



משרד העלייה והקליטה  
Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption

English

רישום עולים  
לקופות חולים

# Registration for a Kupat Holim

# Registration for a Kupat Holim

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. To make this step easier, you have the option of registering for health insurance at the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption at Ben Gurion airport upon arrival in Israel as a new immigrant. This eligibility commences from the date of receipt of new-immigrant status or eligibility as a new immigrant, and is contingent upon registration in a health fund. New immigrants can also be exempt from payment for another six months during the first year following aliyah\* provided that they are not employed and receive a subsistence allowance from the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption.

\*In order to receive an exemption during the second six-month period, consult with the National Insurance Institute.

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

## Registering at the Airport

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.**

## Registering at the Post Office

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:
  - *Te'udat Oleh*
  - *Te'udat zehut* or *sefach rishum be'uchlusin*
2. You must tell the Postal Bank clerk which health fund you wish to register, in which fund your spouse wishes to register (spouses are entitled to register in separate funds if they wish) 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.

You can visit the Israel Post website, [www.israelpost.co.il](http://www.israelpost.co.il), in order to check hours and to locate the branch nearest you.

A new immigrant who is unable to register at a Postal Bank for health or other reasons can send a representative with power-of-attorney to register on their behalf at a district office of the Ministry of Health. The representative must bring their own *te'udat zehut* as well as the documents required of the person on whose behalf they are registering. The Ministry of Health will provide them with authorization to register the new immigrant at a Postal Bank.

**There is a registration fee for each adult over the age of 18.** There is no fee for the registration of children under the age of 18.

Following registration at the airport or post office, 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 Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption.**

## Transferring Health Funds

It is possible to transfer from one health fund to another twice a year on specific dates determined by the Ministry of Health and publicized on the Ministry website. Transfer procedures can be processed at a post office or on the National Insurance Institute website, [www.btl.gov.il](http://www.btl.gov.il). For more information, see the Ministry of Health website, [www.health.gov.il](http://www.health.gov.il) or the National Insurance Institute website, [www.btl.gov.il](http://www.btl.gov.il).

## The National Health Insurance Law Ombudsman

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 - The Ministry of Health- Kol HaBriut Telephone Information Line** Service in Hebrew, English, French, Russian, Arabic:

\*5400/ (08) 6241010

**In writing** - Public Ombudsman: 39 Rehov Yermiyahu, Jerusalem 9101002, Fax: (02) 5655981 [kvilot@moh.gov.il](mailto:kvilot@moh.gov.il)

For more information, consult with a personal absorption counselor at the nearest branch or district office of the Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption: [www.klita.gov.il](http://www.klita.gov.il)

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אגף מידע ופרסום  
משרד העלייה והקליטה  
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