a professional committee.



Child musicians may give an individual performance, or play a number of pieces from different genres, including contemporary Hebrew music.

Young composers must have prizes from musical competitions and present publicized compositions or recordings that prove that their compositions were performed on stage.

Child artists involved in visual arts (painting, sculpture, ceramics, etc.,) must present materials that prove at least one public exhibition of their work, and one prize from an arts organization.

Writers and poets who wish to apply for assistance must present a published book or a prize from a literary organization.

Young dancers, actors, and puppeteers must present a prize from an appropriate artistic body, appear in a solo performance, and present evidence of participation in any performance in Israel or abroad.

Young people involved in film or television must present proof that an official body showed their work, or that they received a prize in a competition or festival.

Types of Assistance

Each candidate accepted by a professional committee can receive one-time assistance according to classification and artistic field. The assistance is relatively modest, and is for acquiring supplies, costumes, etc. Painters, sculptors, and dancers can receive assistance for renting a studio.

In addition to aid from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, candidates who have received recognition from the Ministry can be entitled to additional assistance from the Center for Absorption of Immigrant Artists. The Center is a joint endeavor of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption and the Ministry of Culture and Sport, and assists new-immigrant artists who have received the classification of "exceptionally talented" or "gifted,"

from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption. There are two committees within the Center: the Committee for Exceptional Artists and the Committee of Four (for financing large artistic projects).

The Committee for Exceptional Artists considers requests for assistance from artists who are recommended as “exceptional” and “extremely exceptional.” In most cases, applicants can be eligible for personal monetary grants, but assistance can also be indirect (financing publicity, purchasing costumes, renting an exhibition hall, publishing a catalogue, and similar forms of aid). The period of eligibility is up to 10 years in Israel, and up to two years from the date of receipt of authorization from the Recognition Committee.

The Committee of Four authorizes artistic projects for cultural organizations and societies that wish to employ immigrants, such as orchestras, theaters, etc.

Similarly, the Center participates in financing projects that create employment for immigrant artists, such as creating dance troupes, musical groups, or theater companies. To be eligible for financing, the project framework must have at least 2 years’ experience. Contact the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption for details.

Assistance in Promoting Employment

A government or public body that wishes to employ a new immigrant, but lacks the budget to do so, may be eligible for participation in the costs of the immigrant’s salary from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption for up to two years.

Regulations mandate that coverage paid by the employer be at least half of the minimum wage. A new immigrant employed in the private sector can be entitled to the same participation in salary, with the understanding that the body continues to employ the immigrant artist following the period of assistance.



Assistance to Athletes

The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, together with the Ministry of Culture and Sport, assists immigrant athletes, athletics teachers, and professional coaches, both economically and in finding work. Aid takes the form of a grant that the athlete can use for acquiring sports equipment, clothing, or shoes, for participation fees in athletic associations, or other sport-related purposes. The grant is on a one-time basis only.

The period of eligibility is ten years from receiving new-immigrant status. Candidates for assistance must pass an assessment by an evaluation committee and receive a classification from the Ministry of Culture and Sport (See Useful Addresses).

In order to apply for assistance, take the following steps:

- Fill out a form available from a personal absorption counselor.
- Have the form authorized by the Physical Education Authority of the Ministry of Culture, and by the relevant professional association.
- Present a *te'udat oleh*.

For more information, consult with a personal absorption counselor.

Physical Education Instructors

Physical education instructors who wish to teach in Israeli schools must pass a certification course given by the Ministry of Education and receive a teacher's certificate in the same manner as teachers of other subjects. For details, consult the Ministry of Education. See Useful Addresses.

Eligible immigrants may be entitled to a living allowance for the duration of the course. For details, consult with a personal absorption counselor.



Note: New immigrants who are interested in teaching physical education at the elementary or high-school level should consult with the Unit for Absorption of Immigrant Teachers of the Ministry of Education, as detailed in the booklet entitled "Teachers," available from the Publications Department. See the order form at the back of this booklet.



Finding Work



Assistance from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption

The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption vocational program for new immigrants helps new immigrants and returning residents integrate into employment suitable to their profession and skills by providing a “basket” of vocational services through Ministry counselors at branch and district offices.

The Basket of Vocational Services

Vocational services provided by the Ministry include:

- Creating an individual vocational plan with a personal absorption counselor
- Referrals to vocational Hebrew ulpan
- Assistance in looking for work
- Assured income payments while looking for work
- Vocational direction and guidance
- Services of a vocational psychologist
- Referrals to job-search workshops
- Participation in salaries
- Referrals to preparation courses for professional licensing exams
- Referrals to vocational training or retraining courses
- Assistance in the form of vouchers for courses

Personal Employment Plan

Ministry of Immigrant Absorption personal absorption counselors work with new immigrants and returning residents to devise an employment track that suits each

individual's needs. Assistance can include access to the Ministry's database of employment openings, referrals to training or retraining courses, and participation in salaries.

Services and assistance continue from the initial consultation until placement in employment.

The vocational assistance program is for new immigrants in Israel for up to 10 years, and returning residents for up to 2 years, with an academic education, high-school education, or a profession that does not require a license.

The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption can assist immigrant artists in introducing their work to the Israeli public. In many cases, the Ministry can arrange special recitals, exhibitions, or other events. The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption also participates in the planning of major cultural events, and arranges appearances by immigrant artists.

In addition, the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption actively circulates resumes among potential employers. Coordinators are in constant touch with orchestras, TV and radio, theaters, galleries, producers, etc. throughout the country, and can notify artists about auditions and job openings.

Assured Income

During the first year following aliyah, following the conclusion of Absorption Basket payments and up until the end of the first year in the country, eligible new immigrants can receive assured income payments from the Ministry during their job search. To be eligible, it is necessary to register with a personal absorption counselor, and report to the counselor according to the personal employment program. Consult with a personal absorption counselor at a branch office of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption for details.



The Israel Employment Service

The Israel Employment Service, a division of the Ministry of Economy (Formerly the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Labor,) is a government employment service. Assistance includes job placement and referrals to training courses. The Service differentiates between academics/professionals and non-academics, and offers separate services, either in a separate unit of the Employment Service office, or on different premises. To locate the nearest office, visit the Employment Service website: www.taasuka.gov.il.

During the initial visit to an Employment Service office, bring copies of all degree(s)/diploma(s), *te'udat oleh*, and *te'udat zehut*. It is sometimes necessary to have degree certified by the Bureau for Evaluation of Overseas Degrees of the Ministry of Education (see below). In many cases, it is necessary to have a Hebrew version of your CV. If necessary, an Employment Service clerk can sometimes assist in preparing a CV.

The law requires job seekers to register with the Employment Service in order to receive unemployment benefits following their first year in the country. New immigrants during their first year following aliyah can be eligible for assistance the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption. See above.

Looking for Employment on Your Own

Beyond the assistance from various official bodies, in many cases immigrant artists have to search for employment on their own. There are a number of steps to facilitate your job search. You can limit yourself to just one or two, but the more avenues that you pursue, the more effective your search is likely to be.

- Newspaper help-wanted sections regularly advertise jobs in a variety of professions. While the English-language papers carry some ads, the majority is in the Hebrew press. Many of these ads appear at least partially in English.

- There are a number of placement companies and headhunting agencies throughout the country. You can find them on the Internet and listed in the *Dapei Zahav* (Yellow Pages) phone directory. Many agencies also advertise their services in newspaper want-ad sections.
- Most companies and businesses in Israel have websites, which often include listings of job openings or links to their personnel departments. Even if no specific positions are posted, it can often be worthwhile to research sites in order to probe any niches you might fit.
- Take advantage of on-line job-listing sites such as AACI's Jobnet site, (www.jobnet.co.il) and refer to them often.
- Social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter can let friends and acquaintances know that you are looking for work, and help expand your network of contacts. They can also be a platform for your work. The importance of maintaining an up-to-date professional profile on LinkedIn is also a critical tool in your job search. A LinkedIn profile enables you to expand your network of contacts, and is a valuable source of information to employment recruiters and potential employers. They may look at your profile to see how you present yourself, who you know professionally, and what they have to say about you.
- The immigrant organizations can help to locate prospective employers (see Useful Addresses).
- The artists' unions can be a source of contacts. They offer workshops and courses, as well as represent the interests of their members. For information, visit the websites or contact the organizations. See Useful Addresses.
- Many artists have created employment for themselves by turning skills into businesses such as interior or graphic design, or independent teaching.



Keep in mind that the more flexible you are about where you are willing to live, the more options you are likely to have. Many types of professionals, for example teachers, may find a greater number of opportunities in peripheral areas of the country.

No matter what your field, it is important to have realistic expectations about finding your initial job in Israel. As it is difficult to predict how long it will take to find work, be prepared both financially and psychologically for a period of unemployment.

It is important to note that Israelis feel comfortable about seeking employment by asking their friends and relatives for assistance. Many positions are filled by personal recommendations and word of mouth, so if you know people who might be in a position to help you find a job, do not hesitate to ask for their assistance, and follow up on any leads that they may offer.

Self-Employment

Some types of artists, for example graphic artists, find that they are able to work on an independent basis. While self-employment has the advantages of professional and financial independence, the drawbacks include the lack of guaranteed work-flow and income.

Before setting up an independent business, be sure to clarify all requirements of the Income Tax Authority, the National Insurance Institute, and Value Added Tax.

It is crucial to consult with legal and accounting professionals when setting up a business.

If your plans are to become self-employed, you might still want to consider taking on regular employment during the period that you are opening files, dealing with paperwork, etc. Not only will employment provide you with an income during the interim, but working as an employee can be a good way to familiarize yourself with the market and make contacts for the future.

New immigrants and returning residents who wish to establish a business can consult with the Entrepreneurs Division of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption. Among the services to eligible entrepreneurs include:

- Courses and seminars
- Counseling and advice from experts in developing business plans, and for investigating the business and economic potential of business ideas.
- Assistance in receiving beneficial credit terms for opening a business.
- Assistance towards fees for expert advisors to help establish and manage new businesses.
- Financial assistance.

For more information, consult with a personal absorption counselor. See also the booklet entitled "Employment." See the order form at the back of this booklet.

Accreditation of Degrees and Diplomas



The Ministry of Education Bureau for Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees and Diplomas (*Halishka LeHa'arachat Toarim Academi'im VeDiplomot MiChul*) is the accrediting body in Israel for all foreign degrees. It is necessary in many cases to have accreditation in order to determine salary level and professional grade in public-sector employment.

Having an overseas academic degrees and diplomas accredited in Israel can take up to several months. It is suggested that to begin tending to the matter, including the translation of certificates, immediately upon arrival in the country, or even before.

In order to obtain accreditation from the Bureau for Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees and Diplomas, the following steps are required:



1. Obtain an application form for evaluation of the degree (the form is available for download from the Bureau's website).

2. Submit the application form together with the following documents to the nearest offices of the Bureau either in person or by mail.

Applicants who send documents sent by mail must have a lawyer sign each one, and stamp each one "faithful to the original," including a photocopy of the applicant's *te'udat zehut*. The signature must include the lawyer's name and license number. Send documents to the Bureau for Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees and Diplomas, The Ministry of Education, 22 Rehov Kanfei Nesharim, Jerusalem, 91911.

Applicants who appear in person should check the Bureau website for updated information about addresses and public reception hours.

Required Documents for Evaluation of a Bachelor's Degree

- Final degree (original and photocopy). If you have not yet been awarded the degree, submit a certificate of eligibility for the degree (original and photocopy).
- Official grade transcript including course credits of degree studies (original and photocopy).
- Documentation that attests to prior study if granted academic exemptions (if the exemptions were granted on the basis of prior academic study); (original and photocopy).
- Matriculation certification (original and photocopy) for graduates who began studies from August, 2000 (original and photocopy).
- *Te'udat oleh* (original and photocopy)
- Identity certificate (*te'udat zehut*) (original and photocopy).

- Authorization from the Ministry of the Interior of change of first or last name where applicable (original and photocopy).
- Authorization of change of name of academic institution where applicable (original and photocopy).
- Authorization from the Ministry of the Interior of entries and departures from Israel for the purpose of studies {for Israelis that studied overseas or immigrants that studied overseas following aliyah} (original and photocopy).
- Authorization that attests to at least 10 years of professional experience since beginning university studies (if you received an academic exemption on this basis).
- An authorized translator must translate all relevant documents into Hebrew or English (if documents are in English there is no need for translations).
- If you studied via “distance learning,” you must complete a distance-learning questionnaire available for download from the Bureau website. A lawyer must verify the form.

Required documents for evaluation of a Master’s degree:

- Application form for evaluation of the degree (available for download from the Bureau’s website).
- Documents for evaluation of Bachelor’s degree as outlined above.
- Final Master’s degree (original and photocopy). If you have not yet been awarded the degree, submit a certificate of eligibility for the degree (original and photocopy).
- Official grade transcript including course credits of Master’s degree studies (original and photocopy).
- Identity certificate (*te’udat zehut*) (original and photocopy).



- *Te'udat oleh* (original and photocopy)
- Authorization of change of first or last name where applicable (original and photocopy).
- Authorization of change of name where applicable (original and photocopy).
- An authorized translator must translate all relevant into Hebrew or English.
- If you studied via "distance learning" you must complete a "distance learning questionnaire" that is verified by a lawyer. The questionnaire is available for download from the Bureau's website.
- The mother university must issue all academic documents, and not an extension or branch institution of the university.

Evaluation of a Doctoral Degree

For evaluating a PhD, candidates meet with a committee of experts comprised of two senior Israeli academics with experience in assessing doctoral work, as well as experts in the doctoral field or in the closest possible area.

After submitting documents, and following a check that they are in order, the applicant is invited to an interview with the committee of experts. The committee submits their recommendations to the Bureau the Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees and Diplomas for a decision.

Submit the same documents listed above for a bachelor's and master's degree, as well as the following:

- Application form for evaluation of the degree (available for download from the Bureau's website).
- Final PhD degree (original and photocopy). If you have not yet been awarded the degree, submit a certificate of eligibility for the degree (original and photocopy).
- Bachelor's and master's degrees (if conferred in Israel, original and photocopy). If conferred overseas, submit

all the documents outlined above in the previous sections.

- Official grade transcript including course credits of studies including courses and exams for the PhD (original and photocopy) if you took courses for the degree.
- Authorization of entrance exams for PhD studies (original and photocopy) if you were required to take exams. Alternatively, you may submit a letter from the institution explaining the conditions of acceptance for PhD studies and the date of commencement of studies (original and copy).
- Protocol of your dissertation defense (original and photocopy).
- Official documentation from the institution, listing names and positions of the dissertation committee including external evaluators (original and photocopy).
- Authorizations of oral or written exams on research work (original and photocopy).
- Authorization from the Ministry of the Interior of entries and departures from Israel for the purpose of studies {for Israelis that studied overseas} (original and photocopy).
- Authorization of change of first or last name where applicable (original and photocopy).
- Identity certificate (*te'udat zehut*) (original and photocopy).
- PhD questionnaire and an affidavit signed by an attorney (original only) available for download.
- Doctoral thesis (one copy).
- * If your Doctoral thesis is not in Hebrew or English, you may submit an abstract to the Bureau in one of the above languages. If the Bureau decides that the abstract is insufficient, you must submit a full translation



of the introduction, the chapter on your methodology, the chapter on your findings, and your conclusions.

Along with the abstract, submit your bibliography of sources in English or Hebrew. Include an affidavit signed by an attorney attesting to the accuracy of the translation, and verifying that the translation does not include any additions of any kind.

- You may present any other documents that support the conferral of your PhD (for example scientific publications, articles, etc.).
- An authorized translator must translate all relevant documents into Hebrew or English, with the exception of your Doctoral work, which you may translate yourself. If the documents are in English, it is not necessary to have them translated.
- The mother university must issue all academic documents, and not an extension or branch institution of the university.

For more information about necessary procedures and documents, see the Bureau's website (see Useful Addresses). Following the submission of documents, there is no need to approach the Ministry of Education in person. Accreditation is sent by mail.

The Ministry of Education does not grant accreditation for studies that were not completed.

Hebrew



The importance of Hebrew ulpan as part of the absorption process cannot be overemphasized. The language skills students acquire in ulpan benefit them through every phase of absorption, including finding a place to live, looking for employment, and building relationships with veteran Israelis. During ulpan, students learn about and experience Israeli society, politics, and culture,

while getting to know those institutions, authorities, and agencies that they will be dealing with in the future.

While some artists can get by with basic Hebrew, writers and actors need to speak Hebrew quite well in order to work in Israel. Although books in languages other than Hebrew do sell, and there are occasional theatrical productions in various languages, the non-Hebrew-speaking public is limited.

Hebrew is also necessary when dealing with agents, galleries, and other professional contacts.

It is important to register at a Hebrew ulpan as soon as possible after obtaining new immigrant status in Israel. New immigrants are usually eligible to receive a subsidy of their ulpan study only within the initial **18** months following the date of aliyah.

In order to find out about ulpan options, consult a personal absorption counselor. The counselor will confirm eligibility for a subsidy of ulpan study and provide a referral to non-residential, Ministry-approved ulpanim.

Many immigrant actors have a problem overcoming their native accents when performing in Hebrew. For this reason, the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption may be able to arrange diction lessons, free of charge, for immigrant actors. Consult with a personal absorption counselor for more information.



Note: for more information, consult the booklet entitled "Guide to Ulpan Study," available from the Publications Department. See the order form at the back of this booklet.



Training and Studies in Israel



Israel's universities and colleges offer a wide range of artistic disciplines. Students can earn academic degrees in fields including fine arts, dance, music, musicology, theater, film and television, art history, graphic design, industrial design, fashion design, landscaping, computer graphics, and art education.

Eligible immigrant students may be eligible for tuition assistance and other aid from the Student Authority (see Useful Addresses). Contact the Student Authority for details on the types of available aid available to check eligibility for assistance. For more information, see www.studentsolim.gov.il. Note that conditions of eligibility, and forms of Student Authority assistance, are subject to change. Check with the Student Authority, or a personal absorption counselor for updated information.

There are private teachers in almost all artistic disciplines. Students can find information about teachers by checking bulletin boards at theaters, studios, community centers, etc., as well as online and in the telephone book. Reputations and quality of the teachers vary. Don't be hesitant to inquire about a teacher's skill from other artists.

Useful Addresses and Telephone Numbers



Telephone numbers and some addresses change frequently in Israel. Consult the latest telephone directory or information operator if you do not reach a number listed here. When a telephone number has been changed, there may not be a recorded message noting the change. Thus, if the number continues to be unanswered, check whether it is still in use.

Address Telephone/Fax

Ministry of Immigrant Absorption

www.klita.gov.il
info@moia.gov.il

Main Office

2 Rehov Kaplan
Kiryat Ben Gurion POB 13061
Jerusalem 91130

National Telephone Information Center (03) 9733333

Public Inquiries (02) 6752765

Returning Residents Division (02) 6750365
2 Rehov Kaplan
Jerusalem

Southern and Jerusalem District Headquarters

31 Rehov Zalman Shazar (08) 6261216
Beer Sheva



Address Telephone/Fax

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15 Rehov HaPalyam (04) 863111
Haifa 33095

Tel Aviv and Central District Headquarters

6 Rehov Esther HaMalka (03) 5209112
Tel Aviv 64398

Ministry of Education

www.education.gov.il

Main Office

2 Rehov Devorah (02) 5602222
Jerusalem

Bureau for the Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees and Diplomas

22 Rehov Kanfei Nesharim (02) 5601684
Jerusalem

15 Rehov HaPalyam (04) 8632566
Haifa

4 Rehov HaTikva (08) 6263255
Beer Sheva

Address

Telephone/Fax

The Ministry of Culture and Sport – Sport Authority

www.mcs.gov.il

14 Rehov HaMisgar
Tel Aviv

(03) 6883430

Israeli Union of Performing Artists

www.emi.org.il

Telephone

(03) 6877825

Israel Union of Plastic Artists

igud.omanim.org
igud.a.p.@gmail.com

Telephone

(03) 5223045

English-Speaking Immigrant Organizations

Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI)

www.aaci.org.il
info@aaci.org.il

Matnas "Yud Aleph"
Rehov Mordechai Namir
Beer Sheva 84483

(08) 6434461

37 Rehov Pierre Koenig
Jerusalem 92227

(02) 5617151
Fax: (02) 5661186

28 Rehov Shmuel HaNatziv
Netanya 42281

(09) 8330950

94 Rehov Allenby
Tel Aviv 61560

(03) 6965244
Fax: (03) 6967049



Address Telephone/Fax

UJIA (Incorporating Olim from Britain, Australia, and New Zealand)

32 Rehov Tuval (03) 6965244
Tel Aviv 52522 Fax: (03) 6967049
Israel@UJIA.org.il

37 Rehov Pierre Koenig (02) 5617151
Jerusalem Fax: (02) 5661186
ronen@ujia.org.il

Moshav Meona (04) 9975166
P.O.B. 5144 24920

South African Zionist Federation

www.telfed.org.il
telfed@inter.net.il

Head Office

19/3 Rehov Schwartz (09) 7446110
First Floor Fax: (09) 7446112
Ra'ananna 43212

13 Rehov Ben Maimon (02) 5634822
Jerusalem 92223 Fax: (02) 5663193

ESRA – English Speaking Residents Association

www.esra.org.il
esra_her@trendline.co.il

10 Rehov HaTsabarim (09) 9508371
Herzlia

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