

Welcome Home

MASTER YOUR FUTURE
MA Degree Studies in Israel



המנהל לסטודנטים עולים
Israel Students Authority

משרד העלייה והקליטה
Ministry of Aliyah and Integration





GRADUATE IN YOUR PROFESSION

DEEPEN YOUR ROOTS

BROADEN YOUR EDUCATION IN ONE OF ISRAEL'S WORLD-RENOWNED UNIVERSITIES

ENRICH YOUR JEWISH IDENTITY AND CONNECTION

The Israel Student Authority invites you to join students from all around the world in an academic atmosphere, share in a learning experience beyond the university walls, and enjoy the benefits available to students olim.





THE ISRAEL STUDENT AUTHORITY “MINHAL HASTUDENTIM”

Who are we?

The Israel Student Authority is one of the departments within the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, encouraging young Jews from all over the world to come and study in Israel and providing them the tools and support for a successful academic absorption.

The Israel Student Authority is a vital link between the students olim and higher education in Israel. We offer:

- Information and advice to students who are still abroad.
- Assistance for students olim who want to study and successfully integrate into Israeli academia.
- Programs for social integration to encourage the students olim's sense of belonging and identity.
- Information and guidance assisting the new students olim during their studies.
- Scholarships to the sum of standard state tuition for eligible students.



The Israel Student Authority – serving students olim in Israel

MASTER'S DEGREE IN ISRAEL

Master's studies in Israel are characterized by high academic standards and focus on intensifying knowledge, expanding professional qualifications acquired during BA studies, developing high-quality research abilities and creating academic dialogues on international and Western standards.

Master's studies are offered in two specialization tracks:

- Research track - with a thesis: the track that can lead you to continue on to Ph.D. studies.
- General track - without a thesis: students on this track are required to take more academic credits and cannot continue to Ph.D. studies.



Students arriving in Israel with a Master's degree of a general track who wish to develop their specialization may complete a thesis in Israel, with the assistance of the Center for the Absorption in Science at the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration.

<http://www.moia.gov.il/English/Subjects/ResearchAndScience/Pages/Addresses.aspx>.

*Not all programs offer the option of completing a thesis. Please verify this option at the respective institutions before applying!

Students with high academic achievements in their B.A. studies may apply to a Master's program. M.A. programs are normally two years in length and, are offered by most universities as well as at some academic colleges that have been authorized by the Council of Higher Education, to award such degrees.

Other options in Israel for undergraduates:

"Hassavot" – Retraining: professional programs designed especially for undergraduates of different areas of study that wish to retrain into the fields of teaching, nursing, and social work. For further details on available programs, please contact us.

Certificate studies for undergraduates: studies aimed towards professional development. They exist in a limited amount of fields and allow undergraduates to advance their specialization, gain valuable expertise and tools in their fields of interest.

Direct PhD Track: Students with undergraduate degrees from abroad are rarely admitted into a direct doctoral track (without completing a graduate degree first). Exceptions are made in cases of students with very high grade averages in specific fields. If you wish to check this option you must contact the university registration offices directly.

* Hassavot and Certificate Studies do not grant Master's Degrees, but rather professional diplomas.





ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

There are various options for studying Master's degree in Israel. In many graduate programs you are not required to have an undergraduate degree in the same subject.

The following are the general requirements; you are advised to check each individual study track for specific requirements:

- Grades in BA studies with an average of 75+ (out of 100) according to the acceptance grade scales in Israel. Certain fields require higher grades.
- International Exams:
 - **GMAT** - required by most institutions for those registering for Business Administration. For more information: www.gmat.org
 - **GRE** - required by all institutions for those registering for a Master's degree in Psychology. Some universities require GRE for holders of BA degrees from abroad for other faculties and departments. For more information: www.gre.org
 - **Some additional entry examinations may be required by certain Master's programs such as:**
- Hebrew level.
- English level.
- Personal interview: required by some departments, most likely but not limited to psychology, medicine, law and social work. Some also require previous experience and or letters of recommendation.
- Pre-requisites: Supplementary or pre-requisite courses are often required of students with an undergraduate degree, especially if you are changing field of study. The Student Authority will pay for up to one academic year of supplementary or pre-requisite courses, in addition to the two year entitlement for the graduate degree.

RECOGNITION OF DEGREES FROM ABROAD

Israel is bound by an international agreement sponsored by the United Nations, responsible for specifying rules and regulations regarding recognition of institutions of higher education. The offices which deal with recognition of degrees from abroad are:

A. The Committee for Evaluating Academic Degrees from Abroad in the Ministry of Education:

<http://cms.education.gov.il/EducationCMSUnits/Owl/Hebrew/HaskaaGvoahaGuidelinesEvaluationofForeign.htm>

This evaluation is for purposes of employment.

B. The registration offices of the universities and academic institutions: for purposes of further studies.

The Student Authority operates according to the standards set by these bodies. There may be differences between the evaluations of the Ministry of Education and the university registration offices. For example: a 5 years university studies graduate from abroad may be evaluated by the Ministry of Education as having a Master's Degree for the purposes of employment, but the university may only recognize their studies as an undergraduate degree. In such cases the Student Authority will act according to the evaluation of the university and grant a scholarship for graduate degree studies in Israel.





HEBREW

Students from abroad must have a basic knowledge of Hebrew in order to be accepted into study programs, and must achieve a certain level of Hebrew (academic "exemption" level) in order to receive their degree.

Israel offers a vast variety of Hebrew ulpanim, many of them are specially designed for students olim.

Please note: undergraduates are NOT obligated NOR are they entitled to study in the University Preparatory program "Mechina" which, is targeted at students olim preparing for their Bachelor's studies.

How to Prepare for Your Studies: TAKA is the answer!

TAKA is a pre-academic program that lasts between 4 to 5 months, offered to students with an undergraduate degree from abroad to prepare for further academic studies in Israel. We also offer an extended program of 10 months which consists of "pre-Taka Ulpan" + Taka.

TAKA studies include:

- Academic Hebrew (basic Hebrew knowledge is a pre-requisite for the program)
- Academic English
- Optional courses (with an emphasis on Hebrew terminology) such as mathematics\statistics\computer skills, research methods\social sciences and art.

* Pre-Taka ulpan is not considered beginning of studies for the Student Authority eligibility.

TAKA is funded by the Israel Student Authority without detracting from the assistance offered for a degree.

Following TAKA, it is highly recommended for students to give their Hebrew one more boost at one of the summer ulpanim funded by the Student Authority (4-6 weeks).

Opening of each program is dependent upon sufficient registered students.



STUDIES IN ENGLISH

The Israeli system of Higher Education is globally renowned and appreciated. Therefore, our national institutions offer a diverse range of international programs in English.

There are many options for studying in Israel in English, but keep in mind that:

- Not all faculties offer tracks in English.
- The cost is likely to be considerably higher (and not completely covered by our tuition grants).
- Studying in Hebrew will improve not only your language skills but will also play a key role in integrating into Israeli society.

Moreover, lectures in Hebrew programs are generally given in Hebrew, but most of the reading material is in English. As such, an English-speaking student has a great advantage. Most faculties also allow students to write their seminar papers and theses in English.





ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS OLIM:

- Standard tuition grants
- Pre-academic programs that will prepare students olim for academic studies in Israel
- A support network of counselors & guides
- Counseling, information & advice about higher education in Israel
- English/Hebrew courses to academic exemption level
- Extra tutoring & academic support
- Social workers & psychologists for personal support

Please note: all those who receive Student Authority assistance of over 250% (equivalent to two and a half years of study) will be required to participate in "Shahak" community service program.

CONDITIONS FOR RECEIVING ASSISTANCE FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

Status: oleh/returning minor (katin chozer)/citizen born abroad (ezrach oleh) – as defined by the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration.

Period of stay in Israel: must begin studies within 36 months of receiving status, not including army service /national service.

Age: must begin studies before 30th birthday.

Academic Conditions:

- Presentation of **original** undergraduate degree certificate & official transcripts
- Meeting acceptance criteria of the institution
- Proper continuation from one academic year to the next
- Studies in institutions & study tracks recognized by the Student Authority
- Those who already hold a Master's degree will not be eligible for assistance from the Student Authority, other than exceptional cases

Assistance is given to Master's Students, per semester, for up to two years of study. Students who are required to take supplementary or prerequisite courses are eligible for an additional year of assistance, depending on the number of courses required.

Please note:

Some studies are more expensive than standard university tuition, in such cases, students must pay the difference.

These include:

- Institutions of higher education not financed by the State (such as The Interdisciplinary Center);
- Study tracks not financed by the State (such as the one-year MBA program at Tel Aviv University);
- Graduate programs taught in English (such as the Master's programs in English at the Technion and the Rothberg School of the Hebrew University) and;
- Some Hassavot and certificate studies programs.

Some Master's degree programs are taught in one single calendrical year. In such cases, students are eligible for the tuition assistance as if they were studying a two year M.A. This assistance will be given to them over the course of two academic years. In order to receive the final half of the assistance, students will be required to show proof of eligibility for graduation, as well as proof of full tuition payment.





NOT HERE YET? PRE-ALIYAH SERVICES FOR YOU

For information and advice about study options in Israel | To have your documents evaluated in Israel

To help you choose the best absorption program that suits you

Contact the pre-Aliyah services of our Academic Department:

English Speakers: aceng@moia.gov.il Tel: +972-2-6214693

French Speakers: acfr@moia.gov.il Tel: +972-2-6214688

Spanish speakers: aclat@moia.gov.il Tel: +972-2-6214605

Russian speakers: acrus@moia.gov.il Tel: +972-2-6214648

THE STUDENT AUTHORITY FOR STUDENTS OLIM IN ISRAEL!

Useful web sites

The Israel Student Authority - "Minhal Hastudentim"

www.studentsolim.gov.il

Ministry of Aliyah and Integration - www.moia.gov.il

Jewish Agency - www.jewishagency.org





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