REGISTRATION FOR
A KUPAT HOLIM
Registration for a Kupat Holim

Fifth Edition

One of the most important things to do following aliyah is to register with one of the health funds. As a new immigrant (oleh hadash, NOT temporary residents A/1) you receive free health coverage for the first six months after receiving new immigrant status, provided that you are not employed.

Medical services in Israel are provided through four health funds: Kupat Holim Clalit, Kupat Holim Maccabi, Kupat Holim Meuhedet, and Kupat Holim Leumit.

To make this step easier, you have the option of registering for health insurance at Ben Gurion airport upon arrival in Israel as a new immigrant.

After arrival at the airport, and following receipt of the necessary documents from an absorption counselor, inform the counselor of the fund in which you prefer to register, of your spouse’s choice of fund (spouses may register in different funds,) and in which fund to register children below the age of 18. Family members over the age of 18 register separately, and must present their own te’udat oleh or that of their parents. It is advisable to research the various funds while still abroad. You will also be able to contact friends or relatives from the airport in order to consult with them about the choice of a fund.

**Note that there is no fee for registering at the airport.**

If you do not register at the airport, you also have the option of registering later at a Postal Bank.

In order to register at a Postal Bank, the following steps are necessary:

1. Bring the following documents to postal bank (bank hadoar) found in all post office branches:
   - Referral slip for health insurance which you receive upon obtaining oleh status either at the airport or at a Ministry of Immigrant Absorption office.
   - Te’udat Oleh
   - Te’udat zehut or sefach reshum be’uchlustin

2. You must tell the postal bank clerk in which health fund you wish to register, in which fund your spouse wishes to register (spouses are entitled to register in separate funds) and in which fund to register any children under the age of 18. Children over the age of 18 register separately, presenting either their te’udat oleh or their parents’ te’udat oleh. The clerk will take the referral slip, sign your registration form with the name of your desired fund indicated, and give you a copy of the form.

There is a registration fee for each adult that registers. There is no fee for the registration of children under the age of 18.
3. Take your copy of the registration form to the office of your chosen fund in order to receive a membership card. **Note that you are not considered a member of the health fund until this step has been taken.**

**Note:** Registration in a health fund is a necessary condition for receiving medical services. It is very important to register in a health fund as soon as possible after arriving in Israel, in order to be eligible for health care as soon as you may need it. Failure to register with a health fund can result in unnecessary problems and delays in receiving medical care. If you are in need of health care before you have registered with a fund, you must apply to the National Health Insurance Law Ombudsman of the Ministry of Health by telephone, fax, or e-mail. In such a situation, it is recommended to consult with a personal absorption counselor of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption.

Note that most post offices do not have a separate counter for postal bank services. Such services are provided at all post office counters. Be sure to check the hours of your local post office in advance. You can check the Israel Post website, www.israelpost.co.il in order to check hours and to locate the branch nearest you.

If for any reason you did not register in a health fund, and need medical treatment, consult with The National Health Insurance Law Ombudsman at the Ministry of Health. This is in order for the Ministry to authorize treatment from the relevant medical institution during the period prior to your registration. Note that you may not consult with the Ombudsman in person; you may only contact the Ombudsman via the Ministry of Health National Telephone Line, fax, post, or e-mail.

By telephone: Ministry of Health National Telephone Line (08) 6241010 or *5400, Fax: (02) 5655981
Address: 29 Rehov Rivka, Jerusalem 93461 kvilot@moh.gov.il

For more information, consult with a personal absorption counselor at the nearest branch or district office of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption.

**The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption**

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