

משרד העלייה והקליטה

THE MINISTRY OF ALIYAH AND IMMIGRANT ABSORPTION



ENGLISH

אנשים עם מוגבלות

Guide to Services for Persons with Disabilities

3th Edition



Produced by

The Publications Department

Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption

15 Rehov Hillel, Jerusalem 9458115

© All Rights Reserved

Jerusalem 2016

Ida Ben Shetreet - Director, Publications Department

Laura L. Woolf - Chief Editor, English Language Publications

Catalogue Number: 0114916030

הופק על ידי

אגף מידע ופרסום

משרד העלייה והקליטה

רח' הלל 15, ירושלים 9458115

© כל הזכויות שמורות

ירושלים 2016

Telephone Information Center (03) 9733333

e-mail: info@moia.gov.il



www.klita.gov.il

הודפס על ידי המדפיס הממשלתי

The information contained in this guidebook is based on the booklet entitled "The Rights of the Disabled in Israel," produced by the Research and Planning Authority of the National Insurance Institute, Jerusalem.

Special thanks to **Advocate Yisrael Haber** of the Legal Department of the Commissioner for Equality of the Disabled of the Ministry of Justice, and to **Sarah Cohen**, Director of the Department of Social Services of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption, for their assistance in updating this booklet.

Thanks also to representatives of the Government ministries, public bodies, and voluntary organizations listed here, for their cooperation.

Table of Contents

Introduction	4	מבוא
The "Law of Equal Rights Rights for Persons with Disabilities"	5	חוק שוויון זכויות לאנשים עם מוגבלות
The Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption	6	משרד העלייה והקליטה
National Insurance Institute	12	המוסד לביטוח לאומי
The Ministry of Construction and Housing	24	משרד הבינוי והשיכון
The Ministry of Economy and Industry	26	משרד הכלכלה והתעשייה
The Ministry of Defense	27	משרד הביטחון
The Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services	29	משרד הרווחה והשירותים החברתיים
The Ministry of Health	48	משרד הבריאות
The Ministry of the Interior	54	משרד הפנים
The Ministry of Transportation	58	משרד התחבורה
The Ministry of Finance	63	משרד האוצר
Israel Lands Authority	67	מינהל מקרקעי ישראל
The Ministry of Religious Services	70	המשרד לשירותי דת
The Ministry of Education	71	משרד החינוך
The Ministry of Communications	75	משרד התקשורת
The Ministry of Justice	76	משרד המשפטים
National Voluntary and Non-Profit Organizations	83	עמותות וארגונים
Appendix I	109	נספח 1
Appendix II	111	נספח 2



Introduction

The “Guide to Services for Persons with Disabilities” provides information about the rights of persons with disabilities in Israel, as well as the relevant laws and regulations. It also presents a listing of government and public bodies that offer services.

The “Guide to Services for Persons with Disabilities” is an introduction to the network of assistance. It presents information that can aid in obtaining assistance and benefits from among the range of services provided by governmental and public bodies, and by voluntary and non-profit organizations.

This booklet has two sections. The first section presents a summary of government services. Contact information is also included.

The second half provides a partial list of national organizations that provide services. This list presents an overview of the organizations and the services they offer. While the listings contained here are brief, more detailed information is available from the organizations themselves, from municipal information lines (*moked ironi*), and from the social services departments of the local authorities. Information is also available on the websites of various bodies and agencies, the addresses of which are included wherever possible.

Note: This is the third edition of this booklet, and hereby nullifies all previous editions. The information contained here is subject to change. Before undertaking any kind of action, be sure to check what your rights and responsibilities are with each governmental or organizational service.

The information contained here is with the permission of the relevant bodies. It is provided as a public service only, and does **not** confer **any** eligibility to **any** form of benefits or services.

In the event of any discrepancy between the information contained in this booklet and the rules and regulations of the service providers, the rules and regulations will prevail.



The Law of Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities

“The rights of persons with disabilities, and the obligations of Israeli society to guarantee those rights, are founded upon the recognition of the principle of equality, of human beings being created equal, and upon the principle of respect for all human creation...”

From the Law of Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities (1998).

The Law of Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities recognizes the right of persons with disabilities to make decisions pertaining to their life, according to their desires and preferences, and in accordance with regulations and other laws, together with providing equal opportunities to realize their rights in every aspect of life.

Specific Clauses of the Law

The Prohibition Against Discrimination in Employment: Paragraph four of the Law prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of disability. The prohibition includes individuals with a disability, and members of their family. It prohibits discrimination at all stages of employment, including hiring, conditions of employment, advancement, training, firing, and benefits. This section of the Law also mandates an appropriate work environment, sufficient parking, and other items, and guarantees the right to file suit against an employer for violation of this Law. Recent legislation authorizes appropriate government assistance to employers in the private sector who hire employees with disabilities, establishes a minimum wage, and eases integration into the workplace.

Accessible Public Transport: The fifth paragraph of the Law mandates that public transport, including city buses, as well as trains, ships, and aircraft, be accessible to persons with disabilities.

The Commissioner for Equality for Persons with Disabilities: Paragraph six of the Law establishes a Commissioner for Equality



for Persons with Disabilities. The Commissioner is responsible for monitoring implementation of the Law, and for promoting the rights of persons with disabilities according to the principles of equality and integration. The office of the Commissioner was founded in the year 2000, and operates within the Ministry of Justice. The Commissioner is legally empowered to file suits against the government for transgressions of the Law. Adjacent to the Commissioner is an advisory committee composed primarily of persons with disabilities, which serves as a Parliament.

General Accessibility: In March, 2005, The Knesset approved an amendment to the Law prohibiting discrimination in providing accessibility. The amendment requires accessibility in buildings, infrastructure, and general surroundings, both new and already existing, as well as accessibility in public services. This is in order to assure complete freedom to enter, move about, to access, and to enjoy, to the fullest capacity, public places and services. The Law applies to public buildings, commercial areas, public institutions, schools, clinics, institutions of higher education, industrial centers, recreational and nature sites, pedestrian walkways and malls, pedestrian bridges, public parks, common areas in residential buildings, emergency services, and other public services.

The Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption

www.klita.gov.il

A new immigrant who has a disability can be eligible for the same assistance as that granted by the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption to all other eligible immigrants. A new immigrant with a disability may also be eligible for other benefits from the Ministry as illustrated below.



Assured Income

A new immigrant in one of the following categories can be eligible for assured income:

- A new immigrant with an illness, disability, or limitation, who is under medical supervision. The Government Employment Service, the Committee for Evaluation of the Disabled, or the treating physician must provide verification that the applicant is either temporarily or permanently unable to work.
- Persons with a disability who receive treatment at a Vocational Diagnosis and Rehabilitation Center of the Ministry of Economy and Industry, or from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.
- Persons with a "Certificate of Blindness" (*te'udat ivair*) from the Department of Services for the Blind of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.
- Persons with authorization of an intellectual disability from the Department of Services for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.
- An individual who resides in a chronic-care facility, whose maintenance is not financed by the government.
- A new immigrant who is unable to work due to the obligation of caring for a family member (including a spouse, child, or parent) who is in one of the above categories. The family member must reside with the applicant, and must be dependent upon them for conducting daily activities. It is necessary to provide medical authorization.

The period of assured-income assistance begins from the sixth month following aliyah, and continues until the 12th month following aliyah, following cessation of Absorption Basket payments.



The Application Procedure

Apply for assured income from the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption through a personal absorption coordinator at the nearest Ministry office.

After the first year following aliyah, a new immigrant who needs assured income must file a claim with the Disabilities Unit of the National Insurance Institute, and meet all National Insurance Institute requirements for assistance. See the section on the National Insurance Institute below.

Public Housing

Public housing apartments are owned by the State and managed by a public housing corporation, which rents them to those who meet eligibility requirements. The rental fees for a public housing apartment are fairly low in relation to fees on the private market. Public housing is for populations including elderly couples and singles who receive an old-age pension and income supplement from the National Insurance Institute, single-parent families, and families in which a member has a serious illness or for whom the National Insurance Institute has determined a permanent disability of at least 75%. New immigrants can be eligible according to income levels that are adjusted periodically by the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption.

Registration is for areas in which there is a supply of apartments, and not necessarily the community in which the applicant resides. The number of apartments is limited and the waiting period can be several years.

The period of eligibility for public housing is 15 years from the date of aliyah.

For more information, see the chapter entitled "The Ministry of Construction and Housing."

For complete information about Ministry regulations governing conditions of eligibility for public housing, consult with a personal absorption counselor at the nearest Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption office.



The Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption

www.klita.gov.il

info@moia.gov.il

Telephone Information Center (03) 9733333

Information in English, French, Russian and Hebrew

National Emergency Hotline 1-255-081010

Fax for the Hard-of-Hearing (03) 9733333

Main Office – 2 Rehov Kaplan, Kiryat Ben Gurion,
Bldg. 2, Jerusalem (02) 6752611

Public Complaints – (02) 6752765 Fax: (02) 6752741
(03) 5209127 Fax: (03) 5209161

Southern and Jerusalem District Headquarters 31 Rehov Zalman
Shazar Beer Sheva (08) 6261216, Fax: (08) 6230811

Regional and District Offices

Beer Sheva and Negev Region 31 Rehov Zalman Shazar,
Beer Sheva 1-599-500-921 Fax: (08) 6280529

Jerusalem and Judea Region 15 Rehov Hillel,
Jerusalem 1-599-500-923 Fax: (02) 6249398

Ashkelon and Ashdod Region 1 Rehov Begin,
Ashdod 1-599-500-914 Fax: (08) 8668030

HaShfela District Office 91 Rehov Herzl,
Ramle 1-599-500-912 Fax: (08) 9208019



Branch Offices

Beit Shemesh 10 Rehov HaShiva (02) 9939111 Fax: (02) 9912540

Kiryat Gat 5 Sd. Lachish (08) 6878666 Fax: (08) 6878660

Netivot 10 Rehov Yosef Semilo (08) 9938673 Fax: (08) 9943307

Eilat 3 Sd. HaTamarim (08) 634162 Fax: (08) 6372367

Arad 34 Rehov Chen (08) 6341527 Fax: (08) 9396201

Dimona 8 Rehov HaTza'ala (08) 6563888 Fax: (08) 6563880

Ofakim 37 Rehov Herzl (08) 9961284 Fax: (08) 9962743

Sderot 8 Simtat HaPlada,
Peretz Center (08) 6897033 Fax: (08) 6610614

Tel Aviv and Central District Headquarters 6 Rehov Esther HaMalka,
Tel Aviv (03) 5209112 Fax: (03) 5209121

Regional and District Offices

Tel Aviv Region 6 Rehov Esther HaMalka,
Tel Aviv 1-599-500-901 Fax: (03) 5209173

Rishon LeTzion and Holon Region 3 Rehov Yisrael HaGalili,
Rishon LeTzion 1-599-500-910 Fax: (09) 9525893

Netanya and Sharon Region 3 Rehov Bareket,
Netanya 1-599-500-905 Fax: (09) 8629435

Petach Tikva and the Shfela Region 26 Rehov HaHistadrut,
Petach Tikva 1-599-500-907 Fax: (03) 9312606

Branch Offices

Rehovot 12 Rehov Binyamin (08) 9378000 Fax: (08) 9390256

HaSharon Cfar Sava,
23 Rehov HaTa'ash 1-599-500-906 Fax: (09) 7663515

Ramle 91 Rehov Herzl,
Kiryat HaMemshela 1599-500-912 Fax: (08) 9208019



Holon 36 Rehov Eilat 1-599-500-908 Fax: (03) 5056997

Haifa and Northern District Headquarters

15 Sd. HaPalyam, Bldg. 1 (04) 8631112 Fax: (04) 8622589

Regional and District Offices

Haifa and Krayot Region 15 Sd.

HaPalyam 1-599-500-922 Fax: (04) 8632336

Upper Galilee Region Binyan Big,

Industrial Zone, Carmiel 1-599-500-920 Fax: (04) 9580875

Upper Nazareth District Office 52 Rehov HaMalacha,

"Lev Asakim" Bldg. 1-599-500-903 Fax: (04) 6564019

Hadera District Office 13

Rehov Hillel Yaffe 1-599-500-904 Fax: (04) 6108417

Branch Offices

Haifa Bay and Krayot Kiryat Bialik,

7 Rehov HaMeyasdim 1-599-500-902 Fax: (04) 8742957

Tiberias 47 Rehov HaShomer,

Mercaz Klita Bldg. 2 (04) 6720399 Fax: (04) 6717061

Migdal HaEmek 39 Rehov Nitzanim, Commercial Center,

2nd Floor (04) 6540331 Fax: (04) 6040376

Nahariya 9 Derech HaAtzma'ut (04) 9950400 Fax: 9950404

Afula 34 Rehov Yehoshua Henkin (04) 6098300/1 Fax: (04) 6098305

Kiryat Shmona 104 Rehov Tel Chai,

Tzahal Sq. (04) 6818400 Fax: (04) 6818405

Tzfat Kenyon Sha'arei Halr, Club Market Bldg.,

2nd Floor (04) 6920218, Fax: (04) 6820571

Ma'alot 21 Sd. Yerushalayim,

Kenyon Rakefot (04) 9078301 Fax: (04) 8202996



Acco 1 Rehov Shalom HaGalil,

Kenyon Acco

(04) 9910725 Fax: (04) 9916833

Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption Websites

Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption:

www.klita.gov.il (5 languages)

Hebrew Language Study: www.hebrew.moia.gov.il

Business Entrepreneurs' Information: www.2binisrael.org.il

The Student Authority: www.studentsolim.gov.il

The National Insurance Institute

www.btl.gov.il

The National Insurance Institute provides grants and allowances, as well as rehabilitation and other services. All assistance is according to recipients' level of ability and capacity to support themselves, and is meant to promote independent living to the greatest possible extent.

NOTE: the conditions of eligibility for the grants and allowances detailed in this section are general, and are for illustration purposes only. Conditions of eligibility are subject to change and are determined on a case-to-case basis. In order to check specific eligibility, contact the National Insurance Institute.

Disability Allowance

A resident of Israel insured by the National Insurance Institute, age 18-retirement age* (with the exception of housewives), who has a physical, intellectual, or psychological disability resulting from illness, accident, or birth defect, can be eligible for a



Disability Allowance (*kitzbat nechut*) provided they are in one of the following categories:

- Ability to earn a living through employment is reduced by at least 50%, either at once or gradually.
- Has no income from employment or a profession.
- Income from employment or a profession is no greater than 60% of the average income if the claimant receives an allowance for an extended period or has a serious disability.
- Income from employment or a profession is no greater than 45% of the average income if the claimant does not receive an allowance for an extended period or does not have a serious disability.
- Upon reaching retirement age, receives an Old-Age Pension in place of a Disability Allowance. If the Disability Allowance was greater than the Old Age Pension, the recipient can receive a supplement.

A National Insurance Institute medical board determines levels of disability. In order to be eligible for a Disability Allowance, a National Insurance Institute physician must determine a level of medical disability of at least 60%. If an applicant has more than one disability, the physician must determine an overall level of at least 40%, and a medical percentage of at least 25% for one of the disabilities. If the applicant is a housewife, a National Insurance Institute physician must determine that she has a disability level of at least 50%.

Forms for filing a claim for a Disability Allowance are available for download from the National Insurance Institute website. If the claimant is unable to fill out the form, a family member or another party who represents the claimant may submit the form on the claimant's behalf.

Recipients of a Disability Allowance who have no other income are in most cases exempt from paying National Insurance Institute premiums.



For detailed information, consult with a National Insurance Institute branch office. Information is also available on their website: www.btl.gov.il

NOTE: new immigrants can be eligible for a National Insurance Institute Disability Allowance from the second year only following receipt of new-immigrant status. The National Insurance Institute must verify eligibility. New immigrants during their first year in Israel can claim assistance from the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption only. See above.

*Consult the National Insurance Institute for the regulations determining the definition of "retirement age."

Special Allowance for Immigrants with a Severe Disability

New immigrants, age 18 years-retirement age, who are categorized as having a severe disability, may be eligible, according to specific criteria, for a special Attendance Allowance. The allowance is during the first year of aliyah following receipt of new-immigrant status. In order to be eligible, the new immigrant must be dependent on others for conducting daily activities, or in need of supervision. The special allowance is composed of two types of payments: **The Special Attendance Allowance**, which is from the 91st day following the date of aliyah until the end of the first year. Eligibility for the allowance depends upon a test that measures the level of dependency on others. **The General Disability Allowance:** After 6 months following receipt of new-immigrant status until the end of the first year, new immigrants may be eligible for a disability allowance on condition that they meet conditions of eligibility for the Special Attendance Allowance as explained above.

At the conclusion of the first year following aliyah, check with the National Insurance Institute in order to explore eligibility for standard disability allowances and assistance.



Attendance Allowance

The Attendance Allowance (*kitzbat sherutim meuchadim*) is for persons who depend upon the assistance of others for conducting daily activities, or who are in need of supervision in order to insure their safety or that of others.

Eligibility

Residents of Israel, age 18 years-retirement age, who receive a Disability Allowance from the National Insurance Institute, and for whom the National Insurance Institute has determined a medical disability of at least 60% (for the purpose of the Attendance Allowance), can be eligible for the Attendance Allowance.

An individual who does not receive a Disability Allowance, but who has a disability level of 76% determined by the National Insurance Institute (for the purpose of the Attendance Allowance) and meets the criteria listed below, may also be eligible for the Attendance Allowance.

Criteria:

*Does not receive a Mobility Allowance unless they have a disability level of 100%, or confined to a wheelchair or a bed.

*Owns an automobile and has a disability level of 100% (for the purpose of the Attendance Allowance).

*Does not reside in an institution that provides medical services, nursing services, or rehabilitation services.

Disabled Child Benefit

The Disabled Child Benefit (*Gimla LeYeled Neche*) is comprised of a Special Arrangements Allowance and an allowance for educational assistance and developmental therapy.



Conditions for Receiving a Disabled Child Benefit:

- The child of an insured parent who is a resident of Israel.
- The child is in Israel.
- The child does not receive a Mobility Allowance, with the exception of a child who has been determined to have 80% mobility, or who needs and uses a wheelchair.
- The child does not reside with a foster family, or in an institution that provides medical, nursing, or rehabilitative care.
- New-immigrant children who make aliyah without their parents can be eligible for benefits on condition that they make aliyah with a legal guardian or other family member, (e.g. a sibling or grandparent).

Eligibility

The following categories can be eligible for the benefit:

- Children between the ages of 91 days- 3 years who have a severe developmental delay.
- Children between the ages of 91 days-18 years who require full-time supervision to prevent harm to themselves or others.
- Children between the ages 3 years-18 years who are dependent upon another person for conducting daily activities.
- Children with particular conditions: children with diminished hearing from birth to age 18; children with Down's Syndrome from birth to age 18; children with visual disabilities from age 91 days to 18 years; children with autism and similar disabilities from ages 91 days to 18 years.
- Children ages 91 days to 3 years who require special medical treatment.



Mobility Allowance

A resident of Israel with limited mobility or movement can be eligible for a Mobility Allowance (*gimlat nayedut*). To qualify, a claimant must be a resident of Israel who is present in Israel, ages 3 years-retirement age, and for whom the Medical Review Board of the Ministry of Health has determined a disability in their legs according to a list of defined conditions.

The Mobility Allowance includes the following:

- A standing loan to cover part or all of the taxes on a new automobile.
- A loan and a grant for purchasing a first automobile that requires special features according to the determination of the Medical Institute for Road Safety (*HaMachon HaRefui LeBitichut BeDrachim*).
- Assistance for purchasing and installing special devices in an automobile, including a lift device for a wheelchair.
- A monthly allowance for automobile owners.
- A monthly allowance for those who do not own an automobile.
- Partial coverage of driving-lesson fees.

Consult with the nearest branch office of the National Insurance Institute to receive detailed information about eligibility and benefits. Information is also available on their website, www.btl.gov.il.

Vocational Rehabilitation

In addition to the allowances distributed by the National Insurance Institute, an individual with a general disability, or the victim of an enemy action, work accident, or an occupational illness, can be eligible for vocational rehabilitation. Vocational rehabilitation helps to acquire work skills and assists in integrating into a job. Social workers provide ongoing vocational and rehabilitation guidance and counseling until the individual is integrated into the workplace.



To be eligible for vocational rehabilitation, an applicant must have a permanent medical disability level of at least 20%, and is unable, because of the disability, to continue in another suitable job.

NOTE: An individual not recognized by the Department of General Disability, or who does not receive a Disability Allowance, but does have a physical, psychological, or intellectual disability, can submit a claim for vocational rehabilitation to the Rehabilitation Department. The claimant is referred to a physical examination, and if a degree of disability is determined, eligibility for vocational rehabilitation is investigated.

File a request claim for vocational rehabilitation at the nearest National Insurance Institute branch office. If a disability is the result of a work accident or occupational illness, file the claim within one year of the date upon which the permanent disability is determined.

The Liron Law

On August 1, 2009, the Liron Amendment to the Law of Equal Rights of Persons with Disabilities took effect. This legislation encourages entrance into the workforce, and supports integration in the workplace, without harming rights to receive disability allowances.

Below is a summary of the main points of the Amendment:

- If a disability is determined to be ongoing, it is not re-evaluated upon entrance into the workforce.
- Income from employment together with a Disability Allowance will always be greater than the disability allowance alone.
- Upon entering the workforce, a recipient of National Insurance Institute benefits will continue to receive accompanying benefits according to guidelines.
- An individual who stops working, or whose income is reduced, can be eligible for a "safety net" for 36 months, which



guarantees the right to receive the Disability Allowance at the same level at which it was received prior to employment.

- According to the Law, when income from work is greater than the amount of Disability Allowance, a beneficiary can receive an “Encouragement Allowance,” instead of the Disability Allowance. The “Encouragement Allowance” is paid automatically if the beneficiary received a Disability Allowance for at least 12 continuous months. In this way, the total income from work and the allowance will always be greater than the allowance alone.

Consult with the vocational rehabilitation services of the National Insurance Institute for information about entering the job market, or additional options for persons who are already employed.

Participation in Purchasing Equipment

For information on assistance towards the purchasing of medical equipment, see the section entitled “The Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.”

Work Injury Insurance

Work-injury insurance (*bituach nifga’ei avodah*) compensates victims of work accidents or occupational illness for lost income, and assists in returning to the workforce. Accident victims can also receive medical treatment for their injuries at no cost.

Eligibility

The following categories can be eligible for work-injury insurance:

- A salaried worker or self-employed, injured in an accident in their place of employment, or on the way to or from work, or contracted a work-related illness that is on the National Insurance Institute list.
- A dependent family member of a person who dies as the result of job-related injuries.



Assistance includes:

- Medical treatment through a health fund.
- Work-injury compensation up to a maximum determined by law, during the period in which the beneficiary is unable to work, for up to 91 days. Submit a claim for compensation within 12 months of the injury.
- A work-related disability benefit: for persons incapacitated by a work injury, whether or not they are capable of returning to work. The benefit is to persons with a temporary disability of at least 9%, or a permanent disability of at least 20%. The benefit is either a one-time grant (Work-Injury Grant) or monthly payments (Work-Injury Allowance).
- Vocational rehabilitation and rehabilitation allowance for individuals who are unable to return to their previous employment.
- Dependents Allowance: paid in certain circumstances to dependent family members of a person who dies as the result of work-related injuries.
- Income supplements to individuals whose income falls below a specific level, and who receive a Work-Injury Allowance or a Dependent's Allowance.

Consult with the nearest National Insurance Institute branch office for more details about conditions of eligibility or to file a compensation claim.

Accident Insurance

Accident Insurance (*bituach nifga'ei te'unot*) assists persons who have lost the capacity to work or to function at home as the result of an accident.

Accident insurance is for up to 90 consecutive days.



Eligibility

- Residents of Israel between the ages of 18 years-retirement age, with the exception of married women not employed outside their home. A resident of Israel injured overseas can be eligible for Accident Insurance payments from the day of return to Israel, in accordance with National Insurance Institute regulations.

Note: Accident Insurance does not cover those injured in automobile accidents.

Note: in order to receive Accident Injury Compensation, a physician must examine the claimant within 72 hours of the accident. A claimant who fails to have an examination is liable to forfeit eligibility for compensation.

For more details, consult the National Insurance Institute.

Compensation for Victims of Enemy Actions

The law mandates that persons wounded in enemy actions (*nifga'ei peulot eiva*), as well as family members of a deceased victim, are entitled to compensation, rehabilitation, grants, and other benefits, in order to aid them and ease their recovery. Assistance includes monthly allowances, rehabilitation services, annual and one-time grants.

Consult with the National Insurance Institute for details on eligibility. Information is also available on their website: www.btl.gov.il. Refer also to the booklet entitled "Assistance to Victims of Enemy Actions," available from the Publications Department. See the order form at the back.

Assistance includes:

- Medical care, including first aid and hospitalization.
- One-time or monthly disability grants to those with a temporary or permanent disability of 10% or greater.



- Allowances and benefits to families of persons killed in an enemy action. Benefits can include allowances, rehabilitation, grants, and other assistance.
- Victims of enemy actions can be eligible for a variety of further benefits and assistance. For details, contact the National Insurance Institute. Information is also available on their website: www.btl.gov.il.

Compensation for Prisoners of Zion and Families of Martyrs

An individual who receives recognition as a Prisoner of Zion by the Authority responsible for recognizing Prisoners of Zion (a department of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption), or a family member of a Prisoner of Zion who was killed while in jail or detention, can be eligible for compensation from the National Insurance Institute.

Eligibility

- A Prisoner of Zion who has a disability of at least 10% as a result of imprisonment, detention, or deportation.
- A Prisoner of Zion whose income does not exceed an amount set by law.
- Immediate family members of a Prisoner of Zion who died in jail or detention, or executed in another country because of their links with Judaism or Israel.

For more information, consult the National Insurance Institute.

Forms of Compensation

- Allowances for Prisoners of Zion with a disability.
- Allowances for Prisoners of Zion whose income does not exceed a set amount.
- Allowances for immediate family members of Prisoners of Zion who died or were executed.



- Additional benefits including medical, hospitalization, and convalescence allowances, medical equipment, and vocational rehabilitation.

Nursing Compensation

A Prisoner of Zion who has reached pension age, resides at home, and is in need of the help of another person in order to conduct daily activities, or requires supervision at home to insure their safety, can be eligible for nursing compensation.

Assistance includes:

- Assistance from an at-home caregiver
- Care at a day-center for the elderly
- Supplies of disposable sanitary garments
- Emergency call-buttons
- Laundry services

Conditions of Eligibility

- Residents of Israel who have reached pension age
- Resides at home and not in an institution
- Income must not exceed an amount determined by law
- Does not already receive an Attendance Allowance from the National Insurance Institute (for victims of work injuries or for general disabilities) and must not already receive an allowance for personal care or supervision from the Ministry of Finance. The recipient of an allowance from the Ministry of Finance may choose between that allowance or the allowance from the National Insurance Institute
- In urgent need of another's help in conducting day-to-day activities or of supervision at home in order to insure their own safety or that of others



Nursing compensation is ongoing, and the National Insurance Institute periodically re-evaluates the recipient's condition and eligibility, and the amount of compensation due.

Allocation of services is according to a local professional nursing services committee.

File a request for compensation for Prisoners of Zion with the nearest branch office of the National Insurance Institute.

The National Insurance Institute

www.btl.gov.il

Main Office

(02) 6709211

13 Sderot Weizmann
Jerusalem

National Telephone Information Line

(04) 8812345 or *6050

National Insurance Institute branches are located throughout the country. For information, call the Information Line, consult a municipal information line (*moked ironi*), 105/6/7 in most locations, or visit the National Insurance Institute website: www.btl.gov.il.



The Ministry of Construction and Housing

www.moch.gov.il

Individuals in need of housing may be eligible for rental subsidies, assistance towards purchasing an apartment, or public housing.

Eligibility

Applicants with a permanent disability of 75% or more, and recognized by the National Insurance Institute, the Ministry of Health, or the Ministry of Defense, can be eligible for housing assistance.



Persons who are confined to a wheelchair, or couples in which both spouses are confined to a wheelchair, and who have authorization from the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Defense, can be eligible for increased assistance.

Persons who acquire an apartment that is unsuited to their needs, and as a result, whose daily functioning is restricted, or mobility is limited, may be eligible, according to specific conditions, to a loan for making improvements on the apartment in order to make it more appropriate to their requirements. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Construction and Housing jointly determine eligibility for loans. An occupational clinic determines requirements, and the calculation of costs is the responsibility of a Ministry of Construction and Housing engineer.

An individual classified as “without housing” and who has authorization from the National Insurance Institute of a disability of 75% or more can be eligible for special rental subsidies. For exact information about terms and categories of eligibility, as well as amounts of rental subsidies, contact one of the housing assistance companies that process assistance on behalf of the Ministry of Construction and Housing:

- **M.G.A.R.**

www.mgar.co.il

National Information Number 1-599-500-301

- **Milgam**

www.milgam.co.il

National Information Number 1-599-563-007

- **Amidar**

www.amidar.co.il

National Information Number *6266

Eligibility for Public Housing

Public housing apartments are owned by the State, and managed by public housing corporations, which rent them to tenants who meet eligibility requirements. The rental fees for a public housing



apartment are fairly low in comparison to fees on the private market. In most cases, there is a greater demand for apartments than can be supplied, therefore the waiting period for a public housing apartment can be several years. For more information, contact one of the housing assistance companies listed above.

In specific cases, it may be possible to purchase a public housing apartment, although supplies of such apartments are limited. The Ministry of Construction and Housing enables persons confined to wheelchairs, who are eligible for housing assistance, to find accessible apartments within a defined price range, which is then purchased by the Ministry.

For more details about eligibility and acquiring housing, consult with one of the housing companies, M.G.A.R., Milgam, and Amidar. See above.

The Ministry of Economy and Industry

www.economy.gov.il

The Headquarters for Integrating Persons with Disabilities into the Workforce

The Headquarters works for full integration into employment. Their undertaking is to create the tools to promote employment, to develop programs to advance integration, to implement legislation, and to disseminate the information that exists in Israel and internationally about the employment of persons with disabilities.

Among the Headquarters' programs are:

- Initiating activities in coordination with employers to boost awareness and to integrate persons with disabilities in employment.



- Integrating persons with disabilities who are interested in working into the job market.
- Developing projects for integration of persons with disabilities into employment.
- Advancement of persons with disabilities in the workplace.
- Initiating and implementing legislation.
- Amalgamating existing knowledge in Israel and from abroad about the integration of persons with disabilities in the labor force.

For more information, see the website:

www.moital.gov.il/mugbalut, or call (02) 6662501/8.



The Ministry of Defense

www.shikum.mod.gov.il

The Department of Rehabilitation of the Ministry of Defense is responsible for rehabilitation services for disabled IDF soldiers (*Nechei Tzahal*), in accordance with the Persons with Disabilities Law (*Hok HaNechim*) and the directives of the Rehabilitation Division.

Eligibility

Soldiers injured during service in the Israel Defense Forces, whom the *Katzin HaTagmulim* (compensation officer) recognizes as a disabled IDF soldier. The extent of benefits and services are determined according to disability level, as well as personal and medical circumstances.



The Application Procedure

File claims for recognition as a *Nechei Tzahal* directly; alternatively, claims may be filed by an Officer for IDF Disabled (*Katzin Nifga'ei Tzahal*), by the Police, or by the Prison Services. Send claims to the Agaf Shikum Nechim, 23 Rehov Kaplan, HaKirya, Tel Aviv, 6473424.

Rehabilitation Departments

National Information Number	(03) 7776777
Derech Ya'akov Drori P.O.B. 931, 5510801 Kiryat Ono	(03) 7380146
44 Rehov David HaMelech Haifa 3542126	(04) 8301114/5
2 Rehov Beitar Jerusalem 9338601	(02) 5657200
14 Rehov Sokolov Beer Sheva 8428830	(08) 6206663
5 Rehov Marshov Rehovot 7644307	(08) 9442914
Derech Nazareth Police Building Tiberias 1432301	(04) 6729301



Rehabilitation Services

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services provides rehabilitation to improve levels of functioning and facilitate rehabilitation in personal, social, financial and vocational spheres. Services are from birth until retirement age.

Services include:

- Locating and referring candidates for vocational rehabilitation
- Diagnosis, assessment, and development of personal rehabilitation programs, professional training, acquiring work habits, placement and monitoring in rehabilitation centers and business development centers
- Sheltered workshops to employ persons who are unable to integrate into the open job market
- Financial aid for persons with severe disabilities who reside in the community (not in residential facilities), e.g., supplements to National Insurance Institute benefits. Aid is according to income, level of functioning, family status, and other criteria
- Refund of travel expenses to rehabilitation centers
- Day-frameworks including outpatient rehabilitation centers and rehabilitation clubs, family-respite frameworks, and summer camps for children
- Daily foster-family care, home-care providers, teachers, and support workers
- Residential care and foster families for persons with severe disabilities

- Social clubs and social activities assisted by teachers and therapists
- Paramedical services including speech therapy and occupational therapy
- Tutoring
- Diagnosis and assessment through Centers for Child Development (*mercazim lehitpatchut hayeled*)

Application Procedure

In order to receive a referral to a Rehabilitation Center, apply to the Rehabilitation Department at the nearest branch office of the National Insurance Institute.

Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The Ministry provides a range of services to the deaf and hard of hearing. These include the following:

1. **Communications Allowance** – a monthly allowance to cover expenses associated with hearing-loss.

Persons ages 18 years and up, who have diminished hearing of at least 70 decibels in their good ear, and hearing loss that began by the time they turned the age of three years, can be eligible for a Communications Allowance.

Elderly persons receive 25% of the amount that they received prior to reaching old age. Women age 60 and over and men age 65 and over as of August 15, 2002 are not eligible to receive the Communications Allowance.

Eligibility for assistance must be authorized by a Communications Clinician from the Rehabilitation Division of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services. A recipient must send their bank-account details to the Rehabilitation Division so that the Division can deposit the funds into the recipient's account. An employed person must send copies of their last three salary statements.



2. **Communications Basket** – The Basket is a monetary rebate for purchasing devices such as hearing aids, special telephones, etc. The rebate is once every four years, and the recipient must contribute 10% of the costs. Elderly persons receive 25% of the amount that they received prior to reaching old age. Women age 60 and over and men age 65 and over as of August 15, 2002 are not eligible to receive the Communications Allowance.

In order to apply for the rebate, send original receipts along with authorization of eligibility and a copy of the claimant's *te'udat zehut* to the Institute for Advancement of the Deaf in Israel.

The Institute for Advancement of the Deaf in Israel, 7 Rehov Tshama, Tel Aviv, 67329, (03) 7305757; www.dpii.org.il.

3. **Translation Services** – Persons with hearing loss can be entitled to a number of translation services, including translation from spoken language to sign language, and from sign language to spoken language, and transcription (input with a keyboard). Persons with both hearing and vision loss can receive transcription via touch. A claimant must have diminished hearing of at least 50 decibels in their good ear in order to be eligible. The total number of translation hours is according to the degree of hearing loss. To check eligibility, consult with the Rehabilitation Division of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.

Translation services are through the Institute for the Advancement of the Deaf in Israel (see above). Request a translation at least one week in advance. A copy of authorization of eligibility from the Rehabilitation Division must accompany the request.

4. **Tax refunds on the purchase of a fax machine** – Persons age 16 years and up, with diminished hearing of at least 50 decibels in their good ear, can be eligible to a refund on a fax machine. The refund is equivalent to the amount of VAT and



the purchase tax. Refunds are every five years per family unit. Send the receipt to the Institute for the Advancement of the Deaf in Israel (see above), which forwards it to a coordinator who determines eligibility.

5. **Assistance in purchasing a baby-cry monitor for families with children up to the age of three.** Parents age 16 and up can be eligible for a refund on the purchase of a monitor. The refund is through the Institute for the Advancement of the Deaf in Israel (see above). The refund is up to 90% of the cost of the monitor.

Receiving Assistance

Assistance is through the Institute for Advancement of the Deaf in Israel (see above). Application is via the social services department of the local municipality. To apply for assistance, a department social worker prepares an application form, which the applicant then brings to an ear, nose, and throat doctor, and to an examination by a communications therapist. Following medical and clinical-communications examinations, the physician and clinician complete relevant sections of the form. Next, return the completed form along with the necessary authorizations to the social services department, which then forwards the material.

Information Centers

The Rehabilitation Division of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, together with the organization “BeKol,” the National Insurance Institute, and the Joint Distribution Committee, operates Information and Support Centers for the deaf and hard-of-hearing of all ages, and their families. Centers operate adjacent to Hearing Institutes, which refer individuals to the Centers. Among the services offered are:

- Initial emotional support
- Reduced waiting period between establishing hearing loss and receiving appropriate treatment



- Information about rehabilitation
- Guidance during rehabilitation
- Information about rights
- Hotline and database

To locate and contact the nearest Center, consult with the "Bekol" organization, Tel: (03) 5257001, or visit their website, www.bekol.org.

6. Emergency Pagers- Individuals from the age of 12 years and up, with diminished hearing of at least 50 decibels in their good ear, can be eligible for an emergency pager.

In order to verify eligibility for a pager, complete an application and send it by mail together with hearing-examination documents to: The Department of Rehabilitation, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, P.O.B. 1260, Jerusalem. It is also possible to scan the documents and send them by e-mail to zimunit@molsa.gov.il or by fax to (02) 5085932.

Services to Persons with Intellectual Disabilities

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services

www.molsa.gov.il (On the homepage, select "*Ba'alei Pigur Sichi*")

Persons of all ages, with intellectual and developmental disabilities, at all levels, can integrate into Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services programs for developing and maximizing capabilities. Services include sheltered housing and employment, social activities, and other forms of assistance.

Eligibility

Eligibility for services is based on an assessment by the Evaluation Board (*va'adat ivchun*), which determines the level of functioning and recommends appropriate plans.



Services include:

- Evaluation of developmental and intellectual abilities, and recommendations.
- Programs for personal development.
- Programs for social and inter-personal education.
- Counseling and therapy within the family framework.
- Daycare facilities for babies and children up to age 3 years.
- Integration into mainstream daycare facilities.
- Afternoon frameworks for children ages 3-12 years.
- Social clubs for young adults up to age 21.
- Sheltered and supportive employment, and employment in the open market.
- Therapeutic frameworks for persons age 21 and over who are unable to integrate into various vocational frameworks.
- Respite facilities.
- Foster families.
- Residence in group apartments or hostels, independent living frameworks, and sheltered housing.
- Residential facilities.
- Summer camps
- Dental care

Application

Apply through the social services department of the local municipal authority. After collecting relevant material, a social worker consults with a district supervisor who determines whether to refer to a local Diagnostic Center for evaluation by a diagnostic board, which can offer guidance on services in the community. Dial 105/6/7 to reach the municipal information line (*moked ironi*) in most locations. More information about the Department



is available on the website of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, www.molsa.gov.il.

The Department of Services for the Blind

All blind persons, from children to the elderly, who experience difficulties as a result of diminished or lost vision, can receive counseling and rehabilitation from the Department of Services for the Blind (*HaSherut Lelvair*). Rehabilitation services provide tools for improved functioning at home, at work, and in the community.

Among the services are included:

- Information Centers for persons who have recently experienced vision loss.
- "Certificate of Blindness/Vision Disability" and mediation with the National Insurance Institute in order to receive a disability percentage.
- Special services for children, including customized evaluations for children with visual disabilities and blindness, therapeutic day centers, mentoring, student centers, recreational activities for young people, and more.
- Social and emotional therapy including social clubs, recreational activities, and more.
- Acquisition of skills for maximum secure and independent functioning with specialized teachers, as well as advice about accessibility.
- Assistance with volunteering in national or military service.
- Diagnosis, advice, counseling, and assistance in choosing a profession, preparatory workshops prior to academic studies, and loans of computer equipment for study purposes.
- Advice and guidance for employed persons and loans of computerized work stations.



- Subsidized assistive devices and tax refunds on specific items for independent and secure functioning.
- Telephone counseling for users of technology for the blind, and an emergency-call unit (telephone number: *9366).

Information Centers

Information Centers are operated by the Department of Services for the Blind together with the "AleH" organization. The Centers provide initial information and counseling about rehabilitation and support services to persons with visual disabilities, and to their family members.

Services are for all age groups in areas related to assistance, including:

- Persons who have recently experienced vision loss.
- Persons whose vision is worsening.
- Persons whose ability to function at work is diminishing.
- Persons experiencing family and other problems as a result of vision loss.
- Children with visual disabilities.

Application Procedure

Apply directly to an Information Center, or through a nurse or attending ophthalmologist. It is not necessary to make an appointment to visit an Information Center during operation hours. Details are available through hospital ophthalmology clinics, or by calling the Open Line (03) 6393938 (it is possible to leave messages in English at this number). The Open Line operates on Sundays and Wednesdays between 10:00-16:00. More information is also available from: <http://www.molsa.gov.il/POPULATIONS/DISABILITIES/BLINDNESS/VISIONANDBLINDNESS/FIRSTSTEPS/Pages/InformationStationsPage.aspx>.



Certificate of Blindness/Vision Disability

The Certificate of Blindness/Vision Disability (*te'udat ivair*) confers eligibility for benefits from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services and other bodies. The Certificate automatically grants eligibility to persons up to retirement age for calculating degree of disability by the National Insurance Institute. It is necessary to sign an authorization form for transferring medical information to the Institute.

Apply for a Certificate at the social services department of the local municipal authority. A Certificate is granted according to results of an ophthalmologic examination administered by the Department of Services to the Blind of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.

Conditions of Eligibility:

- Significant loss of vision.
- Diminished vision of at least 3/60 in the healthiest eye following correction.
- The field of vision is reduced to the extent that the total scope of vision is no greater than 20 degrees in the healthiest eye following correction.

In particular circumstances, it is possible to receive a temporary Certificate.

Application Procedure

Application forms are available for download from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services website: www.molsa.gov.il. It is necessary to have an eye examination. Following the examination, send the completed application form to fax number 1-533-6785090, along with an attached file containing a photocopy of the applicant's *te'udat zehut* or passport photo. Write the applicant's identity number (*mispar zehut*) on the file. A doctor from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services conducts an additional examination, and the Social Services department conveys the decision about the applicant's eligibility.



Occupational Rehabilitation

Institutes for Diminished Vision – Institutes for Diminished Vision offer services that include assessment of levels of daily functioning, examinations by specialists, determining appropriate visual aids and guidance and training for their use, workshops for improving vision, and emotional support.

Addresses

Jerusalem - Hadassah Hospital, Ein Kerem (02) 6257552

Tel Aviv - 10 Rehov David Hachami (03) 6880523 (services via the Institute for the Blind in the Center for the Blind in Israel Bldg.)

Haifa - Mercaz Shikum Migdal Or 077-7721333

Rehabilitation Guidance for Persons with Visual Disabilities and their Family Members

Rehabilitation guidance helps to improve functioning and leads to the maximum possible degree of independence and security. Training also instructs the family and care-takers about ways to assist the individual with diminished vision. It is also possible to receive information about accessibility of public and private locations. Services include mobility techniques, communication skills, and methods for daily functioning for all ages. Techniques are taught for improving functioning at home, at work, at social clubs and at a group program in the community and in a dormitory facility, and implemented by the National Center for Rehabilitative Guidance "Migdal Or."

Areas of rehabilitation include:

- Individual rehabilitation guidance
- Rehabilitation guidance for children and their families
- Rehabilitation guidance for the elderly in the community and in facilities



- Group rehabilitation guidance
- Guidance for educational and therapeutic staff
- Advice about accessible buildings and necessary assistive devices

Application is through a social worker at a municipal social services department.

For more information, contact:

Migdal Or, Tel: 077-7721333; www.migdalar.org.il.

Vocational-Professional Rehabilitation

The Department of Services for the Blind assists in a pre-rehabilitation vocational process, in placement of young people who are blind or have diminished vision as volunteers in national service or military service, including assessment of a suitable venue for volunteer service and the necessary technological aids, and guiding the volunteer to become mobile and function independently.

Similarly, the Department, together with the National Insurance Institute, assists in acquiring education and a profession, and integrating into the workplace. Assistance includes:

- Vocational assessment
- Creating a rehabilitation plan
- Financial assistance for higher education (through the Aleh organization) including the required accessibility
- Assistance in completing matriculation (*bagrut*)
- Pre-academic preparatory studies (through the Aleh organization) and preparatory workshops prior to studies
- Adaptation of technological equipment for workstations and loans of computer equipment until purchase with funding from the Ministry of Economy and Industry



- Assistance, counseling, and monitoring of placements in the open job-market
- Sheltered employment
- Special employment projects

Computers and Advanced Technology

Accessible computers serve blind persons and persons with diminished vision both as writing tools and as tools for communication.

The Department of Services for the Blind recognizes these needs and assists in this area in various ways:

- Assistance in acquiring accessible computer programs for **recreational purposes**- apply in writing to the Department. Application forms and the fax number are available on the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services website: www.molsa.gov.il.
- Acquiring computer literacy for **recreational purposes**- through the auspices of a rehabilitation educator or a Multi-Service Center for the Blind (see below).
- Acquiring computer literacy for an **employee** or **student**- at Rehabilitation Centers of the Department of Services for the Blind. Application is through a social worker at a department of social services.
- Testing a computer station required for **work** or **studies**- through the auspices of the Ya'adim LeTzafon-Migdal Or organization (see below). Funding is from the National Insurance Institute or the Department of Services for the Blind.
- Assistance for a computer station for a **student**- through the Department of Rehabilitation of the National Insurance Institute. Apply to a rehabilitation clerk. Computers can be available on loan from the Department of Services to the Blind until receipt of the permanent computer. Apply to the Aleh organization.



- Assistance in acquiring an accessible computer station for an **employee** - the Ministry of Economy and Industry provides assistance to private-sector employers. A public-sector or governmental employer must acquire the computer station independently. Computers can be available on loan until the acquisition of a permanent computer with the assistance of the Department of Services for the Blind through the Ya'adim LeTzafon Migdal Or organization. Application is through a social worker at a social services department or a placement coordinator of the Department of Services for the Blind.

Social Rehabilitation and Emotional Support

The Department of Services for the Blind operates recreational activities for children and adults designed to meet social and emotional needs.

Activities include:

- **Student houses for children** that integrate mainstream studies and provide children with peer groups, enrichment programs, and social programs.
- **Social clubs:** social clubs offer a range of social activities, crafts workshops, support groups, sports activities, hikes and tours, and more.
- **Libraries:** book loans in Hebrew and other languages including religious books, in Braille and large print, and on cassettes.
- **Organized vacations:** specialized vacation plans in hotels throughout the country.

Information on social clubs, libraries, and other services is available from the social services departments of the local municipal authorities as well as from municipal telephone information centers and from organizations for the blind. Services are for those who possess a Certificate of Blindness. For more information, see: www.molsa.gov.il/Populations/Disabilities/Blindness/Pages/BlindnessHomePage.aspx



The Central Library for the Blind, 4 Rehov HaHistadrut, Netanya, (09) 8617874, (09) 8620166, Fax: (09) 8626346, office@clfb.org.il

Mesila Torah Library for the Blind, 69 B Rehov Kahanman, Bnai Brak, (03) 5782895, Fax: (03) 5782895 mesilah@bezeqnet.net

AACI- Cohen Library for the Visually Impaired and Homebound, 37 Rehov Pierre Koenig, Jerusalem (02) 5600912
Fax: (02) 5661920 www.aaci.org.il library@aaci.org.il

This is a free library for English speakers with visual disabilities or who are home-bound. The library offers books on tape, CDs, large-print materials, and more.

Multi-Service Center for the Blind

Multi-Service Centers for the Blind (*Mercazim Rav Sherutim Lelvair 'M.R.S.H.L.'*) operated by the local municipal authorities, offer information and counseling, rehabilitation, social activities, and emotional support.

Multi-Service Centers

1 Rehov Eliashvili, Ashdod	(04) 6314996
1 Rehov Shaul HaMelech, Beer Sheva	(08) 6435976
58 Rehov Yerushalayim, Bnai Brak	(03) 6170328
32 Rehov HaGefen, Haifa	(04) 8527222
Binyan Sha'arei Halr, 216 Rehov Yaffo, Jerusalem	(02) 5388955
Sderot HaGa'aton, P.O.B. 78, Naharia	(04) 9522485
3 Rehov Rimon, Upper Nazareth	(04) 6015070
15 Rehov Ben Eliezer, Rishon LeTzion	(03) 9672406
11 Rehov Ben Yosef, Ramat Gan	(03) 6703484
20 Rehov Mordechai Mendelei Seforim, Tel Aviv	(03) 7241975



Guide Dogs

Guide dogs can provide a means for blind persons to live a more independent life with greater mobility outside their homes. Applicants who meet eligibility criteria of the Department of Services for the Blind can receive a dog free of charge. To receive a dog, apply to one of the two training institutes:

The Israel Center for Guide Dogs

Moshav Beit Oved (08) 9408213 Fax: (08) 9408220

Eyes for the Blind in Israel, P.O.B. 649,

Tzavon (04) 6980218 Fax: (04) 6987263

Recipients of a dog can be eligible to receive a monthly stipend to assist with the dog's maintenance. The Costs Committee of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services determines the level of the stipend.

For more information, contact the Israel Guide Dog Users Association-Tzemed

The Israel Guide Dog Users Association-Tzemed

www.igdu.org.il

(03) 5371065 Fax: (03) 5371066

Services for Children

The majority of children with visual disabilities are integrated into mainstream educational frameworks in their community. The Department of Services for the Blind provides supplementary services to children in both mainstream and special education.

- **Centers for Child Development:** Centers for Child Development provide diagnosis and treatment for pre-school-age children. The goal of treatment is the reinforcement and retention of capabilities. Apply through the social services department of the local municipality.



- **Therapeutic Kindergartens:** kindergarten frameworks offer educational, therapeutic, and rehabilitation for children up to the age of three. The kindergartens prepare children for integration into mainstream settings. Apply through the social services department of the local municipal authority.
- **Assessment of accessibility** to determine suitable educational frameworks through the auspices of the Center for the Blind in Israel.
- **Support services** for children in mainstream schools: support teachers from the Ministry of Education. Apply to the National Supervisor for Blind Students and Students with Visual Disabilities (see below).
- **Children with Special Needs:** day schools or external schools. Application is through a department of social services.
- **Student Houses:** Student Houses (*batei talmid*) are regional educational frameworks to help develop and strengthen capabilities. Student Houses are located throughout the country. Application is through the social services departments of the local municipal authorities, or through a Ministry of Education support teacher.
- **Assistance for completing matriculation (*bagrut*)** through the Aleh organization

For more information contact:

The Ministry of Education

(03) 6896092

National Supervisor for Blind Students and Students with Visual Disabilities

2 Rehov HaShlosha, Tel Aviv

In addition, "Educational Houses for the Blind" are apartments for young adults that prepare them to live independently. Residents of an Educational House learn to manage a household, keep a budget, and get ready for a self-sufficient life.



Financial Assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services and Other Sources

Companion and Mobility Allowances

The Companion Allowance (*dmei livui*) is an allowance towards the expenses of a companion who accompanies a blind person or a person with diminished vision in order to facilitate mobility. Women ages 18-62, and men ages 18-67, who have a Certificate of Blindness/Visual Disability can be eligible, on condition that visual perception in their good eye is less than 1/60, or the field of vision in their good eye is less than 10 degrees. A full allowance can be available to persons who are either studying or employed. A person who is not employed can receive 75% of the allowance on condition that they **do not** receive an Attendance Allowance from the National Insurance Institute (see the section on the National Insurance Institute above). An **unemployed** person who **does** receive an Attendance Allowance can receive 50% of the Companion Allowance. An elderly person who received a Companion Allowance prior to retirement age can be eligible for 50% of the allowance following retirement age. A person who is eligible for a Mobility Allowance from the National Insurance Institute is **not** also eligible for a Companion Allowance as well.

Eligibility for the Companion Allowance is determined during the evaluation process for a Certificate of Blindness/Visual Disability. An individual who is not eligible for an allowance following their evaluation may repeat the medical examination once six months have passed.

For more information, or to apply, consult with the social services department of a local municipal authority.

Higher Education

At universities and colleges, including the Open University, there are Support Units that assist students to access information, and that offer technical and other forms of support, including recording



educational materials, as well as academic counseling and additional services.

Students in institutions of higher education can be entitled to accommodations in university dormitories, and to have their room adapted to their needs.

Students may also be eligible for scholarships. For information, consult with the Dean's Office at the relevant institution.

Discounts for Students and Participants in Vocational Training Programs

Persons with a Certificate of Blindness/Impaired Vision, and who are in a vocational training program (academic or non-academic) that is approved by the Rehabilitation Department of the National Insurance Institute, can receive assistance towards the cost of accommodations, reading aids, and other equipment. Apply through the Rehabilitation Department of the National Insurance Institute.

Note: additional information on assistance to students is available from 'Aleh' – the Association of Blind and Dyslexic Students in Israel.

'Aleh' – Association of Blind and Dyslexic Students in Israel

<http://sites.huji.ac.il/blind>

msblind@mscc.huji.ac.il

Hebrew University

(02) 5882155

Mount Scopus

Fax: (02) 5826166

Jerusalem



Television and Radio Licensing Fee

An individual with a Certificate of Blindness can be exempt from paying the Television and Radio Licensing Fee. The exemption does not apply to car radios. Apply for an exemption through the nearest Broadcasting Authority (*Reshut Hashidur*) office: www.iba.org.il.

Partial Refund of Sales Tax

An individual who possesses a Certificate of Blindness can be entitled to partial refunds of sales taxes on certain household goods and personal items. To apply for a refund following a purchase, contact:

The Israel Center for the Blind (03) 7915530
Department of Tax Refunds
10 Rehov David Hachmi
Tel Aviv

Be sure to check eligibility for a refund in advance.

Note: new immigrants who receive the Absorption Basket are not entitled to a refund of sales tax when purchasing electric household appliances.

Subsidized Rehabilitation Equipment

An individual with a Certificate of Blindness can receive assistance towards the cost of rehabilitation equipment, such as white canes, Braille typewriters, special eyeglasses, specially adapted telephones, games, radios, and other items. More information is on the website of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services: www.molsa.gov.il.

To receive a full list of equipment and the types of assistance available, contact:

The Israel Center for the Blind (03) 7915532
Department of Equipment
10 Rehov David Hachmi
Tel Aviv



Discounts on Bezek Telephone Services

Persons who have a Certificate of Blindness may be eligible for discounts of up to 50% on the cost of telephone installation and service charges, and a partial discount on 300 charge units per month. For more information, and to apply for discounts, contact the nearest branch office of Bezek: www.bezek.co.il.

Sending Packages Through the Mail

Blind persons can be exempt from paying postal charges on shipments of recorded material and Braille books, both from Israel and overseas. The words "Braille" or "recorded material" must appear on the envelope or package. For more information, contact the Israel Postal Authority: www.israelpost.co.il.

The Ministry of Health

www.health.gov.il

Mental Health Services

Persons in need of mental-health services can be entitled to the following:

Medical frameworks

- **Psychiatric evaluation** – at community mental health clinics and in hospitals.
- **Hospitalization**- in hospital psychiatric-care wards. A patient can appeal an involuntary hospitalization in writing to the District Psychiatric Committee of the Ministry of Health.
- **Clinical services** – clinical services are available in crisis and trauma situations, and for persons with mental illness. Clinical services include medical treatment, psychological counseling, and therapy for couples and families.



Rehabilitation Services

- **Rehabilitation “Basket:”** rehabilitation services for persons with a psychological disability who reside within the community, administered according to the Law for Rehabilitation of Persons with a Psychological Disability in the Community. Services aim to foster integration into the community by maximizing the greatest number of options for independent functioning and improving quality of life. To be eligible, it is necessary to be over the age of 18, and recognized by the National Insurance Institute as suffering from an emotional disturbance resulting in disability of at least 40%. The Basket includes accompanied-housing assistance, vocational assistance, income supplements, social activities, and guidance for families.
- **Supportive Housing** – rehabilitation and integration within sheltered housing. Housing frameworks provide supervision according to the needs of the residents ranging from 24-hour guardianship to hostels and independent living in apartments. Integration into rehabilitative housing is conditional upon consent to an overall rehabilitation program, and is not merely a housing solution.
- **Employment** – assistance in acquiring vocational skills, sheltered workshops, supervised integration into the workplace.
- **Education**-integration of students into programs for completion of studies or matriculation exams (*bagrut*), pre-academic preparatory courses (*mechina*), and counseling and support during academic studies. Assistance to new immigrants learning Hebrew, familiarization with computers.
- **Social and leisure-time frameworks** – a variety of recreational and social activities, including social clubs, clubs for new immigrants, and integration into activities within the community.



- **Mentoring** - guidance and support to promote social skills.
- **Autonomy** - guidance and support in everyday life and the promotion of independent living.
- **Families** - support, guidance, and information to families in the form of individual counseling, group counseling, workshops, lectures, etc.
- **Coordinated care** - assistance in implementing a rehabilitation plan approved by the rehabilitation committee.

Application Procedure

Apply for medical services directly to the facility. Eligibility for rehabilitation services is only upon the referral of the District Rehabilitation Committee in conjunction with the treating professional

For more details, consult the office of the Regional Psychiatrist at District Offices of the Ministry of Health:

Northern District (04) 6557871
 Rehabilitation Basket (04) 6557878
 3 Rehov HaMalacha
 Nazareth

Haifa District (04) 8632934
 Rehabilitation Basket (04) 6557878
 15 Rehov HaPalyam
 Haifa

Central District (08) 9788616
 Rehabilitation Basket, Ext. 1
 91 Rehov Herzl
 Ramle

Tel Aviv/Jaffa District (03) 5634807/10
 Rehabilitation Basket (03) 5634806
 14 Rehov HaArba'a
 Tel Aviv



Jerusalem District	(02) 5313500
Rehabilitation Basket	(02) 5314873
86 Rehov Yaffo	
Jerusalem	
Southern District	(08) 6263508
Rehabilitation Basket	(08) 6263504
4 Rehov HaTikva	
Beer Sheva	

Participation in the Costs of Medical Equipment

The Ministry of Health Public Health Service participates in the costs of rehabilitation equipment, wheelchairs, sanitary chairs, special beds, lifts, hearing aids, and other items. The Ministry also participates in the costs of repairing motorized mobility devices, walkers, and prosthetic devices.

A list of equipment is available from District Health Offices.

Eligibility

Persons in the following categories can be eligible for participation in the costs of medical equipment:

- Persons with a permanent disability.
- Residents in a chronic-care facility, hospital, or residential facility of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, can be eligible for walker devices and prosthetic devices **only**.

Those who are not eligible include:

- Victims of work accidents or enemy actions, IDF disabled, and victims of automobile accidents, who receive assistance from other sources.

Level of Assistance

Assistance is up to 75% of the cost of equipment as determined by the Ministry of Health. The Ministry may contribute up to



90% of the costs of repair of electric devices. The Ministry may also participate in the cost of repairing non-electric equipment for persons exempt from participating in the costs of equipment.

Note: Eligibility for coverage of equipment costs is upon authorization from a licensed physician.

Application Procedure

Applications for participation in equipment costs are processed by the Guidance Coordinators of the Department of Chronic Diseases at Ministry of Health District Health Offices. A physiotherapist or occupational therapist must provide a recommendation. Documents are required according to the type of equipment. There are no refunds for equipment purchased prior to receiving authorization for a refund.

Note that when purchasing equipment for walking, such as a prosthesis, through Machon Lewis (the National Rehabilitation Institute at Tel HaShomer), it is necessary to receive authorization from a physician in order to be eligible for assistance.

Ministry of Health District Health Offices (partial list only)

86 Rehov Yaffo Jerusalem	(02) 5314811
14/12 Rehov HaArba'a Tel Aviv	(03) 5634848
15A Rehov HaPalyam Haifa	(04) 8633111
Kiryat HaMemshela 4 Rehov HaTikva Beer Sheva	(08) 6263511

For more listings, see the Ministry of Health website:
www.health.gov.il.



"Kol HaBriut" Telephone Line

The Ministry of Health operates the "Kol HaBriut" telephone service line in several languages. The line offers professional, general, and individualized information in a range of subjects. Service is in Hebrew, English, French, Russian, and Arabic.

"Kol HaBriut" Telephone Information Service *5400/(08) 6241010

Call.Habriut@moh.health.gov.il Fax: (02) 5655969

S-Th: 8:00-19:00, Fridays and holiday eves, 8:00-13:00

Ministry of Health Medical Translation Line - provides medical translations in French, Russian, Amharic, and Arabic. *5144

S-Th: 8:00-19:00, Fridays and holiday eves, 8:00-13:00

Health Funds

The health funds (*kupot holim*) provide services within the framework of the "Basket of Health Services."

Services include:

- Hospitalization
- Rehabilitation
- Physiotherapy and occupational therapy
- Medical equipment included in the "Basket of Health Services"
- Specialized treatments
- Referrals to clinics, imaging and x-ray facilities, and specialists.
- Discounts or refunds on payments for medications that exceed a set monthly amount.

Additional services are through supplementary insurance plans, and according to the type of plan. Note that the above-listed items are liable to change from time to time.

Note: for more information, refer to the booklet entitled "The Health System in Israel," available from the Publications Department. See the order form at the back.

A recipient of a General Disability Pension from the National



Insurance Institute can be exempt from the following payments:

- Visits to specialists
- Referrals to hospitals
- Visits to clinics and outpatient facilities

Exemptions are based on a list that the National Insurance Institute forwards to the health funds. Note that exemptions are subject to change.

The Ministry of the Interior

www.moin.gov.il

The Municipal Authorities – Discounts on Property Taxes

According to State Economic Arrangements (Property Tax Discounts, 1993), local municipalities are empowered to grant discounts on overall property taxes (*armona*) during a fiscal year to property-owners who have a disability, including:

- A recipient of a monthly Disability Allowance from the National Insurance Institute who has a disability level of 75% or more, up to a maximum discount of 80%.
- A person with a disability level of 75% or more who does not yet receive an old-age pension can receive a discount of up to, but no greater than, 80%.
- A person with a proven medical disability of 90% or greater can receive a discount of up to 40%.
- Parents (including foster parents) who receive a Disabled Child Benefit for a child up to the age of 18 years according to regulations of the National Insurance Institute, or who is above the age of 18 and for whom the family receives an allowance from the National Insurance Institute, can receive a discount of up to 33% on property taxes.



- A Prisoner of Zion or their family, or persons with a disability who meet the conditions of the Law of Disabled Victims of Nazi Persecution, and who receive an allowance from the National Insurance Institute, can receive a discount of up to 66%. Note that provisions of the Law for Compensation to Prisoners of Zion may enable a greater discount on property taxes. For more information, consult with a municipal authority.
- Persons who possess a Certificate of Blindness (*te'udat ivair*) can receive a discount of up to 90%.

Apply to the local municipal authority for a discount and for more information.

Note: discounts on property taxes are not automatic, and are according to the specific criteria of each municipality. Conditions of eligibility listed above are for illustration purposes only; eligibility is on a case-to-case basis at the discretion of each municipal authority. In the event of any discrepancy between the information here and official rules and regulations, the official rules and regulations will prevail.

Employing a Foreign Caretaker

The Nursing Division of the Permits Department of the Ministry of the Interior - Population Authority grants permits to employ foreign caretakers for persons who are unable to function independently. Conditions of eligibility are on the website of the Ministry of the Interior (Hebrew only): www.piba.gov.il. See Appendix II at the back of this booklet for an English-language summary of regulations.

Application Procedure

Apply for a permit to employ a foreign caretaker at a branch office of the Nursing Division, or via the post. For more information, contact the Ministry of the Interior National Telephone Information Number: *3450



Nursing Department Branch Offices

National Telephone Information Number: *3450

Jerusalem – 34 Rehov Ben Yehuda, Migdal HaIr (02) 6229866

Tel Aviv – 53 Rehov Salma (03) 6228211

Haifa – 7/9 Rehov HaPalyam (04) 8606740

Beer Sheva – 12 Rehov Olamot (08) 6253000

The Central Elections Committee – Accessible Polling Stations

The “Knesset Elections Law” (1969) obligates every community or geographical district containing 10,000 people to establish at least one polling station that is accessible to voters with disabilities. In communities with 20 polling stations or more, at least two polling stations must be accessible to persons with limited mobility. An exception can occur if the Chairman and deputies of the Central Election Commission determine that there is no accessible polling place in a particular community; if it is not possible by reasonable means to install an accessible polling location as stated, they may declare that there will not be an accessible polling place in that community.

- Information about accessible polling stations must appear on the back of the notice to vote, and is indicated by the international ‘disability symbol,’ i.e., a wheelchair.
- A map of streets adjacent to the polling place and information about access to the polling place also appears on the notice to vote.
- Voters with a mobility disability are entitled to cast their ballot at any polling station classified as “accessible” by the Central Elections Committee. Voting at such a polling station is by use of an external envelope.
- On an election day, the municipal authorities are responsible for placing a sign next to an accessible polling station designating two parking spaces for persons with limited mobility.



- Residents of a facility recognized by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, or in a hospital with more than 50 beds, are entitled to vote in polling stations set up inside the facility. This clause does not apply to nursing homes, but does apply to chronic-care wards within nursing homes supervised by the Ministry of Health.
- An individual who is unable to vote on their own because of illness or disability may be accompanied by a person of their choosing. Each accompanying individual may assist up to two voters. Note that the director or an employee of a residential institution is prohibited from accompanying any resident of that institution to vote.
- Information Centers of the Central Elections Bureau must publicize the location of accessible polling stations in advance of elections. Information must also be published in newspapers, through the electronic media, and on notice boards on the website of the Central Elections Bureau: www.bechirot.gov.il, as well as the website of the Ministry of the Interior, www.moin.gov.il, and on the Government Services and Information website: www.gov.il.

Municipal Elections

During municipal- and regional-council elections, voters may vote at an accessible polling place in the community in which they are registered. In most cases, prior to municipal elections, notices are sent to voters, along with a map and information, as explained above. Information about polling locations and accessibility is posted on municipal notice boards, on municipal websites, and on the Ministry of the Interior website (www.moin.gov.il). Voters can also get information from a municipal information line (105/6/7 in most locations). There is no voting in institutional frameworks for municipal elections; it is necessary to vote at a polling place.



Planning and Construction

As of the first of August, 2009, planning and building regulations (application for a permit, conditions, and fees) (1970), mandate that permits for constructing a new public building (or renovation of already-existing public buildings, according to the above-stated regulations) are issued only following determination of the alterations necessary to make the building accessible, i.e., appropriate to the needs of persons with physical, psychological, or intellectual disabilities. The necessary modifications include a requirement to make the entire structure accessible in all buildings that provide services to the public, including designated parking spaces, signs, means of identification, notices and directions for persons with visual disabilities, elevators, ramps, etc.

The Ministry of Transportation

www.mot.gov.il

Discounts on Public Transportation (buses, Light Rail, Israel Railways)

As part of the Ministry of Transportation reform program initiated in December, 2015, a number of benefits are offered on public transportation fares to a range of eligible persons. These include persons with disabilities including disabled I.D.F. soldiers and victims of enemy actions who can receive a discount on all lines and all fares when purchasing a multi-fare ticket or Rav-Kav card. The discount is upon presentation of one of the following:

- * Certificate of disability or other certificate issued by the National Insurance Institute that verifies disability.
- * Certificate of membership in the Organization of Disabled IDF Veterans
- * Certificate of membership in the Organization of Victims of Enemy Actions



Persons who received certificates of eligibility for discounts on public transportation in the past can continue to use them until the expiration dates. However, new certificates will not be sent.

Benefits to the Blind

The Ministry of Transport offers the following benefits to the blind:

- Full exemption on bus fare on all lines for all routes.
- Discount of 50% for a companion on all lines on all routes when purchasing a ticket for a single journey. It is not necessary to pay a fare for a service dog.
- It is necessary to display a Certificate of Blindness/Impaired Vision to receive a discount or exemption.

For more information, contact the National Information Line of the Ministry of Transport, *5678.

Accessible Public Transport

One of the clauses of the 1998 Law for Equality for Persons with Disabilities determines the right to accessibility in public transportation. In order to fulfill the obligation to implement regulations governing accessibility, a program has been prepared by the Ministry of Transport, local municipal authorities, and operators of public transport, to make all urban service lines accessible. Today all municipalities have renovated transport stations in accordance with the plan, and public-transport operators have upgraded city buses accordingly. Details of the plan (in Hebrew) can be viewed on the Ministry of Transport website: www.mot.gov.il.

Israel Railways is upgrading in stages to make trains accessible, and airlines are required to ensure accessibility both on the ground and on board aircraft, in accordance with guidelines of public transport accessibility.



Israel Railways www.israrail.org.il	*5770
Egged www.egged.co.il	*2800
Dan Buses www.dan.co.il	*3456
Citipass (Jerusalem Light Rail) www.citypass.co.il	*3686

Driver's Licenses

The Licensing Division of the Ministry of Transport grants driver's licenses in accordance with an applicant's capability.

The Licensing Authority refers applicants for a license to photography centers (Femi Premium or Taldor) in order to receive a request form for a license ("*rasha'* 18"). The applicant must complete the form and bring it to a family doctor for a physical examination. The doctor signs the back of the form. Additionally, it is necessary to have an eye examination by an authorized optometrist, who also signs the back of the form. To locate an authorized optometrist, visit the Licensing Authority website. Once the form is complete it is then possible to take the theory test.

The Licensing Authority: www.rishuy.mot.gov.il/he/services/licence-bureau

Taldor 1-900-722-222

Femi-Premium (03) 5688140

Note that the physical examination is valid for 2 years only. An applicant who does not take the practical driving exam within 2 years must request a new form and repeat the physical examination.



An applicant whose application for a license is rejected may request to view the doctors' statement upon which the refusal was based. It is also possible to appeal within 30 days to the Appeals Committee of the Ministry of Health.

Medical Examinations for License-Renewal Applicants over the Age of 70

As of January, 2011, drivers over the age of 70 who renew their license must have a medical examination every 5 years (and not the age of 65 as before). Commercial drivers, including taxi and bus drivers, and drivers of heavy vehicles, over the age of 70, must have a physical examination every 2 years in order to renew their license.

The Medical Institute for Road Safety

12 Rehov HaArba'a (03) 5634702
Tel Aviv

15 A Rehov HaPalyam (04) 8633555
Haifa

Discounts on Registration Fees

An individual with a disability who drives a vehicle for personal reasons (not for business) can be eligible to receive a discount on automobile registration fees. Consult with the Ministry of Transport for more information.

National Information Line of the Ministry of Transport *5678.

Parking Tags for Persons with Disabilities

Israel now uses a type of tag that includes advanced security features that make the tag difficult to counterfeit. The tag resembles a plastic card similar to a driver's license, which the owner must place in the vehicle's windshield on the left side (driver's side) in order to facilitate identification on the part of law-enforcement officials. Only the owner of the tag may use



it; the law permits use by another driver only if the owner is a passenger in the vehicle.

The following categories can be eligible for a tag:

- Recognized as disabled by the Ministry of Defense
- Have a "Certificate of Blindness"
- Have limited mobility (all ages)
- Recognized as disabled by the Ministry of Finance Rehabilitation Division
- Recognized as a Victim of an Enemy Action by the National Insurance Institute

Conditions of Eligibility

- The applicant must be dependent upon an automobile for transport because of disability in their legs, or the level of disability must be at least 60%, and movement without an automobile would likely have a negative effect on their health.
- Their ability to walk is limited and a wheelchair is needed for mobility.

Application Procedure

The applicant must receive authorization from a physician of the Licensing Bureau, or the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, the Rehabilitation Unit of the Ministry of Finance, or the National Insurance Institute.

It is necessary to fill out a form (available for download from the Ministry of Transport website) and attach the following documents:

- Photocopy of *te'udat zehut* and attachment (*sefach*).
- Photocopy of vehicle registration and driver's license



- Medical authorization of a 60% level of disability or greater (a copy of the protocol of the National Insurance Institute Medical Committee that established the level of disability).
- Original, up-to-date medical documents.

Send requests to the Holon Licensing Bureau, HaYechida LeTipul BeMugbalei Nayadut, P.O.B. 72, Holon, 58100. It is not necessary to appear in person.

Exemptions on Registration Fees

Generally speaking, persons who are eligible for a tag are in most cases also eligible for exemptions on vehicle registration fees. Applicants may request an exemption at the same time as applying for a tag. Contact the Ministry of Transportation for details.

Ministry of Transportation Information Line
www.mot.gov.il

*5678

Note: for more information about driver's licenses, consult the booklet entitled "Transportation," available from the Publications Department. See the order form at the back.

The Ministry of Finance

www.mof.gov.il

Income Tax Benefits

A recipient of a General Disability Allowance, who has a combined medical disability level of 90% and up, or a medical disability level of 100%, can be eligible for exemptions on income tax up to a set maximum.

An individual with a Certificate of Blindness/Vision Disability, who is employed, can also be entitled to exemptions on income tax.



Immediate family members (spouse, parent, child) can receive two income-tax credit points.

An individual with a parent, spouse, or child who is paralyzed, permanently bedridden, blind, or has a mental illness, or is the parent of a child with a developmental disability, can receive two income tax credit points.

An individual who has an immediate family member living in a residential-care facility may be eligible for a partial exemption on income taxes in place of credit points if they pay fees to the facility for their care.

Submit requests for tax benefits or exemptions to an income tax assessor at the nearest Income Tax Authority office. See the Ministry of Finance website for addresses.

Reduced Acquisition Tax on Apartments

Individuals in the following categories can be eligible for a discount on the Acquisition Tax (*mas rechisha*) when purchasing an apartment:

- New immigrant for 7 years from the date of aliyah. Note that this benefit applies to **all** new immigrants. The discount pertains to apartments up to a certain value. Consult the booklets “Guide for the New Immigrant,” and “Housing,” for details. See the order form at the back of this booklet.
- An individual with a permanent medical disability of 100%, or of 90% from combined disabilities.
- An individual for whom the National Insurance Institute has determined at least 75% disability in supporting themselves.
- An individual whose hand or foot has been amputated, or is paralyzed, and has a permanent disability of 50% or higher.
- An individual with a permanent disability of at least 50% resulting from an automobile accident, and who is eligible for



an allowance or grant from the National Insurance Institute according to Section *Gimmel* of the National Insurance Law.

- An individual with a permanent disability percentage of 19% or more according to regulations of the Disability Law or the Law of Disabled Fighters in the War against the Nazis.
- An individual with a permanent disability of 50% or more according to the Law of Victims of Nazi Persecution, and who is eligible for a pension from the State Treasury according to this Law.
- A family member including parents or widow of a soldier killed in action as defined by the Law of Families of Fallen Soldiers (Pensions and Rehabilitation) who is eligible for benefits, a family member who is not eligible for benefits due to age or income, and an orphan up to the age of 40. Additionally, this also includes a widow who remarries and to whom clause 12 (A) applies.
- A victim of a terror attack with a permanent disability percentage of 19% or more according to the Law of Compensation to Victims of Enemy Actions, or a family member of a victim who dies of injuries sustained in an enemy action, and who receives an Orphan's Allowance until the age of 40.
- A couple in which one spouse is in one of the categories listed above who makes a joint property purchase can receive eligibility as a couple.
- A new immigrant who acquires rights to a property during the year prior to aliyah and up to 7 years following aliyah can be eligible for reduced acquisition tax one time for acquiring an apartment and once for acquiring a business.

The above concessions are granted up to two times.

Tax levels are updated annually.



Property Tax Offices

www.mof.gov.il

(selected list)

66 Rehov Kanfei Nesharim (02) 6545222
Givat Shaul, Jerusalem

125 Derech Begin (03) 7633333
Tel Aviv

Kiryat HaMemshela (04) 8630400
15 Sderot HaPalyam
Haifa

Beit Oshira (08) 6293555
31 Rehov Shazar
Beer Sheva

For more addresses, contact a local municipal information line (*moked iron*). Dial 105/6/7 in most locations. More addresses are also on the Ministry of Finance website: www.mof.gov.il/taxes.

Employment Grant

The "Employment Grant" program is designed to, among other objectives, encourage and provide an incentive for participation in the workforce, including persons with disabilities. The law makes it possible for people who have a reduced working capacity, for whom an "adjusted minimum wage" has been determined according to the Minimum Wage Law, to be eligible for a grant even if their income-level would entitle them to a smaller grant than that received by persons without a disability. For details about eligibility, contact the Income Tax Authority, Telephone Information Line, *4954 or 1-222-4954 or visit their website, www.taxes.gov.il.

The Authority for Rights of Holocaust Survivors

The Authority for Rights of Holocaust Survivors of the Ministry of Finance distributes grants and allowances to Holocaust survivors as well as to eligible veterans of the Second World War. The



Authority also assists in financing the purchase of equipment such as wheelchairs, special beds, and prosthetics.

Information Center of the Authority for Rights of Holocaust Survivors

The Information Center provides information and explanations to Holocaust survivors and war veterans who have a disability, and who receive an allowance and benefits according to provisions of the Law of Disabled Victims of Nazi Persecution (1957), the Law for Disabled War Veterans (1954), the Arrangements Law (2001), and the Law for Benefits to Holocaust Survivors (2007).

The Authority operates an Information Line for questions and details about assistance.

The Information Line: (03) 5682651

For more information, see <http://ozar.mof.gov.il/shoarights> (Hebrew only).

Israel Lands Authority

www.mmi.gov.il

In accordance with the policies of the Israel Lands Council, the Israel Lands Authority grants various benefits to persons with a disability. Upon purchase or sale of a property, consult with a lawyer for information about discounts and benefits.

Land-Allocation Lotteries for "Build Your Own Home" Properties

The Israel Lands Registry is authorized to earmark up to 10% of plots in new, independent, low-rise-dwelling building projects, which allocate plots through a lottery system, on behalf of eligible



persons with a disability. Israeli citizens or returning residents, who are eligible to participate according to criteria specified in the 'tender' conditions listed in the project catalogue, can register for the lottery. The order of preference is in most cases as follows:

Level A: Disabled IDF veteran with a very severe disability classified as 100% + disabled (unusual) - based on approval from the Rehabilitation Division of the Ministry of Defense; victims of enemy actions with a very severe disability as defined by the Law of Compensation to Victims of Enemy Actions (1970), classified as 100% + disabled (unusual) - based on approval from the National Insurance Institute.

Level B: Disabled IDF Veteran with a severe disability, based on approval from the Rehabilitation Division of the Ministry of Defense; victims of enemy actions with a severe disability as defined by the Law of Compensation to Victims of Enemy Actions (1970), based on approval from the National Insurance Institute.

Level C: An individual with a disability level of at least 75% caused by permanently restricted mobility- based on authorization from the National Insurance Institute.

Level D: A blind individual- based on authorization from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services and who has a "Certificate of Blindness/Vision Disability."

*A person with a disability who is under the age of 18 can register through their legal guardian following receipt of permission from a Court that is empowered to grant such permission.

*Eligibility for this benefit is on a one-time basis only; a person with a disability who receives the benefit, or whose parents received the benefit on the individual's behalf, is not eligible for an additional benefit.

*The benefit may be exercised only upon presentation of documents and authorizations that verify disability, as well as additional documents including a declaration that the recipient did



not benefit from receipt of a plot of land in the past on the basis of disability, as detailed in the project brochure.

Allocation of Gas Stations with Exemptions to Disabled IDF Veterans

As a rule, land for establishing gas stations is allocated through public tenders. However, according to the Fuel Economy and Mandatory Tenders Law, a portion of all the properties marketed by the Israel Lands Registry for the purpose of establishing gas stations must be earmarked for disabled IDF veterans with an exemption from tenders.

The benefit is for the purpose of vocational rehabilitation, for persons up to the age of 70. Following age 70 the property reverts to the Israel Lands Registry. Rights to the land cannot be transferred to another person through inheritance or any other means.

Eligibility:

Disabled IDF veterans, upon the recommendation of the Rehabilitation Division of the Ministry of Defense.

Apartments on Kibbutzim or Moshavim

In accordance with Israel Lands Council policies, the Israel Lands Authority allocates dwellings on moshavim and kibbutzim. In the framework of this program, the family acquires rights to their dwelling.

Eligibility

Mature children of a member-family or of a member who died while the family still belongs to the cooperative, who meet the definition of "disabled" as defined by the Law for Equality of Persons with Disabilities (1998), and whose disability is considered permanent.



Note: the above information is presented as a service to the public. It does not replace professional advice and cannot serve as the foundation of any claim. If any discrepancy arises between the information contained here and between official laws and regulations, the laws and regulations will prevail. If the Israel Lands Registry decides to authorize a transaction, the transaction is carried out in accordance with regulations of the Israel Lands Authority that are in force at the time of the transaction.

Ministry of Religious Services

www.dat.gov.il



Accessible Religious Institutions

All new buildings constructed by the Ministry of Religious Services must be fully accessible. Information about accessible synagogues and ritual baths is available from the local religious councils. Accessible burial plots are allocated according to availability.

Discount on Marriage Registration Fees

The Ministry of Religious Services grants a discount on marriage registration fees to persons who have authorization from their local municipal social services department.

The discount is upon registering to marry at the local religious councils.

Employment

The Ministry of Religious Services, in cooperation with the "HaMeshakem" Company (a company that employs individuals with disabilities) encourages employment in its departments and



on Religious Councils throughout the country. See the Ministry website for more information: www.dat.gov.il.

Rabbinat Offices in the Main Cities

12 Rehov HaHavatzet
Jerusalem (02) 6214888

1 Rehov Ori
Tel Aviv (03) 6938900

60 Rehov Herzl
Haifa (04) 8641187

8 Rehov HaTelmond
Beer Sheva (08) 6204000

Note: for more locations, call a municipal information line (105/6/7 in most cities) or see the Ministry of Religious Services website: www.dat.gov.il.

The Ministry of Education

www.education.gov.il

The Special Education Law

The Special Education Law (1988) mandates that every child in Israel between the ages of 3 years-21 years who is diagnosed with an intellectual, psychological, physical, or behavioral disability is entitled to special education.

[Integration Committee-Mainstream educational frameworks for integrating students with special needs.](#)

Special-education policies in Israel favor maintaining students in



mainstream education to the greatest extent possible according to students' capabilities of integrating, and by fostering integration with the help of additional teaching hours and other services. Eligibility for integration programs is through an Integration Committee (*va'adat shiluv*), which considers the student's ability to participate in an integratory program in a mainstream school, based on the opinions of professionals and according to the request of student and parents.

Applying to an Integration Committee

A parent who wishes for an Integration Committee to convene should apply in writing to the chair of the Committee (in most cases the principal in primary schools, the supervisor general in kindergartens).

Placement Committee

The Placement Committee considers the eligibility of a student whose educational/therapeutic needs cannot be met within a mainstream educational setting, and who requires placement in special education (special-education kindergarten or primary school, special-education classes within a mainstream school). The referral to the Placement Committee may originate from the parents, the school staff, the Integration Committee or the local educational authority.

A number of documents are required for the Placement Committee:

- Educational evaluation (prepared by the school as part of the Placement Committee referral questionnaire).
- Appropriate documentation from an accepted diagnostic body that verifies the presence of a significant difficulty.
- Psychological evaluation or diagnosis from the framework (as needed).

Additionally, parents should bring all necessary medical documents, school records, psychological assessments, and any other relevant documents. Be sure to have several copies of



all documents, and be prepared to submit the copies whenever necessary. Original documents should be for display purposes only. NEVER give original documents to anyone.

The Special Education Law also makes provision for auxiliary services such as physiotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, art therapy, and other services based on students' needs and according to budgetary and other factors.

New-Immigrant Students with Learning Disabilities

Parents of a new-immigrant child with a learning disability diagnosed prior to aliyah should notify the new school immediately. Schools do not normally test for learning disabilities among new immigrants during their first year, unless they are informed of a pre-existing condition.

It is not usual to convene an Integration Committee on behalf of a new-immigrant student unless two years have passed from the date of aliyah and unless the student arrives in Israel with official documentation of learning disabilities diagnosed prior to aliyah.

In many cases, new-immigrant students in special-education frameworks can receive additional teaching hours for assistance in learning Hebrew in addition to special-education hours.

For more information, visit the Ministry of Education website: www.education.gov.il, or contact the Ministry Information Line, 1-800-250025. It may also be possible to receive information from the English-speaking immigrant associations. See Useful Addresses.

Additional Sources of Assistance

The network of assistance to families of children with special needs is vast and complex, with a certain amount of overlap between bodies. Three main bodies apart from the Ministry of Education provide services to children with special needs and their families:

- The Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services
- The Ministry of Health



- The National Insurance Institute

For more information see each individual section about these bodies, or consult directly with each relevant body.

Ulpan Programs

The Department of Adult Education operates ulpan classes designed to meet the needs of new immigrants:

Programs include:

- Ulpan programs for the blind
- Ulpan programs for the deaf
- Ulpan programs for people with mental illness
- Ulpan programs for victims of substance abuse
- Accessible ulpan programs for persons with a disability/limited mobility

Ulpan classes are based on a sufficient number of participants.

Students receive one weekly study hour per class member, with the total number of hours equal to the number of students in a class. Eligibility is for 3 years from the date of aliyah.

Application Procedure

Apply for ulpan classes through a personal absorption counselor at branch offices of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption. Students with mental illness should apply through the nearest District Health Office of the Ministry of Health.

Immigrant Students

Immigrant students in both mainstream and special-education schools are entitled like all immigrant students to tutoring in Hebrew. The number of tutoring hours is in accordance with the number of immigrant students in the school.



For more information, contact:

The Ministry of Education

Department of Immigrant Students

(02) 5603619/20

Lev Ram Building, 2 Rehov Devorah

Jerusalem

www.education.gov.il/olim

The Ministry of Communications

www.moc.gov.il

As mandated by the Law of Television Broadcasts (subtitles and sign language) (2005), a large number of television broadcasts are accompanied by subtitles or sign language. This includes live programming, prime-time programming, and children's television.

The bodies in charge of supervising implementation of the provisions of the law and ensuring that programming has subtitles or sign language are the Council for Cable and Satellite Broadcasting (YES and HOT), and the Executive Committee of the Broadcasting Authority (Channel 1), as well as the Council for the Second Channel (Channel 2 and Channel 10).

For information on broadcasts with subtitles or sign language, check the daily listings in the media, and the websites of the various programming providers.



The Ministry of Justice

www.justice.gov.il

Commissioner of Equality for Persons with Disabilities

The Commissioner's responsibilities include:

- Preparation of amendments to legislation, and preparation of guidelines and revisions for the approval of relevant government ministries.
- Enforcing legislation through a supervisory system and lawsuits over accessibility.
- Publication and distribution of information on the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Promotion of equality and prevention of discrimination against persons with disabilities.
- Encouraging integration and active participation in the community in the areas of employment, housing, education, rehabilitation, social security, culture, and recreation.
- Legal advice and representation in all areas at no cost.

Application Procedure

For legal advice and information, contact:

Department of Public Inquiries

Commissioner of Equality for Persons with Disabilities.

37 Rehov Yermiyahu, "City Towers,"

Jerusalem

Fax: (02) 5088025

Postal address: Ministry of Justice, The Commissioner of Equality for Persons with Disabilities.

29 Rehov Saladin, Jerusalem.



For inquiries about housing, employment, discrimination in insurance, education, recreation and other areas of life,

contact: (02) 5088037

Tovar@justice.gov.il.

For inquiries about accessibility

contact: (02) 5088022

liritsha@justice.gov.il

Inquiries about accessibility, integrating into the community, and legislation, as well as requests for informational material:

contact: (02) 5088028

SigalGE@justice.gov.il.

For more information, see www.mugbaluyot.justice.gov.il or the Information Center for Persons with Disabilities www.negishut.justice.gov.il.

Exemptions on Mortgage Fees

The Ministry of Justice grants exemptions on mortgage or rental registration fees to eligible persons with a disability. The spouse of a person with a disability can also be eligible. The exemptions are at the time of registration at a Property Registration Office (*Tabu*).

A couple who marries within 12 months of registration, and who have a joint mortgage, can receive a refund of the fee if one spouse is eligible.

Eligibility

- Eligibility for an exemption on mortgage or rental registration fees is for persons in one of the following categories:
- Eligible for an allowance according to the Disabled Law or the Law of the Disabled in the War Against the Nazis.
- Eligible for an allowance according to the Law of Disabled Victims of Nazi Persecution, or disabled as the result of a work accident as defined by the National Insurance Institute,



automobile accident, paralysis, amputation of a foot or hand, and with a disability level of no less than 50%.

- Has another form of disability and a disability level of 100%.

For more information, or to check eligibility, contact the Israel Lands Registry.

The Israel Lands Registry

National Information Number 34 Rehov Ben Yehuda Jerusalem	076-5300900
15A Sd. HaPalyam Haifa	(04) 8634040
125 Sd. Begin Tel Aviv	076-5300900
4 Rehov HaTikva Beer Sheva	(08) 6294477
16 Rehov Hamalacha Nazareth	(04) 6478080
26 Rehov HaHistadrut Petach Tikva	(03) 9056555
23 Rehov Kedoshei Kahir Holon	(03) 5025858
10 Rehov Oppenheimer Rehovot	076-5300900
3 Rehov Barkat Netanya	076-5300900



The Court Administration

www.court.gov.il

Accessibility to Court Deliberations

Court buildings constructed during the past few years are accessible. Older buildings should have suitable accessibility arrangements.

Accessibility for the Deaf

During Court hearings, a judge can appoint a sign-language translator or permit individuals to read testimony documentation that is prepared by the court recorder (in Hebrew) during the proceedings.

Apply prior to a trial through the court secretary for a translator or permission to read court transcripts. For more information on the Court system in Israel, see the Court website, www.court.gov.il.

Accessibility for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities, Psychological Disabilities, or Autism

During certain types of criminal proceedings, the Court may permit a witness to testify by other means if the Judge believes that testifying by standard methods might affect the testimony of a witness with a disability,

The Public Defender's Office

The Public Defender's Office serves as legal representation throughout all stages of a criminal proceeding, beginning from advising suspects during police interrogation, through arrest proceedings, trials, and appeals. The Office also represents persons who have been hospitalized in a psychiatric facility against their will during hearings before psychiatric committees.

Contact the nearest Public Defender's Office by submitting a copy of a charge sheet together with a *te'udat zehut*. It is necessary



to fill out an application form, available for download from the Ministry of Justice website: <http://www.justice.gov.il/Units/SanegoriaZiborit/Subjects/Documents/one.pdf>.

The Public Defender's Office

Information Line 076-5300880

4 Rehov Henrietta Szold (03) 6932666
Tel Aviv

34 Rehov Ben Yehuda (02) 5696180
Jerusalem

33 Rehov Shazar (08) 6404500
Beer Sheva

15A Rehov HaPalyam (04) 8633733
Haifa

1 Rehov HaMalacha (04) 6029111
Tiberias

The Attorney General's Office

4 Rehov Henrietta Szold (03) 6932608
Tel Aviv

Legal Aid Bureaus

Legal Aid Bureaus offer legal counseling and representation during civil suits to persons who are unable to afford an attorney. Assistance is free of charge, except for a registration fee, based on a sliding scale.

To apply for legal aid, consult with the nearest Legal Aid Bureau.

1 Rehov HaSoreg 1-700-706044 Ext. 4
Jerusalem (also Ashdod and Eilat) Fax: (02) 6467611



4 Rehov Szold Tel Aviv	1-700-706044 Ext. 4 Fax: (02) 6467717
15 Rehov HaPalyam Haifa	1-700-706044 Ext. 4 Fax: (02) 6467943
3047 Rehov Tufic Ziad, Wafa Center Nazareth	1-700-706044 Ext. 4 Fax: (02) 6462532
4 Rehov Keren HaYesod, Beit Caruso Beer Sheva	1-700-706044 Ext. 4 Fax: (08) 6467672

Legal Aid for Psychiatric Patients

In all cases of non-voluntary hospitalization, the law provides patients the right to legal representation before a Psychiatric Board, which meets 3 days following hospitalization and again 14 days later. A patient also has the right to appeal the Board's decisions. Patients may apply for representation by the Legal Aid services of the Ministry of Justice, which is free of charge. Patients may also choose representation by their own private attorney. The hospital is obligated to provide application forms for Legal Aid immediately upon admission. The hospital must relay the forms to the Legal Aid Bureau without delay. Failure to do so is a violation of the law.

The law mandates that any person hospitalized in a psychiatric-care facility, or who receives psychiatric treatment that has been court-mandated as the result of a criminal act, is entitled to representation during hearings before the Psychiatric Board by the Public Defender's Bureau, free of charge, as well as during appeals of the Board's decisions. For details, contact the Public Defender's Office nearest to the location of the hospital (see above), or send a fax requesting the appointment of counsel. Hospital staff can help if necessary.



The Guardian General

The Guardian General of the Ministry of Justice superintends the affairs of persons who are unable to do so for themselves for various reasons, including disability, in situations in which a “custodian” is appointed. The Guardian General oversees the administration of property and assets by the appointed custodian on behalf of the disabled individual. The Guardian General receives reports from the custodian about the property and assets they manage, checks the reports the custodian submits, and supervises the custodian’s activities.

The Guardian General- Secretariat

Jerusalem (02) 6215762

Beer Sheva (08) 6264561/2

Haifa (04) 8633767

Tel Aviv (03) 6899638

The Israel Police

In cases in which the police investigate a complaint involving an individual with a disability, the police can bring in, as necessary, a guardian or other persons or bodies (e.g. a social worker). In some cases, a specially-trained investigator from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services can question an individual with an intellectual disability in place of a police investigator, or the questioning can take place in the presence of a social worker. The police must document the questioning by means of video or audio recording, with specific exceptions.

In certain locations the Bizchut organization operates programs to assist persons with disabilities during police procedures.



Bizchut- The Israel Human Rights Center for People with Disabilities

www.bizchut.org.il

mail@bizchut.org.il

P.O.B. 34510

(02) 6521308 Fax: (02) 6521219

Jerusalem

Victims of Violence or Crime

Members of the public are obligated to notify the police of any instance of crime or assault against individuals with a disability, including domestic violence or sexual assault, especially if the victim is helpless or incapacitated in any way. If the police receive any report of violence or assault against helpless or incapacitated persons, they are obligated to report to a social worker.



National Voluntary and Non-Profit Organizations

Note: Information about voluntary and non-profit organizations is based on material publicized and provided by each individual body. [Details are the responsibility of the relevant organization.](#)

The Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption **does not** recommend or endorse any particular organization or service. It is up to each individual to investigate and decide upon the most appropriate source of assistance.



'Ahada' – Organization of Parents for Self-Help, in conjunction with the Kibbutz Movement

www.ahada.org.il
ilansarigh@gmail.com
Tel: 052-2361045
Fax: (04) 9857781

A self-help organization of parents in kibbutzim, moshavim and towns that holds seminars and an annual conference, offers a "School for Parents" with a support group, ongoing projects for Education in High Schools during after school hours, a Bar-Mitzvah project, and other projects.

Ofek LiYeladenu – Israel National Association of Parents of Visually Impaired Children

www.ofek-liyladenu.org.il
ofek@ofek-liyldenu.org.il

Support and information services to parents of blind and visually disabled children.

8 Rehov Degel Reuven (02) 6599553
P.O.B. 925 Fax: (02) 6522614
Jerusalem

'Acha' – Israeli Association of the Deaf

www.deaf-israel.org.il
deaf-israel@barak.net.il

Services to the deaf in the areas of education, ulpan for new immigrants, sign language translations, vocational training, social integration, legal aid, and more.

National Office (03) 7303355
13 Rehov Yad LeBanim Fax: (03) 7396419
Yad Eliyahu, Tel Aviv

Support Services Center Tel/Fax: (03) 7300335
Information on other branch offices is available from the Support Services Center.



Etgarim

www.etgarim.org

Helps children, adolescents and adults to rehabilitate physically, intellectually and socially, through challenging sports and outdoor activities.

18 Rehov Beit Hillel (03) 5613585
Tel Aviv Fax: (03) 5613586

'Ilan' – Israel Association for Handicapped Children

www.ilan-israel.co.il

Assistance with physical care, education, rehabilitation, employment, and sports. Areas of service include individual aid, a special-education network, sheltered workshops, sports centers, residential facilities, after-school activities, summer camps, clubs, and support groups for parents.

National Office (03) 5248141
9 Rehov Gordon
Tel Aviv

Branches

4 Rehov Trumpledor (02) 6234091/ 6253534/ 6234406/
Jerusalem 6251799

2 Rehov Buki Ben Yogli (03) 5281217
Tel Aviv

12 Rehov Allenby (04) 8522378
Haifa

For more branches, see the Ilan Website.



Umbrella Organization of Organizations for the Disabled

www.disabled.org.il

The Umbrella Organization of Organizations for the Disabled works to facilitate integration into Israeli society. Services include legal aid, discounts in specific shops and workshops, and transportation.

National Office (03) 5273757
30 Rehov Ibn Gvirol Fax: (03) 5240265
Tel Aviv

'Eitan' – Israeli Association for Rare Disorders

eitan_rd@netvision.net.il

Information, support groups, help applying to the National Insurance Institute, the health funds, and other bodies.

5 Rehov Peki'in (03) 6021055
P.O.B. 6349 Fax: (03) 6021056
Tel Aviv 61063

The Israel Guide Dog Users Association-Tzemed

www.igdu.org.il

The Israel Guide Dog Users Association works to facilitate provision of service-dogs to assist the blind to lead independent lives.

10 Rehov David Lachmi (03) 5371065
Tel Aviv Fax: (03) 5371066



Organization of Work-Accident Disabled and Bereaved Spouses

www.ina.org.il

Physical, economic, and social rehabilitation, and representation of constituents to government and public bodies.

3 Rehov Yad HaRutzim (02) 6251937
Jerusalem

5 Rehov Druyanov (03) 5243335/6
Tel Aviv

67 Rehov Allenby (04) 8510953
Haifa

23 Rehov HaHagana (08) 6275049
Beer Sheva

Organization of Disabled IDF Veterans

www.inz.org.il

Works to improve the financial, medical, and social conditions of members. Services include loans and scholarships, and social, cultural, and sports activities within the framework of "Beit HaLochem" and "Beit Key."

51 Sderot Chen (03) 5221286
Tel Aviv

1 Rehov Yitzchak Modi'i (02) 6750011
Jerusalem

23 Rehov HaAliyah HaShniya (04) 8146500
Haifa



182 Rehov Herzl
Rehovot

(08) 9466499/88

Migdal Canyon HaNegev
Beer Sheva

(08) 6345430

'Alut' – The Israel Society for Autistic Children

www.alut.org.il

Maintains workshops and educational and rehabilitation centers for autistic children, offers assistance to families, and works to raise societal awareness of autism. The Family Center helps families to develop methods of understanding and coping with their children's situation.

National Office

(03) 5178188

1 Rehov Corazin
Givatayim

Open Line

(03) 6709094

Family Center

(03) 6703077

Beit Loren
63 A' Rehov Krinitsky
Ramat Gan

30 Rehov HaTzfira
Jerusalem

(02) 5665294

20 Rehov Moriah
Haifa

(04) 8101569

Rechavat Yuhudei Syria
Shchuna Hey
Beer Sheva

(08) 6431528



'Enosh' – Israel Mental Health Association

www.enosh.org.il

office@enosh.org.il

Maintains community-based social-services frameworks designed for the social rehabilitation of persons with mental illness, and the assistance of their families.

National Office

30 Rehov Moshe Dayan
Cfar Saba

(03) 5400672
Fax: 074-7556101

5 Rehov HaRebbi MeBachrach
Tel Aviv

Youth Shelter

Kikar Masryk, Tel Aviv

(03) 5239036

29 Rehov Shalom Yehuda
Jerusalem
enosh@enoshjlm.org.il

(02) 6724723
Fax: (02) 6724723

22 Rehov Gedalyahu
Haifa

(04) 8236489

14 Rehov Ben Gurion
Beer Sheva

(08) 6286915

For more branches, see the Enosh website.



'Akim' - Israel Association for Rehabilitation of Children and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities

www.akim.org.il

info@akim.org.il

Akim offers therapy and rehabilitation programs, and also works to protect the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities, offers legal guardianship, and other services.

National Office

(03) 76622224

69 Rehov Pinchas Rosen

Fax: (03) 6470055

Tel Aviv

Open Line 1-800-399-333

19 Rehov Yad Harutzim, Suite 304
Jerusalem

(02) 6728731

16 Rehov Bialik
Tel Aviv

(03) 5255447

6 Rehov Masada
Haifa

(04) 8679352

27 Rehov Herzl
Beer Sheva

(08) 6231190

'Bizchut', Israel Human Rights Center for People with Disabilities

www.bizchut.org.il

mail@bizchut.org.il

Promotes equality for persons with disabilities and their participation in society and all areas of life.

3 Rehov Kanfei Nesharim

(02) 6521308

Jerusalem

Fax: (02) 6221283



Beit Issie Shapiro

www.beitissie.co.il

Therapy, treatment, family support, and community services for children with special needs, and their families.

Rehov Issie Shapiro

(09) 7701222

Ra'ananna

Fax: (09) 7710465

Bekol – the Hard of Hearing Organization

www.hearing.org.il

info@bekol.org

Information hotline and internet site, courses and self-help groups, advocacy and lobbying, and demonstration and guidance centers.

34 Rehov HaBarzel

(03) 5257001

Tel Aviv 67067

Fax: (03) 5257004

Chimes Israel

www.chimesisrael.org.il

chimes@chimes.org.il

Rehabilitation and diagnostic services for persons with developmental disabilities.

13 Rehov Arad

(03) 6442427

P.O.B. 69710

Tel Aviv

Ezra LeMerapeh

www.ezra-lemarpe.org

Provides a variety of services to the sick, disabled, and elderly, including loans of emergency equipment, medical counseling, and transportation.

Main Office P.O.B. 518

(03) 5777000

Bnai Brak 51104

Fax: (03) 6161177



Israel Multiple Sclerosis Society

www.mssociety.org.il

Works in conjunction with community bodies that offer care to multiple sclerosis patients, and assists rehabilitation organizations.

16 Rehov Chomei VeMigdal
Tel Aviv

(03) 5377002
Fax: (03) 5377004

The Association of the Blind in Israel Assisted by Guide Dogs

www.blind-guidedogs.org.il

blind@zahav.net.il

Assists persons using service dogs, and those interested in working with a service dog, in order to achieve an independent lifestyle.

10 Rehov David Hachmi
Tel Aviv

(03) 5371065
Fax: (03) 5371066

The Israel Center for the Blind

www.blinds.co.il

yalon@blinds.org.il

The umbrella organization on behalf of blind persons, and of the "Sheshet" organization. The Center offers guidance, representation, therapy, and rehabilitation, and maintains a registry of all blind persons in the country. Services include subsidized sales of aids and devices for the blind and those with impaired vision, assistance obtaining tax refunds, loans and grants according to need, computer familiarization courses, study days and seminars, and recreational activities.

National Office
10 Rehov David Hachmi
Tel Aviv

(03) 7915555



Note that local chapters of the Israel Association for the Blind are located throughout the country. Information is available from the Israel Center for the Blind, or from local municipal information lines (*moked ironi*). Dial 105/6/7 in most locations.

“Tomi” Association for Autistic Children

www.tomi.org.

info@tomi.org

Information and treatment center.

10/24 Rehov Achimeir

(03) 6437398

Tel Aviv

Keren Or

www.ofek-liyladenu.org.il/ofek17/keren-or.shtml

Educational services, therapy, and rehabilitation for children with visual and other disabilities. Keren Or also offers counseling and social activities. Children can live in residential facilities, or receive treatment in day centers.

3 Rehov Abba Hillel Silver

(02) 5869626

Jerusalem

Migdal Or

www.migdalor.org.il

Functional and vocational rehabilitation for the blind and visually disabled.

Rehabilitation Center

077-7721333

Kiryat Chaim, Haifa



National Library for the Blind

www.clfb.org.il

Main office: office@clfb.org.il

Lending library: zehava@clfb.org.il

Loans of books in Braille as well as recorded material and other services.

4 Rehov HaHistadrut (09) 8617874
Netanya

Branch

lea@clfb.org.il

66 Rehov Moshe Dayan (03) 6315555
Tel Aviv (Yad Eliyahu) Fax: (03) 6315577

AACI- Cohen Library for the Visually Impaired and Homebound

www.aaci.org.il

library@aaci.org.il

Free library for visually-impaired and homebound English-speakers, which offers books on tape, CDs, large-print materials, etc.

37 Rehov Pierre Koenig
Jerusalem (02) 5600912 Fax: (02) 5661920

Organization of Victims of Enemy Actions

www.irgun.org.il

irgun@irgun.org.il

Information and support services to victims of enemy actions and their families.

7-A Derech HaShalom (03) 6884724
Tel Aviv Fax: (03) 6884724



Shalva – Association for Mentally and Physically Challenged Children in Israel.

www.shalva.org

info@shalva.org

Treatment and therapy for children, and respite services for families.

6 Rehov HaRav Danon
Jerusalem

(02) 6519555
Fax: (02) 6535787

Yad Sarah

www.yadsarah.org.il

Services include loans of medical equipment, laundry services, rehabilitation workshops, a day center for the elderly and persons with disabilities, transportation in specific areas, emergency services, and a guidance center for patients and families in Jerusalem. A mobile dental care unit travels throughout the country.

Main Office

124 Sderot Herzl
Jerusalem

(02) 6444455

7 Rehov Kibbutz Galuyot
Ashdod

(08) 8638800

6 Rehov Gottleib
Bnei Brak

(03) 5708071

37 Rehov Zaminhoff
Tel Aviv

(03) 5238974

31 David HaMelech
Haifa

(04) 8381704



2A Rehov Shaul HaMelech
Beer Sheva

(08) 9112000

1 Rehov Anfei
Mercaz Mor
Eilat

(08) 6371445

Additional branches are located throughout the country. Consult Yad Sarah's website or a local municipal information line (*moked ironi*). Dial 105/6/7 in most locations.

'Yated' – Association for the Rehabilitation of Children with Down's Syndrome

www.yated.org.il

Works to promote the societal integration of persons with Down's Syndrome, and offers assistance to their families. Activities include guidance for parents, study days and conferences, information about new treatments and other areas of interest.

National Office
19 Rehov Yad Harutzim
Jerusalem

(02) 6721115

'Leshem' – Organization for the Higher Education of Students with Dyslexia

<http://leshem.telhai.ac.il>

Aid to higher-education students with learning disabilities. The organization offers learning assistance, information, support groups, and legal representation.

P.O.B. 4403
Jerusalem

Telefax: (02) 7498001



'Matav' –Public Association for Social Services

www.matav.org.il

Home-care assistance for persons who are eligible for National Insurance Institute Chronic Care Insurance. Other services are for a fee.

National Information Number

*3391

42 Rehov Agrippas (02) 6233047
Jerusalem

12 Rehov Yad HaRutzim (03) 6850082
Tel Aviv

2 Rehov Huri (04) 8640642
Haifa

40 Rehov HaAtzma'ut (08) 6276033
Beer Sheva

See the website or call the national information number for more branch offices.

Headquarters of the Struggle on Behalf of the Disabled

(Mateh Ma'avak HaNechim)

www.nechim4u.com

maavak@netvision.net.il

Support and assistance services to persons with various disabilities. Among the Headquarters' activities are recreational vacations and placement into the labor market.

Binyan HaHistadrut (03) 6921618/3
93 Rehov Arlozorov Fax: (03) 6921555
Tel Aviv



Micha – Association for Deaf Children

www.michata.org.il

Rehabilitation services for children from preschool age until first grade.

National Office (03) 6994777
23 Rehov Reading, Beit Sherman Fax: (03) 6996821
Ramat Aviv

7 Rehov Rabbi Akiva (02) 6250034
Jerusalem Fax: (02) 6247652

50 Rehov Tzahal (04) 8538276
Haifa Fax: (04) 8528689

10 Rehov Ein Gedi (08) 6433315
Beer Sheva Fax: (08) 6103298

Milbat – Israel Center for Technology and Accessibility

www.milbat.org.il

milbat@netvision.net.il

Provides special assistive devices, therapeutic games and musical instruments, advice about selected devices, and an Information Center that provides details on obtaining devices, whether for purchase or loan.

Sheba Hospital, Pavillion 23 072-2230007
Tel HaShomer Fax: (03) 5357812



Beth David Center for the Blind and Deaf

www.cdb.org.il

info@cdb.org.il

A national rehabilitation center that offers social and cultural activities, a center for teaching daily skills, and a Hebrew ulpan for immigrants with visual and hearing disabilities. The Center also offers guidance and counseling.

13 Sderot Yad LeBanim

(03) 6316361

Tel Aviv

Fax: (03) 6316419

Seeach Sod

www.seso.co.il

info@seso.co.il

Religious educational framework for children with special-needs, including early day-care center, preschools, elementary and junior high school for girls, Talmud Torah and yeshivas for boys, a vocational center, a community-based residential program, a respite center, and group-homes for English-speakers.

31 Rehov Yermiyahu

(02) 6405000

Jerusalem

Mitmodedim LaMa'an Mitmodedim

www.malam.org.il

Self-help organization for persons with mental illness.

46 Rehov Yavne

(03) 5471508

Ramat HaSharon



Access Israel

www.aisrael.org.il
office@aisrael.org.il

Promotes accessible locations throughout the country, and maintains an information line and website with listings of accessible recreational sites, restaurants, hikes and other activities.

P.O.B. 5171 (09) 7451126
Cfar Sava 4415101 Fax: (09) 7451127

Access for All – Tourism and Mobility for the Disabled in Israel

www.access-unlimited.co.il

An organization of professional accessibility experts who specialize in adapting sites and public facilities.

P.O.B. 4648 (02) 5660180
Jerusalem

Disabled Now – The Movement for the Rights of the Disabled

www.cil4u.org/amuta.asp

Works to advance the rights of persons with disabilities, fight discrimination, and promote accessibility. The Movement also operates a Center for Independent Living.

The Center for Independent Living

ciljr@012.net.il
5 Rehov San Martin (02) 6481460
Jerusalem



Nitzan – Society for Advancement of Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities

www.nitzan-israel.org.il

Rehabilitation and integration of children, teens, and adults, as well as assistance to their families. Services include vocational rehabilitation, sheltered housing, and assistance in acquiring equipment for classrooms.

Main Office - 174 Rehov Arlozorov (03) 5372266
Tel Aviv

124 Sd. HaNasi (04) 8372488
Haifa

6 Rehov Bnai Or (08) 6497438
Beer Sheva

See the website for more branch offices.

'Ezer MiTzion' – Israel Aid and Support for the Sick and Needy

www.ezer-mizion.org.il

Transportation, blood donations, medical counseling, and other services.

National Office (03) 6144444
5 Rehov Rubinov
Bnai Brak

5 Rehov Achiezer (08) 8535634
Ashdod

45 Rehov Tchernichovsky (09) 7400515
Cfar Saba



25 Rehov Yermiyahu Jerusalem	(02) 5002111
40 Rehov Hachayil Ra'ananna	(09) 7715691
3 Rehov HaMelitz Tel Aviv	(03) 5257010
Ichilov Hospital 6 Rehov Weizmann Tel Aviv	(03) 6974637
Barzilai Hospital 3 Rehov HaHistadrut Ashkelon	052-767-8166
18/ 1 Rehov Admor MiRuzin Beitar	(02) 5806634
14 Rehov Sdei Hemed Modi'in Ilit	(08) 9743838
18 Rehov Mendelei Rehovot	(08) 9456144

See the website for more branches.



'Otzma' – National Forum of Families of the Mentally Ill

www.ozma.org.il

Represents families of persons with mental illness in a variety of spheres. Otzma is involved in medical treatment, rehabilitation, sources of information, and other forms of assistance.

P.O.B. 1157

(03) 6701800

Givatayim

'Aleh' – Society for Advancement of Blind and Dyslexic Students in Israel

www.alehblind.org.il

lcb@savion.huji.ac.il

Study aids and assistance to university students.

24-hour Information Line

(02) 5880200

Hebrew University

(02) 5882155

Mount Scopus, Jerusalem

Fax: (02) 5826166

Kav LaChaim – National Center for Helping Sick Children

www.kavlachayim.co.il

Assistance for children with cancer, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, motor difficulties, and other chronic conditions. The organization escorts children to school, offers hikes and summer camps, and a variety of other services.

National Office

1-700-707-012

15 Rehov Gonen

Fax: (03) 9215566

Petach Tikva



Central Region Branch
15 Rehov Gonen
Petach Tikva

(03) 9250515
Fax: (03) 9215566

21 Rehov HaDishon
Jerusalem

(02) 6483333

28 Rehov Trumpledor
Neve She'enan Haifa

(04) 8321504

Keren Diagnostic and Vocational Rehabilitation Centers

www.keren.org.il
info@keren.org.il

A public trust founded by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services to provide support and guidance in attaining employment. "Keren" centers specialize in diagnosis and vocational guidance, offering professional training courses, job placement, and sheltered employment. Centers are located throughout the country.

National Office

(03) 6813378

57 Rehov Yehuda HaYamit
Tel Aviv/Jaffa

Keshet - Information, Counseling, and Support Center for Families of Children with Disabilities and Chronic Illnesses

www.horimbekeshet.co.il
makom-m@cet.ac.il

Information, support, and guidance for parents of children with special needs of all types.



Open line 1-700-501601
English and Russian 1-800-301830

Support Services

Center: sharon@mrkeshet.org.il (03) 5257467
Jerusalem: info@mrkeshet.org.il (02) 6236116
South: beersheva@mrkeshet.org.il (08) 6289142
Haifa: haifa@mrkeshet.org.il (04) 8596439

Shema- Education and Rehabilitation of Hearing Impaired Children and Youth

www.shemah.org.il

Communication therapies, guidance, and counseling in mainstream schools, assistance in acquiring or borrowing hearing devices, enrichment activities, and other services.

National Office (03) 5715656/7/8/9
30 Rehov Plitei HaSefer Fax: (03) 5712017
Tel Aviv

7 Rehov Borochov (02) 6428359
Jerusalem Fax: (02) 6428440

8 Rehov Madregot Beit She'arim (04) 8512381
Haifa Fax: (04) 8530024

16 Rehov David HaMelech (08) 6492002
Beer Sheva Fax: 6487223

1 Rehov Trumpledor, Shikun Bet (04) 6716247
Tiberias Fax: 6712328



Shekel Community Services for the Disabled

www.shekel.org.il
Shekel@Shekel.org.il

Sheltered housing, assistance in placement in sheltered industries, and social and creative activities for persons with disabilities.

11 Rehov Yad Harutzim (02) 6720157/8
Jerusalem (02) 6725208

Melabev

www.melabev.org
roxana@melabev.org
orly@melabev.org

Day-centers for memory-impaired elderly and elderly with disabilities. Memory groups are in English, Russian, and Hebrew.

Sha'arei Tzedek Medical Center
P.O.B. 3235 (02) 6666198
Jerusalem 1-700-70-4533

The Israel Psychotrauma Center

www.traumaweb.org
nfo@traumaweb.org

Immediate crisis-intervention therapy for trauma victims, and integrated treatment and recovery programs.

59 Rehov Shemaryahu Levin (02) 6449666
Jerusalem

Natal - The Israel Support Center for Victims of National Psychotrauma

www.natal.org.il
info@natal.org.il

Help and assistance to trauma victims of war and enemy actions.

Helpline 1800-363-363
10 Rehov Ibn Gvirol 0732-363-363
Tel Aviv



Sports Organizations and Centers

Elan Sports Centers for the Disabled

www.iscd.com

info@iscd.com

Rehabilitation through sports.

Haifa Sports Center (04) 8722404

Kiryat Chaim Fax: (04) 8726623

Spivak Center (03) 5754444

123 Rehov Rokach (03) 7511649

Ramat Gan

Sports Organization of the Deaf

www.israeldeafsport.org

National Office

Beit Helen Keller, 13 Rehov Yad LeBanim Fax: (03) 6310440

Tel Aviv

Beit HaLochem

Center for sport, rehabilitation and social activities for IDF disabled and their families.

49 Rehov Shmuel Barkai (03) 6461646

Tel Aviv

101 Derech Tzarfat (04) 8590859

Haifa

Menachat, P.O.B. 9489 (02) 6750011

Jerusalem



Emergency Numbers

Police 100
www.police.gov.il

Magen David Adom 101
SMS for Hearing Impaired 1-800-500-101
Fax (for Emergencies Only) 052-7000-101101

Fire Department 102

Electric Company 103

Eran Mental Health Hotline 1202
www.eran.org.il
info@eran.org.il
Soldiers *2201
ICQ 12010

Association of Rape Crisis Centers in Israel

www.1202.org.il

National Hotline 1202
Hotline for Men 1203
Hotline for Religious Women (02) 6730002
Hotline for Religious Men (02) 5328000

The Home Front Command 104
www.oref.org.il

Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services

www.molsa.gov.il
Domestic Violence Hotline 118



Appendix I – Relevant Legislation

- Law of Equal Rights for the Disabled (1998)
- “Law of Planning and Construction,” 1965 – Paragraph 1, Special Arrangements for the Disabled in Public Buildings; Section H- Installation of Special Arrangements for Persons with Disabilities in Public Buildings, Amendment to Planning and Construction, 1970- second addition (amendment 17).
- Planning and Construction Regulations (Permission for Abbreviated Work) – (2001).
- Planning and Construction Regulations (Permission, conditions and fees) (Amendment 4) (2002) (Installation of an Elevator in an Existing Structure).
- The “Property Law” (1969) (Installing a Lift in a Residential Building).
- The “Property Law” (Amendment 23) (2001), Accessibility in a Common Property – Accessibility for a Person with a Disability in a Communal Apartment Building – Summary: An apartment-owner with a disability, or a with whom resides a family member with a disability, or a person with a disability who rents an apartment, is entitled to make alterations to the building, within the common areas, in order to improve accessibility. Alterations may be made upon receipt of authorization as required by law. Authorization is granted on the basis of documentation provided by a physician or physiotherapist, and on condition that alterations do not prevent the building’s other residents from using common areas. Alterations must be made in such a manner as to limit any harm to other apartment owners in the building.
- Law of Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Disabled) – (1988): Lowering Sidewalks.
- Law of Concessions to the Deaf- (1992); Subtitles and Sign Language on Television.



- Prohibition Against Discrimination in Goods, Services, and Entrance to Places of Entertainment and Public Places – (2000).
- Prohibition Against Discrimination Against the Blind Accompanied by Guide Dogs – (1993) (When Entering Public Places).
- Law of Rights of Students with Learning Disabilities in Post-High-School Education (2008)
- Law of Rights of the Employed with Disabilities as Rehabilitation (2007)
- Education Law for Sick Children (2001)
- Special Education Law (1988)
- Law for Treatment of the Mentally Ill (1991)
- Law of the Victims of Nazi Persecution with Disabilities (1957)
- Law for Compensation to Victims of Automobile Accidents (1975)
- Law for Rehabilitation of the Mentally Ill in the Community (2000)
- Law of Compensation for Prisoners of Zion and Family Members (1992)



Appendix II

Applying for a Permit to Employ a Foreign Worker for Nursing Care

Following is a translated summary of Ministry of the Interior regulations for issuing a permit. For the full version (Hebrew only) see www.piba.gov.il.

Note that this information is presented as a public service only. It does not confer any form of eligibility for any service or benefit. In case of any discrepancy between the information presented here and the laws and regulations of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Economy and Industry and other official bodies, the laws and regulations will prevail.

1. Eligibility to Employ a Foreign Worker

A patient who does not reside in an institutional framework (with the exception of sheltered housing) who is in need of a nursing care-giver who would be employed on a least a full-time basis, can receive permission to employ a foreign worker on condition that they meet the following conditions relevant to their age group:

A. Conditions of Eligibility for a Patient who has Reached Retirement Age*

A patient who has reached retirement age can be eligible to employ a foreign worker if they accumulate 4.5 ADL points or 4 ADL points with an additional single point, or eligibility for partial supervision (namely: at least 0.5 points on the "supervision" section of the 'Dependency Test') with an additional single point, on the Dependency Test conducted as part of a claim for a Chronic-Care Allowance that is submitted to the National Insurance Institute, or according to a decision of the Appeals Committee of the National Insurance Institute that also authorizes eligibility for a Chronic-care Allowance without



a Dependency Test. A patient from age 90 and above can be eligible for a permit if they accumulate at least 4 points on the Dependency Test.

*For the definition of "retirement age" consult the National Insurance Institute: www.btl.gov.il.

Requests to extend the validity of a permit (including a permit for the purpose of caring for a minor) - permits issued in the past based on a decision of the Medical Board of the Employment Service, according to which the applicant has a permanent disability, and permits issued for persons who are currently age 85 and over, can be extended without additional deliberation, as long as there is no change in the applicant's circumstances (such as a move to institutional residence).

B. Conditions of Eligibility for an Applicant from Age 18-Retirement Age

A permit can be granted for applicants from 18 years old-retirement age who are entitled to a Special Services Allowance from the National Insurance Institute.

C. Conditions of Eligibility for a Minor

A permit can be issued for a minor who is eligible for a Disabled Child Allowance from the National Insurance Institute, and in addition, one of the following circumstances exists:

- The child's presence in an educational framework depends upon accompaniment by a caretaker for the purpose of providing the child with physical assistance.
- The child depends upon accompaniment or supervision for the majority of the day due to their condition, and is unable to participate in an educational/therapeutic framework without accompaniment or supervision.
- There exist other special medical circumstances, which necessitate close and prolonged daily management during



the hours that the child is at home (example, particular treatment that the child also requires at night).

Request to Extend a Permit for the Purpose of Caring for a Minor - requests to extend permits issued in the past for the purpose of caring for a child can be approved without the need for additional examinations as long as both the following conditions are met:

- The child is eligible for a Disabled-Child Allowance at a rate of at least 100%.
- A declaration is attached to the request that affirms that the child does not reside in an institutional framework.

C. Conditions of Eligibility for Disabled Victims of Enemy Actions and Disabled IDF Veterans:

An "Accompaniment Committee" (*va'adat livui*) of the Ministry of Defense or the Department of Victims of Enemy Actions of the National Insurance Institute determines that the patient is eligible for at least 17 hours of accompaniment daily.

D. Conditions of Eligibility for "Work Disabled"

An individual who is recognized by the National Insurance Institute as "work disabled" (injured at work or contracted a work-related illness) on the level of "multiple assistance" (formerly "dependent upon others") or "dependent upon others" (formerly "chronic") can be eligible for a permit.



How to Apply

A. There are 3 forms to complete, available for download from the Population and Immigrant Authority website, www.piba.gov.il.

- Form Aleph- request for a permit to employ a foreign worker or to extend an existing permit
- Form Bet- employer's obligations
- Form Gimmel- declaration of waiver of confidentiality

B. Attach the following documents to every application:

- Authorization of payment of the application fee (in most cases this fee is discounted). An application that does not include this authorization is returned.
- Copy of patient's *te'udat zehut* and attachment (*sefach*) and of the "employer" if the patient is not capable of fulfilling the obligations of the employer of a foreign worker.
- If the patient is under protection, attach authorization of guardianship.

C. In addition to the above, in accordance with the circumstances of the request, attach the following documents as follows:

- **Minor** - attach authorization from the principal of the school/kindergarten where the child is registered confirming the regular hours during which the child is present, an up-to-date medical opinion from the treating physician, and an assessment from the social services department that supports the reason for the request, signed in the presence of an attorney. Also attach the medical report from the National Insurance Institute detailing the examination conducted during the request process for a Disabled Child Allowance.
- **A patient about to be released from a hospital/chronic care facility**- attach the Request Form for a Patient About



to be Released from the Hospital/Chronic-Care Facility (Form Hay).

- **Work disabled, disabled victim of an enemy action, disabled IDF soldier-** attach authorization of eligibility.
- **Elderly individual who is not eligible for a Chronic-Care Allowance** because of income level- attach a Request Form for Conducting a Dependency Test, available for download from the Population and Immigration Authority website: www.piba.gov.il.

It is necessary to pay a request fee. The payment is with two vouchers. The first is for a discounted request fee, the second is for completing the payment. The request must be accompanied by the two certificates showing the completed payment of the fee. It is possible to pay via the website: www.piba.gov.il. See the website for up-to-date amounts.

Send the request form and attachments to the Permits Department, Nursing Division, at one of the following addresses:

*42 Rehov Agrippas, Kaf-Chet Bldg. P.O.B. 28346, Jerusalem

*125 Derech Begin, P.O.B. 7105, Tel Aviv

*22 Rehov Herzlia, Haifa

*4 Rehov HaTikva, Kiryat HaMemshela, Bldg. 5, Beer Sheva

*140 Rehov Weizmann, Cfar Saba

Information and Service Telephone Line *3450

Applications may **not** be sent by fax. Send original authorizations, or copies certified by an attorney or accountant only.

Note: Fill out the form and supply all of the information requested in clear writing. The request and the "obligation" form are filled out by the patient; if the patient is unable to fulfill the obligations of an employer of a foreign worker, a family member signs as the employer. A request that is submitted without authorization of payment, and/or not completed as required, and /or does not contain all required documents, is returned to the applicant.



Additional Circumstances in Which it is Possible to Request a Permit to Employ a Foreign Worker

Following are additional circumstances in which it is possible to submit a request to employ a foreign worker:

A. **A patient with special needs:** a patient who accrues between 2.5-4 ADL points on a Dependency Test and in addition, one of the following circumstances exists:

- * The patient resides with disabled family member who has a disability.
- * The patient has an intellectual disability and lives with a family member above the age of 70.
- * The patient is a parent of 3 children below the age of 16.
- * The patient is ill with a pernicious or severe disease, and requires monitoring for most hours of the day.

An application in one of the above circumstances is considered by a professional board which recommends whether the situation warrants authorization of a foreign worker (it is mandatory to submit up-to-date medical documents concerning the patient's condition and the need for monitoring during most hours of the day along with the request).

B. **A patient who is About to be Released from a Hospital/Chronic-Care Institution:** present a medical diagnosis from the hospital/institution physician that indicates the need for ongoing care and the estimated date of release from the hospital/institution. A permit in this category is for a period of **3 months only** in accordance with the judgement of a professional board that advises the Permits Department-Nursing Division. If it is necessary to extend the permit, the applicant must then meet the regular eligibility requirements. A permit in this circumstance enables employment of a foreign worker who **is already legally in Israel, and does not allow the entrance of a foreign worker into the country.**



C. **Elderly Applicants who Receive Services from the Rehabilitation Division of the Ministry of Defense** (for example bereaved parents and IDF widows): requests are considered by the professional board of the Permits Division. An authorization must be attached to the request that certifies that the applicant is under the auspices of the Rehabilitation Division, as well as documents that verify the applicant's medical condition.

Receiving the Decision of the Permits Department-Nursing Division

The Nursing Division sends the decision to grant a permit by mail. An applicant who is eligible to employ a foreign worker can then consult with one of the authorized private agencies that are listed on the Ministry of the Interior-Population Authority website in order to register for a foreign worker. It is prohibited to employ a foreign worker without registering with an agency and receiving a letter from the agency that verifies the registration. Details about registration procedures with a private agency and the obligations of the agency can be viewed on www.piba.gov.il.

Obligations of the Employer

A foreign worker is entitled to all the conditions of employment to which Israeli employees are entitled. These include a weekly day off, paid holidays and vacation days, vacation allowance (*dmei havra'a*) and compensation if fired. Additionally, it is necessary to provide specific conditions as listed in the "Foreign Workers Law," including a contract in the worker's language, a monthly salary, proper accommodations in the employer's home, and medical insurance. It is recommended to visit the website of the Ministry of Economy and Industry, www.economy.gov.il, for information



about rights of foreign workers. More information is also available at www.piba.gov.il. A permit is only given to an employer who proves the need for care or supervision for most hours of the day; permits are not issued for employment of a foreign worker for a partial position.



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.

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Date: _____



