



The Absorption Basket

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**5<sup>th</sup> Edition**



## Dear Immigrants,

The State of Israel welcomes you, and wishes you an easy and successful absorption.

This booklet describes the financial assistance that you are entitled to upon arrival in Israel, which is designed to allow for maximum independence during the initial absorption period. The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption pays this assistance during your first year following Israel. At the conclusion of this period, if you have not found employment, you can then clarify your rights to assistance from the National Insurance Institute.

## The Absorption Basket

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A recent government decision has expanded eligibility for the Absorption Basket (*sal klita*) to new immigrants from all countries. The Absorption Basket is essentially financial assistance designed to help with initial arrangements, with renting an apartment, and with living expenses during the period of ulpan study.

### Eligibility

Eligibility for the Absorption Basket is extended to:

- New immigrants from all countries, including the West, who receive new immigrant (*oleh hadash*) status following 1/12/02.
- One who first entered the country on an immigrant visa.
- One who has been in Israel no longer than 18 consecutive or cumulative months during the three years prior to receiving new immigrant status.
- New immigrants from specific countries are also entitled to a Customs Grant.

**Note:** New immigrants are only entitled to assistance during the first year following receipt of immigrant status.



## Receiving the Absorption Basket

- A. The first installment of the Absorption Basket is given to immigrants upon arrival at the airport, in order to facilitate initial arrangements. This payment is partly in cash, and partly in the form of a bank transfer, which means that you have to open a bank account.

If you receive new immigrant status in Israel, you will receive the first payment from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption branch office nearest your place of residence.

- B. The remainder of the Absorption Basket is transferred automatically to your bank account in 7 monthly payments.
- C. Supplementary grant: In the 8<sup>th</sup> month, a supplementary grant will be transferred to your bank account. This grant is meant to cover the cost of housing during the second half of the first year of aliyah. The amount varies according to age and family status.

**Note:** you will begin to receive rental assistance from the Ministry of Housing from the 13<sup>th</sup> month following aliyah. Keep this in mind when planning housing expenses.

## Opening a Bank Account

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In order to receive the monthly payments, it is necessary to open an account at the bank of your choice, and to provide the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption with the account number. It is recommended to do this within a few days of your arrival in Israel. Note: when opening an account for a family or a couple, both spouses must be present at the bank.

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**Note:** It is not recommended to change bank accounts in the first few years following aliyah. If you must do so, it is crucial to inform the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption immediately. In the event that you have any problem receiving the Absorption Basket, consult with the nearest branch office of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption.

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## Assured Income

During the period when the Absorption Basket payments have ended, and until you find employment, you may be entitled to assured income payments (*havtachat hachnasa*). The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption pays assured income from the end of the Absorption Basket period until the end of the first year of aliyah to:

- Immigrants registered with a personal absorption counselor in order to devise a vocational plan or look for work.
- Immigrants studying in preparatory courses for licensing in their profession, or training or retraining programs.
- Immigrants who are unable to work for medical reasons.
- Individuals approaching retirement age.

## Absorption Basket - Tables of Financial Assistance - Correct as of January, 2006

(All Amounts are in New Israeli Shekels)

	Family or Couple	Single Parent Family	Single	Retired Couple	Retired head of Single Parent Family	Single Retiree
Cash Payment at Ben Gurion Airport	2,500	2,250	1,250	2,500	2,250	1,250
Supplement at Ben Gurion Airport	3,350	1,328	1,307	3,348	1,331	2,039
First Installment	2,124	1,733	1,402	-	-	-
Second Installment	2,124	1,733	1,402	-	-	-
Third Installment	2,124	1,733	1,402	-	-	-
Fourth Installment	6,464	6,065	2,480	4,162	3,668	3,429
Fifth Installment	2,124	1,733	1,402	-	-	-
Sixth Installment	2,124	1,733	1,402	-	-	-
Seventh Installment	4,386	3,508	2,197	8,235	7,288	6,805
Supplementary Grant*	2,780	3,708	1,545	6,674	5,903	3,056
<b>Total Absorption Basket</b>	<b>30,100</b>	<b>25,524</b>	<b>15,789</b>	<b>24,937</b>	<b>20,440</b>	<b>16,579</b>



An individual who will reach retirement age during the period of Absorption Basket payments should consult with the National Insurance Institute regarding eligibility for a special Old Age pension. Subsequent Absorption Basket payments will be made at the same level as payments to pensioners.

**\*\*Note:** A person who is eligible for the Absorption Basket, and will also meet the criteria for a special National Insurance old-age pension with an income supplement within 44 months of receiving new immigrant status, may be eligible for an enlarged supplementary grant in the following amounts:

- Couple - NIS 9,716
- Single-Parent Family - NIS 8,167
- Single - NIS 5,252

\* **Note:** In January 2004 legislation was approved that sets the legal pension age at 67 for men who were born following May 1952, and age 64 for women who were born following May 1953. The retirement age for those born prior to those years will be gradually raised. For details, consult the National Insurance Institute.

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**Note:** For more information on the National Insurance Institute, consult the booklet entitled "National Insurance," available from the Publications Department.

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## Supplements for Each Child

	Child age 0-4	Child age 4-18	Child age 18-25	Sup. for a Family With 6 or More Members
Cash Payment at Ben Gurion Airport	250	250	250	-
Supplement at Ben Gurion Airport	2,015	2,015	2,016	1,075
First Installment	1,031	511	843	-
Second Installment	1,031	511	843	-
Third Installment	1,031	511	843	-
Fourth Installment	1,031	511	843	1,075
Fifth Installment	1,031	511	843	-
Sixth Installment	1,031	511	843	-
Seventh Installment	887	872	899	2,159
<b>Total Absorption Basket</b>	<b>9,338</b>	<b>6,202</b>	<b>8,224</b>	<b>4,308</b>

## Additional Information

Further details, information, and guidance are available from personal absorption counselors at the Ministry of Absorption branch and district offices. For your convenience, you can also obtain informational booklets on various aspects of absorption such as employment, housing, education, health, National Insurance, military service and more. You can visit the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption website: [www.moia.gov.il](http://www.moia.gov.il)

The information contained in this booklet is based on data provided by various official sources. Details are subject to change. In case of any discrepancy, the regulations of the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption and other bodies will prevail.



אנגלית

סל קליטה



קליטת  
עלייה

הופק על ידי  
אגף מידע ופרסום  
המשרד לקליטת העלייה  
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