

המשרד לקליטת העלייה  
Ministry of Immigrant Absorption



ENGLISH

רישום עולים  
לקופות חולים

REGISTRATION FOR  
A KUPAT HOLIM

# Registration for a Kupat Holim

## Fourth Edition

One of the most important first steps following aliyah is to register with one of the health funds. As a new immigrant (*oleh hadash*, NOT temporary residents A/1) you can receive free health coverage for the first six months after receiving new immigrant status, as long as 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, you can then inform the counselor of the fund in which you prefer to register, of your spouse's choice of fund (spouses are allowed to 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 relations 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 the Postal Bank (*bank hadoar*) found in all post office branches:
  - Referral slip for health insurance which you receive upon obtaining new immigrant status and which you are given either at the airport or at a Ministry of Immigrant Absorption office.
  - *Te'udat Oleh*
  - *Te'udat zehut* or *sefach reshum 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 in, (spouses are entitled to register in separate funds) and in which fund to register any children you may have 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 over the age of 18. There is no fee for the registration of children under the age of 18.

Following registration at either the airport or the Postal Bank, 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 a member of the health fund until you have taken this step.**

Following procedures at the health fund, you are then a member for 6

months. If you wish to transfer to a different health fund, you may only do so following 6 months. The health fund can give you information about transferring funds. You may also refer to the booklet entitled "The Health System in Israel," available from the Publications Department. In addition, information is available on the Ministry of Health website (Hebrew): [www.health.gov.il](http://www.health.gov.il).

**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, and that most post office counters provide postal bank services. The majority of post offices are open from Sunday through Thursday between 8:00 a.m.-18:00, while others are open on Sundays and Thursdays from 8:00- 18:00, on Mondays and Tuesdays from 8:00-12:30 and from 15:30-18:00 and Wednesdays from 8:00-13:00 and Fridays from 8:00-12:00. Be sure to check the hours of your local post office in advance. 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 that is unable to personally register at the postal bank, for health reasons or for other reasons, can send another person who has power-of-attorney on their behalf to one of the District Health Offices of the Ministry of Health. The representing individual must bring their own identity documents as well as those of the person they represent. Following presentation of the necessary documentation, the Ministry of Health will provide the representative with an authorization to take to the Postal Bank, in order to process the registration.

### **The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption**

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### **National Health Insurance Law Ombudsman**

#### **The Ministry of Health**

[kvilot@moh.health.gov.il](mailto:kvilot@moh.health.gov.il)

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

אנגליית

השם עולים  
לקופות חולים



המשרד  
לקליטת  
העלייה



הופק על ידי  
אגף מידע ופרסום  
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