

Rights, Benefits and Services for Children with Special Needs in Israel

Know to Ask:

Review the various rights, benefits and services highlighted in this checklist and make an appointment with the Kupat Cholim social worker at your local branch, a social worker from an aid organization, or another guidance professional for information and assistance in accessing support. Please note that many items have eligibility conditions related to age, means, insurance membership or other factors.

Discounts, Exemptions and Assistance from the Health Plans

- Child Development Services: Diagnoses and Paramedical Treatments
- Fee Exemptions for Various Services for Child Mobility Benefit Recipients
- Medication Payment Ceiling for the Chronically Ill
- Exceptions Committee for Approving Coverage of Medications/Treatments

Education

- Rehabilitative day care
- Community Support Centers (MATIA) for Special Education and Regular Education Integration
- Additional personnel or teacher training for Integration into the Regular Education System
- Paramedical Treatments Within the Special Education System
- Accompanied Transportation in the Special Education System
- Matriculation Examination (Bagrut) Accommodations
- Distance Education for Homebound or Hospitalized Children
- Accessibility Modification of Preschools and Classrooms
- Extended School Day Programs from the Ministry of Social Services (Misrad Harevacha)

Financial Assistance and Other Benefits

- Disabled Child Benefit from the National Insurance Institute (Bituach Leumi)
- Child Mobility Benefit
- Assistance Performing Housing Modifications for People with Limited Mobility
- Assistance Funding Hearing Devices and other Rehabilitation Devices for Children (Ministry of Health)
- Disabled Parking Permit and Disabled Parking Space Near the Home
- Discount on Bezeq Telephone Fees for Disabled Child Benefit Recipients
- Water Bill Benefit (High Rate Discount) for Disability Pension Recipients
- Income Tax Credit Points for Parents of People with Disabilities
- Purchase Tax Discount on Residential Property
- Municipal Property Tax (Arnona) Discount
- Income Tax Credit Points for a Child with Disabilities

Employment

- Sick Days Due to an Ill Child or to Care for a Child with Disabilities

Supportive and Nursing Care

- Special Services Benefit (Attendance Allowance) from the National Insurance Institute
- Employing a Foreign Worker to Care for a Child with Disabilities

Support Organizations:

This is not an exclusive list. If you have a need for a service you do not see here, we urge you to make your need known. If it is not already addressed by an existing program, many organizations will use their resources to facilitate your individual needs in any way possible.

General Services

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Ezer Mizion | 02-500-2111 | www.ezer-mizion.org.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ILAN | 03-524-8141 | www.ilan-israel.co.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alyn Hospital | 02-649-4222 | www.alyn.org |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Magen Lacholeh (medical system guidance) | 02-644-2000 | www.magen.org |

Counseling, Support and Rehabilitation

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| <input type="checkbox"/> All Rights (claiming rights) | 03-751-7274 | www.allrights.co.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keshet | 02-623-6116 | www.horimbekeshet.co.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fathers Connect | eliya@fathersconnect.com | www.fathersconnect.com |

Recreation and Respite

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|---|-------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yachad Israel | 02-560-9104 | www.yachadisrael.com |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Heroes (Giborim Ktanim) | 03-7516666 | www.giborimktanim.co.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Etgarim | 03-561-3585 | www.etgarim.org |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yad Sarah | *6444 | www.yadsarah.org |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jordan River Village | 04-6608999 | www.jrv.org.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lotem | 04-959-1808 | www.lotem.net |

Specialized Organizations

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|---|--------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALUT (autism) | 03-571-8188 | www.alut.org.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tsad Kadima (CP/motor dysfunctions) | 02-654-0062 | www.tsadkadima.org.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yated (Down's Syndrome) | 02-6721115 | www.yated.org.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MICHA (hearing impairment) | 077-509-5003 | www.micha-israel.org.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shema (hearing impairment) | 02-642-8359 | www.shema.org.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALEH (visual impairment and dyslexia) | 02-588-2155 | www.alehblind.org.il |

More Organizations

- | | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALEH (severe cognitive and physical disabilities) | 02-501-1000 | www.aleh.org |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kav-Or (distance learning in hospitals) | 077-717-1919 | www.kavor.org.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tlalim (educational support) | 02-571-0555 | www.tlalim.co.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Variety Israel (financial assistance) | 03-644-7220 | www.variety.co.il |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AACI Klitah Counselors (absorption guidance) | 02-566-1181 | www.aaci.org.il |

Where to Turn:

Here are your primary avenues for receiving helpful information. Remember to be persistent in seeking clear and comprehensive details about assistance and the means to access it. There are multiple sources for guidance and often you need to pursue more than one.

Kupat Cholim Social Workers: Every health fund employs a social work staff with hours available to address any of your needs. Speak to your branch secretary about office hours or to arrange an appointment. The Child Development Services branches also offer assistance from social workers.

Organization Social Workers and Other Assistance Professionals: Many support organizations offer guidance to the community they serve through social workers or counselors providing specialized information and assistance.

School Social Workers and Other Assistance Professionals: Many schools with special needs programs offer guidance to their parents through social workers or counselors providing specialized information and assistance.

What Assistance Can You Expect?

- Information about rights and services that relate specifically to a person's circumstances, and practical guidance on acquiring them.
- Practical insight, and some hand holding, on navigating the system, whether it be within the healthcare system, in government bureaucracy or the education system.
- Help finding and connecting with organizations dedicated to particular conditions, where there may be even more resources of specific interest to you.
- Help with emotional coping in difficult situations.

A Few Tips:

- Schedule a sit-down meeting with enough time blocked out to discuss what you need.
- Delegate tasks to accomplish your goals. Note the things you need to do (e.g. call this office, obtain these documents, etc.) and the things the social worker is committing to doing (e.g. calling that office, finding out about that service, getting those forms, etc.).
- Schedule the next contact. e.g. The social worker will call you in two days with some follow-up information, or you will meet again in a week to fill out forms together, etc.
- Show your appreciation. Everyone in the assistance sector chose to go into a profession dedicated to helping others. The social workers especially, did not do it for the glamour.

If this checklist helped you or a loved one, please consider supporting AACI's Shira Pransky Project by visiting:
ShiraPranskyProject.org/donate