New Immigrant Guide to Israel

Welcome to Israel!

This guide provides essential answers for every new immigrant (Oleh) seeking to integrate into life in Israel. It outlines all the forms, requirements, supporting documents, and timelines needed to complete the required procedures at the beginning of your new life in the country.

Part A: The General Aliyah Process

Initial Stages of the Process

- **Submitting an Aliyah Application** – Through an Israeli consulate abroad or as a tourist in Israel.
- **Completing Required Documents** – Presenting proof of eligibility under the Law of Return.
- **Receiving Aliyah Approval** – Issuance of an “Oleh Visa” sticker in the passport.
- **Arrival in Israel** – Entry as a new immigrant.
- **Registration at the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration** – Completing final registration and receiving rights.

Part B: Essential Forms for New Immigrants

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1. Application for Oleh Certificate / Permanent Residency Permit

Feature	Details

Form Name	Application for Oleh Certificate / Permanent Residency Permit
Purpose	Main form for changing status from tourist to new immigrant and issuing the legal document that defines the Oleh status in Israel
When to Submit	Immediately upon arrival in Israel as a tourist or during the application process abroad
Download Link	https://www.piba.gov.il
Fee	No fee (exempt for new immigrants)
Required Documents	Foreign passport, birth certificate, 3 passport photos, declarations of religion and nationality, health and residency statements, proof of Jewish status and family ties

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2. Application for Israeli ID Card

Feature	Details
Form Name	Application for Issuing an Israeli Identity Card
Purpose	Issuance of a 10-year Israeli ID card for adults
When to Submit	Together with the Aliyah application or upon completing registration
Download Link	https://www.piba.gov.il
Fee	₪150 (as of 2025), waived for new immigrants during the first year
Required Documents	Foreign passport, color photo 3.5x4.5 cm, proof of Oleh status, declaration of religion and nationality

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3. Declaration of Religion and Nationality

Feature	Details
Form Name	Declaration of Religion and Nationality
Purpose	Official declaration of religious affiliation (Jewish) and nationality for Law of Return eligibility
When to Submit	During the Aliyah application as part of the required documents
Download Link	https://www.piba.gov.il

Fee	None
Required Documents	Proof of Jewish status, parents' and grandparents' birth certificates, and religious confirmations

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4. Health and Residency Declaration

Feature	Details
Form Name	Health and Residency Declaration
Purpose	Medical declaration confirming no illnesses that may endanger public health
When to Submit	During the application process or upon arrival in Israel
Download Link	https://www.piba.gov.il
Fee	None
Required Documents	Official medical examination, recent medical treatments, updated vaccinations

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5. Oleh Status Approval (Passport Stamp)

Feature	Details
Form Name	Oleh Status Approval in Passport
Purpose	Signed approval in the passport confirming Oleh's status
When Issued	After receiving a positive decision regarding the application
How Issued	Manually by a Ministry of Interior clerk
Fee	None
Required Documents	Passport and clerk's signature

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6. Absorption Basket (Sal Klita) Application

Feature	Details
Form Name	Application for Absorption Basket (Sal Klita)

Purpose	Request for monthly financial assistance during the adjustment period (up to 6 months)
When to Submit	Within the first few days after arrival
Download Link	https://pop.gov.il
Fee	None
Required Documents	Oleh certificate, bank account details, family documents

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7. Registration for Health Fund (Kupat Holim)

Feature	Details
Form Name	Application for Registration with Health Fund
Purpose	Mandatory health insurance enrollment for new immigrants
When to Submit	Within the first few days after arrival
Download Link	https://www.btl.gov.il
Fee	Monthly insurance fee (subsidized for new immigrants)
Required Documents	Oleh certificate, temporary identity number

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8. National Insurance (Bituach Leumi) Registration

Feature	Details
Form Name	Application for National Insurance Registration
Purpose	Registration to receive social security entitlements
When to Submit	Within the first week after arrival
Download Link	https://www.btl.gov.il
Fee	No direct fee (monthly insurance payments)
Required Documents	Oleh certificate, family documents, employment status declaration

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9. Application for Professional Licensing / Recognition of Credentials

Feature	Details
Form Name	Application for Professional Licensing / Credential Recognition
Purpose	Recognition of foreign professional certifications and issuing an Israeli license
When to Submit	Within 3–12 months after arrival (depending on profession)
Download Link	Depends on profession (medicine, law, engineering, etc.)
Fee	₪100–1,000+ depending on field
Required Documents	Original or authenticated diploma, notarized translation, employment history, Hebrew exams for medical/legal fields

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10. Driver's License Conversion for New Immigrants

Feature	Details
Form Name	Application for Converting Foreign Driver's License
Purpose	Converting a valid foreign license to an Israeli license without a driving test
When to Submit	Within 1 year of Aliyah
Download Link	https://www.gov.il (Ministry of Transport)
Fee	₪350
Required Documents	Valid foreign license, notarized translation, Oleh certificate, passport

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11. Adjustment Year Tax Benefits Application

Feature	Details
Form Name	Application for Adjustment Year – Tax Benefits
Purpose	Request for income tax benefits for immigrants during years 1–2
When to Submit	When submitting an annual tax report

Download Link	https://www.tax.gov.il
Fee	None
Required Documents	Annual tax report, proof of Aliyah, confirmation of Sal Klita benefits

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12. Application for Social Security Allowances (Elderly/Disability)

Feature	Details
Form Name	Application for Social Security Allowances
Purpose	Request for pension or disability allowances for elderly or disabled immigrants
When to Submit	Immediately after receiving Oleh status
Download Link	https://www.btl.gov.il
Fee	None
Required Documents	Oleh certificate, identity card, income statements, medical evaluation (if relevant)

Part C: Required Supporting Documents

1. Identity Documents

- Valid foreign passport (at least 6 months' validity)
- Birth certificate (original or apostilled)
- Proof of citizenship (if applicable)
- Marriage certificate (if relevant)

2. Proof of Jewish Heritage

- Jewish parents’ birth certificate indicating Jewish religion

- Grandparent’s birth certificate showing Jewish status
- Written confirmation from a rabbi or synagogue
- Hebrew employment records of family members (if available)
- Jewish education certificates (Bar/Bat Mitzvah, school records)

3. Photos & Medical Documents

- 3–4 passport photos (3.5×4.5 cm)
- Official medical exam form
- Updated vaccination records
- Detailed medical report (if health conditions exist)

4. Financial Documents

- Bank confirmation of account abroad
- Currency declaration (if bringing over $10,000)
- Tax reports from previous years (if employed)

5. Family Documents

- Birth certificates of family members
- Authenticated marriage certificates
- Divorce or widowhood documents
- Proof of spouse’s Jewish status (if immigrating as a family)

Part D: Timeline for New Immigrant Procedures

First Week

Task	Day
Arrival in Israel & passport stamp	Day 1
Visit the local absorption office	Days 2–3
Registration with a health fund	Days 3–4
Registration with National Insurance	Days 4–5
Apply for Sal Klita	Days 5–6
Open a bank account	Day 6

First Month

- Complete all updates with the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration
- Receive a temporary ID card
- Receive the first Sal Klita payment
- Register for Hebrew Ulpan

First Three Months

- Participate in absorption programs / Ulpan
- Receive a permanent ID card
- Begin job search (if relevant)
- Adjust to Israeli society

Part E: Key Government Websites & Contacts

Ministry	Website	Phone	Hours
Ministry of Aliyah & Integration	https://pop.gov.il	*2994	Sun–Thu 08:00–16:00
Population & Immigration Authority	https://www.piba.gov.il	*6050	Sun–Thu 08:00–16:30
National Insurance Institute	https://www.btl.gov.il	*6050	Sun–Thu 08:00–16:30
Ministry of Health	https://www.health.gov.il	1-800-222-999	Sun–Thu 08:00–20:00
Ministry of Transport	https://www.gov.il/transport	1-800-777-777	Sun–Thu 08:00–16:00

Absorption Centers

- Municipal absorption centers (available in major cities): https://pop.gov.il
- Jewish Agency services: https://www.jewishagency.org/il

Important Notes

- Keep your documents - save digital and physical copies of everything
- Notarized translation - required for all foreign documents
- Apostille - required for official foreign documents
- Ask questions - every government hotline can assist
- Keep email records - save copies of all correspondence

Part F: Additional Support Services

Hotline	Purpose	Phone	Hours
Government Information Center	General government inquiries	1299	24/7

Jewish Agency Aliyah Hotline	Aliyah assistance	1-800-ALIYA 1	Sun-Thu 08:00–20:00
Social Emergency Hotline	Emotional and social support	1200	24/7
Ministry of Health Hotline	Health inquiries	1-800-222-9 99	Sun-Thu 08:00–20:00

Welcome to Israel!

We wish you success as you begin your integration journey.

This guide is updated as of November 30, 2025. Requirements may change - always check official websites before submitting documents.