משרד העלייה והקליטה Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption



RINGLISE

עובדי מחשונ

Computer and Hi-Tech Professionals

6th Edition



Produced by

The Publications Department

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הודפס על ידי המדפיס הממשלתי

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Computers and Hi-Tech in Israel

Israeli hi-tech enjoys an international reputation for quality, talent, and know-how. Hi-tech products account for more than a quarter of all Israeli exports, and following the US and Canada, Israel has more hi-tech companies trading on the NASDAQ than any other country. Furthermore, many of the world's largest hi-tech companies have set up R&D and production facilities in Israel, and invest in Israeli companies. Approximately 15% of all worldwide Internet technologies originated in Israel.

Government policies in Israel support technical education. while national priorities place emphasis on infrastructure planning development throughout the country, especially in telecommunications and electricity generation. The Office of the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Economy (formerly the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Labor) sponsors numerous programs that encourage applied research and development, and the establishment of technological start-up enterprises. Israeli universities, especially the Technion and the Weizmann Institute of Science. have been at the forefront of Israel's technological drive. Most Israeli enterprises, regardless of size, have computerized their management infrastructure, and almost every major company and institution has a website.

At the same time it is important to note that Israeli hi-tech is vulnerable to world trends and economic forces, as well as domestic fluctuations. As a result, varying degrees of opportunities exist at any given time.

Note: This booklet is intended for a broad range of computer and hi-tech professionals. Engineers in most cases need to fulfill specific government requirements in order to work in their profession, as well as be listed in the Registry of Engineers and Architects. Some types of engineers must also obtain a license from the Ministry of Economy. For more information, contact the Unit for Registration of Engineers and Architects of the Ministry of Economy. (see Useful Addresses). Refer also to the booklet entitled "Engineers," available from the Publications Department (see the order form at the back of this booklet).

Note: this is the sixth 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 Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption, the Ministry of Economy and other official bodies will prevail.



The Job Market

The hi-tech field in Israel offers career opportunities for qualified personnel in a wide range of specializations. However, it should be noted that demand fluctuates according to the needs of the job market and according to local and international influences on hi-tech in general. It is wise to be equipped with a number of skills that could be applied to different types of jobs, and to keep up-to-date with programs and technologies.



The options for persons with a degree or diploma, but who have not yet accumulated experience, may be more limited, and they may have to devote a more intensive effort to their job search. This is particularly true for someone who does not have an academic degree, but has finished a computer course of some kind. Keep in mind also that as the number of graduates of local universities and technical colleges continues to climb, competition for jobs increases.

It is recommended to thoroughly research the prospects for finding work during the initial months following aliyah, if not before. Job prospects are also affected by flexibility in terms of location, ability to adapt skills to other types of jobs, and how upto-date qualifications are. The greater a prospective employee's ability to expand and apply their skills, the more valuable they are to a potential employer.

Finding a Job



There are a number of ways of going about finding a job in Israel. You can limit yourself to only one or two, but the more methods that you employ, the greater your chances of finding a suitable position.

Assistance from the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption

Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption personal absorption counselors work with new immigrants to devise an employment track that



suits their needs. Assistance can include access to the Ministry's database of employment openings, referrals to training or retraining courses or to Employment Centers for New Immigrants and Returning Residents, and participation in salaries. Further, during their first year following aliyah, following the conclusion of Absorption Basket payments, 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 Consult with a personal absorption program. counselor at a branch office of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption for details.

The Center for Absorption in Science

The Center for Absorption in Science of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption can assist qualified new immigrants and returning residents who meet the definition of a scientist to obtain suitable conditions for research and development work in Israel. Applicants who hold at least a Master's degree, and have prior research and/or development experience, can apply for assistance. The Center helps eligible scientists and researchers find employment in institutions of higher education, research institutes, technological incubators, and in the commercial sector.

In most cases, computer and hi-tech professionals should apply for assistance through the Technology and Exact Sciences Division of the Center. The staff of the division arranges interviews with candidates, evaluates their professional experience, and explores employment possibilities. The Center facilitates the employment of scientists and researchers primarily



by offering financial incentives to employers, and can also participate in the funding of new projects.

For more information, see the booklet entitled "Scientists and Researchers," available from the Publications Department. See the order form at the back of this booklet. Details are also available on the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption website: www.klita.gov.il.

New immigrants and returning residents in one of the following categories are recognized as a scientist:

- An individual holding a Ph.D. or equivalent degree, who was engaged in research and development during at least three of the five years preceding arrival in Israel, and who has published at least three scientific works or registered three patents.
- An individual holding an M.Sc., or equivalent degree, who was engaged in scientific work or research after receipt of the degree, for at least four of the six years preceding arrival in Israel, and who has at least three scientific publications or patents to their credit.
- 3. An individual holding an M.Sc., or equivalent degree, who, following graduation, was engaged in applied research and development during at least four of the six years preceding arrival in Israel. Scientists who do not have any publications or patents registered in their name will be eligible only as candidates for assistance in industrial R&D.
- 4. An individual holding an M.Sc. or equivalent degree, who is up to the age of 32, and has no experience in research



and/or development. Such an individual is classified as a "young scientist," is eligible for absorption into an R&D position in the business sector, and can receive assistance for one year.

 An individual with an M.Sc. or equivalent degree up to the age of 37 can be accepted as a research student in one of the universities.

Period of Eligibility

New Immigrant

Employment in the Public Sector and Academia

The public sector is defined as local authorities, national authorities established by law, museums, and non-profit organizations.

- An immigrant-scientist who is absorbed in the public sector must begin working with the Center's assistance within 3 years from the date of aliyah (physicians within 5 years) on condition that all research is conducted within the auspices of a university.
- Duration of assistance up to 3 years.
- Duration of eligibility up to 6 years from the date of aliyah for a scientist, and 8 years for physicians.





Employment in the Commercial Sector

- An immigrant-scientist who is absorbed in the commercial sector must begin working with the Center's assistance within 4 years from the date of aliyah.
- Duration of assistance up to 3 years.
- Duration of eligibility up to 7 years from the date of aliyah.

Returning Resident

Employment in the Public Sector and Academia

- A returning-resident scientist who receives assistance from the Center must commence employment within one year of returning to Israel.
- Duration of assistance up to two years.
- Duration of eligibility- up to 3 years from the date of the Scientist's return to the country.

Employment in the Commercial Sector

- A returning-resident scientist who receives assistance from the Center must commence employment within two years of returning to Israel.
- Duration of assistance up to 2 years.
- Duration of eligibility- up to 4 years from the date of the Scientist's return to the country.



It is also possible to consult with the Center while still overseas. See Useful Addresses for more information

Employment Centers for New Immigrants and Returning Residents

The Employment Division of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption helps to promote the vocational absorption of new immigrants and returning residents through Employment Centers.

Eligibility

- New immigrants and returning residents, who are within their period of eligibility for vocational assistance and are academics or professionals not working in their profession, or do not have a full-time position and wish to increase the scope of their position.
- New immigrants and returning residents who are under-employed (potential wages are below average.

New immigrants are eligible to apply for enrollment at an Employment Center for up to 10 years from arrival in Israel; returning residents can apply for up to 2 years from their date of return.

Among the services offered by the Centers are included the following:

- Vocational evaluation and counseling
- Vocational Hebrew
- Job-search workshops



- Vocational updating through training courses via the "Voucher" Program, or one-month employment trial periods.
- Guidance throughout the placement process.

The National Employment Service

The National Employment Service, a division of the Ministry of Economy, is a government employment service. Assistance includes job placement and referrals to training courses. It is possible to locate the nearest office via the Employment Service website: www.taasuka.gov.il.

When first visiting an Employment Service office, bring the following documents:

- degree(s)/diploma(s)
- te'udat oleh
- te'udat zehut
- Hebrew-language CV

If necessary, an Employment Service clerk may assist in preparing a CV.

Note: in order to be eligible for unemployment compensation from the National Insurance Institute following the first year in the country it is necessary to register with The National Employment Service. New immigrants during their first year can receive assistance from the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption. See above.





Retraining Courses

There is a variety of training and retraining courses for those experiencing difficulty in finding work in their profession. A personal absorption counselor can provide referrals to government-administered courses, and it may also be possible to receive payment vouchers for courses offered by the private sector.

Acceptance to a course is based on the requirements of the profession, as well as employers' requirements, including education, professional experience, language proficiency, and age.

Keep in mind that courses are intended to boost chances of finding employment. A course-participant who finds suitable work during the period of the course is advised to accept it, and not count on the possibility of a second chance at a later date.

Students can also choose to enroll in a private retraining course and assume the tuition fees. Many programs claim to be designed for native English speakers, and offer placement services, help in the job search, etc. Before signing up for any course, it is advisable to investigate the reputation of the course. Try to find out how many graduates have found jobs, and where, and whether the course teaches skills that are actually in demand. Also try to ask graduates of the course whether the course did in fact boost their employment prospects. Note that personnel departments and managers are usually aware of the quality of various courses, and what can be expected of their graduates.



Looking For Employment on Your Own

Beyond official sources of assistance, you are encouraged to look for work independently as well. There are a number of methods of going about a job search in Israel.

To start with, it is a rare company or institution in Israel that lacks a website. Many of these sites post job openings or links to their personnel department. Even if are no openings listed, it may still be worthwhile to research the company and probe any niches you might fit. Be sure to do your on-line homework and research the company before a job interview as well.

There are a number of personnel companies and headhunting agencies throughout the country. Some agencies specialize in the placement of computer and hi-tech professionals. They are primarily online but some are also listed in the *Dapei Zahav* (Yellow Pages) telephone directory. Some agencies also advertise their services in the help-wanted sections of the newspapers. A good number of hi-tech and R&D enterprises recruit suitable personnel through these companies.

Put social media to work to help you in your job search. Take advantage of online job-listing sites such as AACI's Jobnet site (www.jobnet.co.il) and refer to them often. Join job-search chat-rooms for leads, advice, and tips. Look for blogs to keep yourself current with professional developments and to discover possible contacts or job leads, or create your own blog in order to broadcast your professional achievements and ideas to potential employers.



Social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter can let friends and acquantances know that you are looking for work, and also help expand your network of contacts. 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 will often look at your profile to see how you present yourself, who you know professionally, and what they have to say about you.

Numerous websites are devoted to computer and hitech employment in Israel. Organizations maintain some of these sites, while private individuals maintain others. Entries such as "Israel + computer jobs," "Israel + hi-tech jobs," "Israel + computer organizations," etc., should lead to a variety of helpful sites.

Another helpful tool in the job search is to network by attending professional conferences and workshops. This can help you to meet people who can be a potential source of job leads, as well as keep you current with developments in your field.

Hi-tech fairs and professional trade shows take place several times a year, in various locations throughout the country. Attendance at such events can give you the opportunity to network and make contacts. Personnel recruiters for hi-tech firms and representatives of placement agencies also often attend. Be sure to have plenty of copies of your C.V. to distribute.

The immigrant organizations can also help you to locate prospective employers (see Useful Addresses).



The press advertises job openings. While the English-language newspapers carry some ads, the majority is in the Hebrew newspapers. Many ads appear at least partially in English. You can also check magazines and trade journals. They are often online, or can be purchased in bookstores.

There are several yearbooks published in English dealing with industry in Israel. You can find many of them, as well as other related periodicals and newspapers, at the Library of the Ministry of Science (see Useful Addresses).

Keep in mind that depending on your profession and skills, employment opportunities may exist outside of the actual computer and hi-tech spheres. Banks, hospitals, universities, organizations, and many other settings are computerized, and often require personnel to develop and customize software, maintain their systems and provide technical support, and develop and maintain databases and websites.

There is a growing number of technological colleges which may offer employment opportunities for qualified instructors. Technical subjects are also taught in universities. Instructors interested in teaching positions can apply directly to colleges and universities, which hire according to their own High-school teachers can apply directly to the individual schools as well. High schools, including vocational high schools, may choose their own teachers, but the Ministry of Education must approve their choices. New immigrants who are considering teaching in Israel must consult with the Unit for Absorption of Immigrant Teachers of the Ministry of Education, as outlined in the booklet entitled "Teachers," available from the Publications Department (see the order form at the back of this booklet).



Finally, one of the more common ways to look for a job in Israel is by word of mouth. Let everyone you can know that you are looking for work, and follow up on any leads that they may offer. Some positions are filled before they are ever advertised.



Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship

Many people find that going into business for themselves is the answer to their employment and financial needs.

Most self-employed individuals will say that one of the main benefits of being self-employed is freedom. Being your own boss gives much more flexibility in setting hours, and the range or style of work, than that enjoyed by employees.

On the other hand, being self-employed offers few guarantees. The lack of guaranteed workflow – and income – is probably the biggest single disadvantage to being self-employed.

Computer and hi-tech professionals might want to consider working for at least two or three years for an established company or institution before branching out on their own. This will help them to become familiar with the local market, laws, bureaucracy, and business norms, as well as develop professional contacts.

Any person who decides to become self-employed, and before taking any other steps, **must** seek professional accounting and legal advice. The laws and regulations affecting self-employed workers can



be complicated and highly confusing to one who tries to tackle them alone. Trained professionals can make things much more clear and simple. This is true no matter what the scale of an operation. An entrepreneur might think they are saving money by handling everything on their own, but could end up paying much more if audited by the Income Tax authorities, or unaware of deductions that may apply.

New immigrants and returning residents who are interested in being self-employed may be eligible for assistance from the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption. Services include guidance and referrals, assistance in planning projects, subsidized loans, investment in special projects, and workshops. For more information, contact a personal absorption coordinator at a branch office of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption. Information is also available on the Ministry website: www.klita.gov.il.

Independent Contracting

Some computer and hi-tech companies are often willing to hire staff on an independent contract basis for specific long- or short-term projects. Other companies may hire contractors through placement agencies. Contractors may be offered workspace on the premises, or may be able to work at home or at the agency offices. In some cases, the company will provide whatever computer software or hardware that is required for the project. The better an independent contractor's personal set-up, and the more up-to-date their tools, the more attractive a contractor they are. Contractors may or may not



be able to set the terms of their employment on a project. A contractor may be able to receive better monetary terms than in-house employees. On the other hand, contractors may not be eligible for the perks available to regular employees, such as company cars, social events, stock options, and other benefits.

Accreditation of Degrees and Diplomas

The Bureau for Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees and Diplomas (HaLishka LeHa'arachat Toarim Academi'im VeDiplomot MiChul) of the Ministry of Education is the accrediting body in Israel for all foreign degrees. Although in most cases private-sector employers do not require accreditation of a degree, it is necessary when applying for certain positions in the public sector, as well as for determining salary scale in the public sector.

Accreditation can take time. It is suggested to begin tending to the matter, including the translation of certificates, immediately upon arrival in the country, or even before.

There are two methods for submitting degrees:

 By mail: photocopy all required documents (see the Ministry of Education website {www.education.gov.il} for a list of required documents) and have an attorney verify each copy as faithful to the original "ne'eman lemakor". The verification must include the attorney's full name and license number. It is also necessary to fill out a request form that is available for download from the Ministry



website. Send the form and the documents to:

The Ministry of Education

The Bureau for Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees and Diplomas

22 Rehov Kanfei Nesharim, Jerusalem 9546434.

Each academic document must be from the university itself and not from an extension.

It is necessary to supply a notarized translation of all relevant documents that are not in Hebrew or English.

 In person: it is possible to apply in person at the nearest Ministry of Education district office (See Useful Addresses) and supply all of the necessary documents (originals and photocopies), as well as the request form that is available for download on the Ministry website.

Note that preference is given to applications by mail. For more information about necessary procedures and documents, see the Ministry of Education website, www.education.gov.il.



Hebrew



While it is true that some hi-tech and computer professionals can manage with English alone and, in fact, English can be a real advantage - it is still necessary to gain proficiency in Hebrew. When looking for a job, it is important to be able to make contacts, attend job interviews, and to negotiate effectively with prospective employers. In many cases, employers will demand at least a working knowledge of Hebrew. Once employed, the ability to communicate with colleagues will facilitate integration in the workplace. Furthermore, lectures, seminars, and workshops meetings, are usually conducted in Hebrew, and it is often necessary to prepare reports and presentations, and undertake other activities that require Hebrew.

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 at a local office of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption. The counselor will confirm eligibility for a subsidy of ulpan study and provide a referral to Ministry-approved ulpanim.

In addition to regular ulpan *aleph*, vocational ulpan options are often available to professionals such



as engineers. These ulpan programs emphasize professional Hebrew terminology. A number also assist students in writing a CV and preparing for job interviews. Consult with a personal absorption counselor at a branch office of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption for details.

It is worth noting that in some public sector institutions, proof of completion of Hebrew ulpan can count towards six months of seniority (*vetek*) for the purposes of determining salary.

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



Computer and Hi-Tech Studies in Israel

Students in Israel can study technical and computer professions either at the university level or at one of the colleges (*michlalot*,) technical colleges (*michlalot technologiyot*,) or private training programs located throughout the country. Depending on the field and level of study, graduates receive an academic degree, a technical degree or diploma, or a certificate verifying successful completion of a course. Length of study can range from a few months to several years.

Eligible new immigrants may be able to receive assistance from the Student Authority (*Minhal HaStudentim*). The Student Authority provides academic counseling, financial assistance, and other services to new immigrants who meet their requirements. For more information, consult the Student Authority. Information is also available on the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption website, www.klita.gov.il.

Research students (Ph.D.) may be eligible for scholarships from the Center for Absorption in Science. Consult the Center or see www.klita.gov.il for details.





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 Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption

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

National Telephone Information Center (03) 9733333

Main Office

2 Rehov Kaplan Kiryat Ben Gurion POB 13061 Jerusalem

Public Inquiries

(02) 6752765

Southern and Jerusalem District Headquarters

31 Rehov Zalman Shazar (08) 6261216

Beer Sheva Fax: (08) 6230811

Publications Department Fax: (02) 6241585



Haifa and Northern District Headquarters

15 Rehov HaPalyam (04) 8631111 Haifa Fax: (04) 8622589

Tel Aviv and Central District Headquarters

6 Rehov Esther HaMalka (03) 5209112 Tel Aviv Fax: (03) 5209121

Center for Absorption in Science

(HaMercaz LeKlita BeMada)

www.moia.gov.il/moia_he/scientists/ AbsorptionCenter/htm.

www.klita.gov.il/moia_he/scientistsproject/scientistsproject.htm

Technology and Exact Sciences (02) 6214664 nunub@moia.gov.il

Life and Medical Sciences Division (02) 6214631 hoori@moia.gov.il

Social Sciences Division (02) 6214596 yannag@moia.gov.il

Bureau for the Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees and Diplomas The Ministry of Education

www.education.gov.il

22 Rehov Kanfei Nesharim (02) 5601684

Jerusalem

15 Rehov HaPalyam (04) 8632566

Haifa



Beer Sheva

Ministry of Economy

www.moital.gov.il

Chief Scientist's Office

klita@ocs.moital.gov.il

5 Rehov Bank of Israel (02) 6662485/6

Jerusalem

The Ministry of Science and Technology

www.most.gov.il

Rehov Kellerman Gano (02) 5411101

Jerusalem

National Employment Service

www.taasuka.gov.il

For locations, see the National Employment Service website, or contact a municipal information line (105/6/7).

Unit for Registration of Engineers and Architects

(HaYechida LeRishum HaMehandesim VeHaAdrichalim)

Ministry of Economy

8 Rehov Bank of Israel (02) 6662540

Jerusalem



Unit for Electricity and Electronics

(HaYechida LeChashmal VeLeElectronica)

Ministry of Economy

24 Rehov Kanfei Nesharim (02) 6662540

Jerusalem

English-Speaking Immigrant Organizations

Association of Americans and

Canadians in Israel (AACI)

www.aaci.org.il

info@aaci.org.il

37 Rehov Pierre Koenig (02) 5617151

Jerusalem Fax: (02) 5661186

94 Rehov Allenby (03) 6960389

Tel Aviv Fax: (03) 6960401

28 Rehov Shmuel HaNatziv (09) 8330950

Netanya

Matnas "Yud Aleph" (08) 6433953

Rehov Mordechai Namir

Beer Sheva



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

32 Rehov Tuval (03) 6965244

Fax: (03) 6968696

POB 3624 Tel Aviv

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

South African Zionist Federation

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

Head Office (09) 7446110

19/3 Rehov Schwartz Fax: (09) 7446112

First Floor Ra'ananna

13 Sderot Ben Maimon (02) 5634822

Jerusalem Fax: (02) 5663193

ESRA - English Speaking

Residents Association

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

10 Rehov HaTsabarim (09) 9508371

Herzlia



Notes				



A moment of your time!

In order to improve the level and usefulness of the material presented in this booklet, we would appreciate it if you would answer the following

questions:						
1. Where did you get the brochu Hi-Tech Professionals"?	ure	"C	om	put	er and	
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☐ Sufficiency of Details	1	2	3	4	5	
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☐ Usefulness of the Brochure 1	1	2	3	4	5	
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Country of Origin						
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Place of Residence		_ D	ate			
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Thank you for your cooperation.						

Best wishes for an easy and successful absorption!



Other Available Publications

The following booklets are available from the Publications Department. To order, simply indicate the booklets you wish to receive and return the order form to the Publications Department, English Section, Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption, 15 Rehov Hillel, Jerusalem 9458115. The publications will be mailed to you free of charge.

	Guide for the New Immigrant		Artists, Writers, and Athletes
	The Absorption Basket		Computer and Hi-Tech Professionals
	Employment	П	Engineers and Architects
	Education		Lawyers
	Employment Centers for New Immigrants and Returning		Medical Professionals
	Residents-Addresses and		Map of Israel
	Telephone Numbers		Ministry of Aliyah and
	First Steps		Immigrant Absorption Addresses and Telephone
	Guarding Your Health in		Numbers
	Israel		Nurses
	A Guide to Services for the		Psychologists
	Disabled		Scientists and Researchers
	A Guide to Transportation in Israel		Social Workers
	A Guide to Ulpan Study		"Sela" Job-Search Workshops
	Health Services in Israel		Teachers
	Housing		Registering for a Health
	The Life Cycle in Israel		Fund
	Military Service		Information for Olim
	National Insurance Institute	П	Newspaper Where to Turn
	Retirees		Shiluv Magazine
	Accountants	_	Sililuv iviagazilie
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