

# Study in **Israel**

ENGAGE IN EXCELLENCE

## **COVID -19 Updates for International Students and Researchers in Israel**

International students and researchers are valued and welcomed in Israel. Throughout this complex period, we at the Council for Higher Education of Israel together with all the higher education institutions in Israel, are doing everything in our power to ensure that studying in Israel remains accessible, welcoming and safe for all international students and researchers.



In light of the many changes that have occurred as a result of the pandemic, we have compiled official, accurate information which can assist you in your journey as an international student or researcher in Israel.



## ACADEMIC STUDIES

All Israeli higher education institutions have quickly and successfully adapted to the virtual academic world and therefore are able to ensure that programs will be carried out during the 2020-2021, either virtually, physically or in a hybrid format. We advise all international students to be in close contact with their academic institution to understand how your studies are being conducted in your institution during the upcoming academic year (changes might occur as well during the semester due to the changing health regulations).

## HEALTH CARE

While Covid-19 is still prevalent around the world, the level of the health system is of utmost importance in any education abroad experience. Israel is a developed country with an advanced level of health care, diagnosis and medicine. As an international students you are required to have full health insurance while in Israel. We advise you to check your institution's website for more information about the requirements and the different health insurance options.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT

In times of a pandemic it is more important than ever to take care of mental health as well as physical health. We strongly encourage our international students to be mindful of their mental wellbeing. Most higher education institutions have support systems in place that can guide you through this matter. Find more information on emotional support during the pandemic on the [Ministry of Health website](#).

## THE “PURPLE BADGE” FOR PUBLIC PLACES

All public places in Israel are required to follow social distancing and hygienic rules regulated by the Ministry of Health. Public places that meet these requirements receive the “Purple Badge” approval from the Ministry of Health and are permitted to maintain their activity. For more information on the purple badge please visit the [Ministry of Health website](#).

## VISAS

The Council for Higher Education of Israel is working hard to ensure all visa procedures stay as simple as possible for international students and researchers during the pandemic. We advise all international students and researchers to follow the updates on the visa section in the [‘Study in Israel’](#) website and to be in close contact with your Israeli university prior to your arrival in Israel.

## ENTRY PERMIT

In addition to their visa, students must receive an 'Entry permit' to enter Israel. It is important to note that this permit is separate from the visa and without it, international students and researchers will not be allowed to enter the country.

## TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

A 14-day isolation period is required for all persons entering the country from “Red Countries,” whereas students arriving from “Green Countries are not obligated to complete an isolation period. (Find the [list of ‘Red Countries’ and ‘Green Countries on the Ministry of Health website](#)). Students arriving from red countries must complete the 14-day isolation period **under the direction of their higher education institution**. Be in touch with your university or college in order to understand the requirements for isolation.

No more than 24 hours before your air travel to Israel, you must fill out an [online inbound clearance application form which will authorize whether you need to complete the isolation period](#).

## TRANSPORTATION

Public transportation has not shut down since the start of the pandemic, although some changes have been made. We recommend international students and researchers to follow the main public transportation apps and websites in order stay informed on the changes in public transportation- [Moovit](#), [Israel Railways](#), [Egged](#), [Dan](#)

## Erasmus+

The National Erasmus+ Office is closely monitoring the current situation in order to provide relevant guidance for Erasmus+ students in Israel and Europe. Erasmus+ encourages students to follow the information provided by the international office of their host university and also other official notes from their home institution .

[find more information for Erasmus+ students here](#).