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# Booklet of Rights and Services for Adults on the Autistic Spectrum

## 2017

Dear families,

Graduation and the transition into young adulthood is a very challenging phase.

Young adults on the autistic spectrum and their families are currently required to deal with a new system of rights, tasks and decisions. Information on rights and services constitutes as an important tool that facilitates one's ability to deal with challenges at every point in life, and particularly during the transition into adulthood.

This booklet provides an overview of the rights conferred to adults with autism, the available information and services that pertain to potential programs within the IDF, National Service and at school, and that addresses such issues as housing and employment.

We sincerely hope that you will find this booklet helpful. If you have any questions, requests or comments, please feel free to contact the ALUT Family Center Team.

We have made a concerted effort to bring the most current information to your attention. If you are aware of a new service, or if you have encountered a service that is no longer active, please let us know by sending us an email at: [b\\_lauren@alut.org.il](mailto:b_lauren@alut.org.il)

ALUT Family Centers Team

Promotion of Rights Department -ALUT

**\* The information contained herewith is not legal advice and does not constitute a substitute for such advice \***

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## **ALUT - National Society for Autistic Children**

ALUT is a prominent and national society of parents that provides care and support for people with autism throughout their lives, so as to meet the needs of persons with autism and their families. ALUT seeks to facilitate the rights of all children, adolescents and adults on the autistic spectrum in Israel, to improve the services rendered to them and their family members, and to support families that deal with the disability.

ALUT's activity is intended to ensure their subsistence, rehabilitation, future and financial, social and legal standing.

### **ALUT Family Center**

The Family Center was founded to provide assistance and support for the families from the moment of diagnosis and at every step of the way. The Center provides information, support, consultation and assistance with various topics that pertain to autism and the challenges faced by family members.

We provide information about diagnostic and treatment services within the community, the rights provided by various agencies such as the National Insurance Institute, the Ministry of Welfare, and others, as well as information about educational, housing and employment programs, names of professionals, nearby recreational activities, and more.

We, the professionals and parents who volunteer at ALUT Family Centers, are at your service should you have any questions or comments.

### **ALUT family center branches**

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## The National Insurance Institute

The National Insurance Institute discontinues its Children with Disability Allowance payments once the child with disabilities reaches 18 years and three months of age. A few months before age 18, you must visit your local National Insurance Institute branch and file a new allowance application. The allowance provided by the National Insurance Institute is highly significant, as it determines the parents' ability to provide their children with services and a quality of life.

The process of determining eligibility for a National Insurance Institute allowance, for adults with autism, differs significantly from the process of determining the eligibility of minors with autism. The eligibility of minors is determined by a **diagnostic** criterion, namely, the existence of the disability (autism), in and of itself, confers the right to a 100% allowance. In contrast, the eligibility of adults for an allowance and the percentage of that allowance are determined, to a great extent, on the basis of **functional criteria** and the diagnosis, in and of itself, does not entitle one to an allowance.

Each parent that files a claim must take into account that the allowance paid during one's years as a minor is no guarantee for or indication of continued payment, and the claim must be added by an opinion and up-to-date documentation that will leave no room for doubt as regards one's eligibility.

Eligibility for a National Insurance Institute disability allowance is a complex puzzle that constructed from the National Insurance Law.

The doctors who serve as members of the committee examine functional abilities, and therefore one must thoroughly prepare for the medical committee and remember:

- A. The committees are comprised of professionals, most of whom are unfamiliar with autistic disabilities, with its being an invisible disability, and the difficulties it entails.
- B. Function tests have not been determined and adapted to people with autism.

C. The fact that some children seem, at first sight, to exhibit better function than what is actually the case might mislead committee members.

**We strongly recommend that:**

- You emphasize to the committee doctors the many functional difficulties experienced by your children in terms of their day-to-day activities. Do not be deterred by and afraid of doing so. Instead, point out and emphasize their difficulties with pride and candor.
- Even though you are proud of your child's independence, you must remember that your purpose is to receive the allowance that is best-suited for them.

**List of allowances**

- A. General disability allowance (consists of a medical disability and an “Earning Incapacity Degree”).
- B. Special Services Allowance (possible for people with disabilities whose medical disability percentage is over 60%).

We should stress that the vast majority of our children, upon reaching 18 years of age, require and receive general disability allowance.

Many of them even require and receive a special services allowance

Some insureds may be eligible for additional allowances subject to the existence of additional handicaps/disabilities or other reasons. This document only addresses the manner in which the “general disability allowance” and “special services allowance” are considered.

These are indeed two separate allowances that are paid separately, however we recommend that parents file both claims simultaneously, and not wait for the decision of the first claim before filing the other.

## ***General Disability Pension***

### **What is the General Disability Pension?**

This is a subsistence allowance given to disabled individuals whose ability to earn an income is detrimentally affected due to a physical, mental or psychological disorder. It is a monthly allowance granted in accordance with the Bituach Leumi (National Insurance) Law and under Bituach Leumi responsibility. Unlike entitlement to the Disabled Child's Allowance which is given up to 18 years old by virtue of a clause specifically relating to "autism and similar disabilities", there is currently no similar definition in the Bituach Leumi regulations relating to adults. For this reason, a general disability allowance is given to individuals on the autism spectrum, under the clause relating to psychological disabilities and mental retardation.

### **Who is entitled?**

Individuals who are Israeli residents between 18 years old and retirement age that as the result of a physical, mental or psychological impairment are unable to earn a living or have earning capacity which has been reduced by 50% or more due to the impairment.

### **Who to approach?**

Bituach Leumi stops paying the Child Disability Allowance at 18 years and 3 months. As the age of 18 nears, collect the required documents and when the child turns 18 approach the Bituach Leumi offices in your home area to submit a [Claim for General Disability Pension](#) through its appropriate form.



## **Which documents to attach to your claim?**

1. Medical certificates and any other medical document, including certificates of treatments which attest to one's level of function (if the diagnosis in your possession, similarly to any other relevant document, can attest to one's level of function, you may add it to the statement of claim, however this is not mandatory and does not constitute a precondition to receiving a general disability allowance).
2. Certification relating to employment and salary, if the claimant is working.
3. If the claimant is a student in a special education school, attach the school's functionality report.
4. Details of bank account.
5. Any additional documents that may prove entitlement to the pension.
6. A confirmation of filing for custody

## **Stages in handling the submitted claim**

Allowance eligibility is subject to the following two preconditions (non-compliance with either of them results in ineligibility):

### **Phase I (Precondition) - Determination of Medical Disability**

medical disability, as a rule, is determined by the physician authorized by the National Insurance Institute, in accordance with the criteria provided in the National Insurance Regulations (Determination of Disability Rating for Persons Suffering from Occupational Injury), 1956 ("the Book of Disabilities").

Given that there is no dedicated section for adults with autism (age 18 and three months or older), on most occasions eligibility for medical disability is derived from Sections 33 and 34 of the Book of Disabilities, under the title "Chapter Four: Mental Illnesses, Reactions and Mental Disorders." The tests found in the aforementioned Sections are of a functional nature, except in cases where the allowance is determined

on the basis of developmental-cognitive disability, in which case the degree of disability is determined by one's IQ. It should be stressed, however, that eligibility is not necessarily determined solely on the basis of these sections.

The general disability allowance consists of a medical disability and an Earning Incapacity Degree. In order to reach the Loss of Earning Capacity Test phase, the Insured must first meet one of the two following conditions, which determine the extent of the medical disability, as follows:

- If the Insured suffers from one disability on account of which the National Insurance Institute recognizes a **25% medical disability**, this would suffice to have the Insured recognized as having a medical disability of at least 40%.
- If the Insured does not **suffer from any disability on account of which the National Insurance Institute recognizes a 25% medical disability**, it is necessary for the Insured to be recognized as having a medical disability of at least 60%.

**For the avoidance of doubt:** an Insured who does not meet one of the two aforementioned preconditions, namely, who does not have a medical disability of 40% with one primary disability, or of 60% without one primary disability, will not reach the Loss of Earning Capacity Test phase and will not be eligible for a general disability allowance.

[Link to the Book of Disabilities](#), Sections 33 and 34 on pages 45-47.

- The preparations for the allowance claim must include a strong emphasis on receiving documents and professional opinions regarding the effect of the disability on the Insured's degree of social compatibility.
- In relevant cases, it is important that the opinion address the effect of the disability on judgment and perception.

An opinion on the aforementioned topics must be provided by a mental health expert, by school staff members and by the attending social worker. It would be wise for parents to add any relevant information in their possession.

## **Phase II - Earning Incapacity (50% or More)**

An Insured's Earning Incapacity Rating is determined by the National Insurance Institute Claims Officer, pursuant to consultation with a certified physician and a National Insurance Institute Rehabilitation Officer.

The key criteria for determining an Insured's Earning Incapacity are as follows:

1. The effect of the claimant's disability on their ability to return to work.
  2. The claimant's ability to engage in another occupation or to acquire a new trade of the type of trades or occupations in which the claimant is able to engage and which are suitable for their physical fitness and health condition.
- For the purpose of examining this part of the claim, it is necessary to emphasize, through the use of opinions and references, the disability's effects on the Insured's capabilities and work skills. For this purpose, we need to emphasize like skills and day-to-day capabilities, the absence of which tangibly indicates a lack of work skills.
  - For example, the Insured's inability to leave the house on their own and to conduct themselves alone in public may convince the medical committee that the Insured has poor, if any, work skills.
  - As long as the person with disability's medical or functional condition is unstable, the Claims Officer may determine an Incapacity Degree for a limited time period. At the end of that period, the Insured's Incapacity Degree will be reexamined

### **Third stage: the decision**

The pension (percentage of disability) is determined by the percentages of the determined degree of incapacity. An earning incapacity of less than 50% does not entitle for a pension. An adult set at 75% or more of the degree of disability is entitled to 100% disability pension.

Inability to earn percentages include 60%, 65%, 74% and 100%. Persons with higher percentages are entitled to larger pension.

The Officer's decision will be mailed to the applicant's home.

## **Pension**

A disabled person whose inability to earn level amounts to 75% or higher is entitled to a full monthly disability pension. A full individual pension amounts to 2342 NIS .

A disabled individual who is given an Inability to Earn level of 75% or less and who is also rated as having at least 50% medical disability and who is not in an institution is entitled to an additional monthly pension in accordance with the percentage of medical disability, of a sum between 247 NIS and 365 NIS .

A claimant for whom Inability to Earn determination is 60% to 74% is entitled to a partial monthly disability pension according to the scope of the inability.

The partial allowance is determined by the product of the full allowance for individuals (the average Israeli salary) and the Earning Incapacity Rating determined for the Insured. To illustrate, if the average monthly salary is one thousand shekels and the Earning Incapacity Rating determined for the Insured is 74%, then the monthly allowance to be received by them is NIS 740.

**The Disability Pension is paid on the 28th of each month into the claimant's or the guardian's bank account.**

**The recipient of a pension who has no other income is exempt from Bituach Leumi payments for as long as the allowance is being paid out.**

- For adults over 18 years of age and before retirement age, who is an Israeli resident **living at home**, the full general disability allowance determined will be transferred to the bank account of the person eligible for allowance

If the allowance claim was filed by the guardian of the person eligible for the allowance, the allowance will be paid to a bank account opened by the guardian in the name of the person eligible for the allowance.

Many of the adults living at home require and receive a special services allowance (see page 11). It is for this reason that you must not give up and

insist on filing the special services application together with the general disability application.

- For adults over 18 years of age and before retirement age, who is an Israeli resident **living at a special facility for people with autism**, the general disability allowance is determined as follows:
  1. 50% of the general disability allowance – for participation in the regular maintenance fees of “Home for Life” programs.
  2. 30% of the general disability allowance – for recreational activities.
  3. The remaining 20% of the disability allowance is transferred to the parents/guardians.

**Please note**, you, as parents/guardians, are responsible for filing the general disability allowance claim with the National Insurance Institute.

Once written confirmation is received from the National Insurance Institute of the allowance’s receipt, you must make sure that all documents are provided to the program’s social worker or manager, so that it will be possible to continue handling the process of the allowance’s distribution with the welfare authorities.

**Please note:** if the aforementioned process is not completed, and the money continues to be transferred to the parents, the parents will accrue a debt to the Ministry of Welfare, which they will be required to pay.

## **Re-examination by claimant’s request**

### **Who is entitled to request a re-examination?**

- A person whose disability allowance claim is dismissed (due to their being granted a medical disability of less than 40% or an Earning Incapacity Rating of less than 50%), as well as any person for whom a partial Incapacity Rating is

determined, if six months have elapsed since the previous determination of the National Insurance Institute.

- Anyone whose medical or occupational situation has significantly changed, in a manner that affects their Earning Incapacity Rating, even if six months have not yet elapsed since the previous determination of the National Insurance Institute. The application must be added by medical certificates from the attending physician that attests to an exacerbation of the person's medical condition as well as documents that specify their income from work.

### **Re-examination for Percentage of Medical Disability**

A disabled person may request the re-examination of their medical disability percentage provided the following conditions are met:

1. Their disability level is 75% or more;
2. 12 months had elapsed since the last medical disability level had been determined;
3. A certified physician has determined that a disability resulting in their medical disability level has exacerbated, or that a new disability has been identified.
4. The disabled person is not committed to an institution.

### **Appeals**

#### **Important!**

You have the right to appeal. Therefore, the committee's decisions are not set in stone and you should not waive your right to appeal against them:

The eligibility for a general disability allowance and the scope thereof can be appealed against within 60 days.

Please note: should you fail to file the appeal within the aforementioned period of time, your ability to file an appeal will be more complicated.

If you choose to file an appeal, you must prepare yourselves for the committee and bring new documents that support your appeal with you, as well as those issues that you believe were not adequately considered.

It is important to include in your appeal a reference to the contents of the medical committee's minutes.

If you are considering an appeal, please read the parents' recommendations and the detailed document that deals with this topic.

Moreover, it is strongly recommended that you consult with the ALUT Family Center.

### **Submitting an Appeal for Percentage of Medical Disability or degrees of incapacity to earn**

1. A person for whom a medical disability of less than 80%
2. A person with a determination of no loss of ability to earn, or a loss of less than 50% ability to earn, or with inability to earn is set at no more than 74%,
3. The written, reasoned appeal should be submitted to the Bituach Leumi branch in your home area within 60 days from the time that the Bituach Leumi written notification of percentage of disability was received.
4. The Medical Appeals Panel is entitled to authorize or alter the degree of medical disability determined by the certified physician.
5. The Medical Appeals Panel decision can also be appealed, but only on legal issues at the Regional Labor Court. The appeal must be submitted to the court within 60 days of receiving Bituach Leumi's written notification of its Medical Appeals Panel decision.

### ***Special Services Allowance (Attendance allowance)***

A Special Services Benefit (Attendance Allowance) is paid to adults who require significant assistance from another person in performing daily activities as well as in accordance with the need for supervision in order to prevent danger to himself or others.

The benefit is paid in addition to a General Disability Pension, and is determined according to the level of functioning and the level of dependence on others.

#### **Who is eligible?**

**As of April 1, 2014, the criteria have revised so as to be more accurately and properly suitable for adults with autism.** In addition to the extent of the Insured's dependence upon other people's assistance with day-to-day activities, namely: moving around the house, washing, clothing, eating and personal hygiene, and based on the extent to which the Insured requires supervision in order to prevent dangers to themselves or to others, the criteria also address the need for assistance with housekeeping chores, such as: preparing food, using electrical appliances, housework, shopping and institutional and financial errands.

Please note: the chances of receiving a special services allowance (unlike before) are much higher, **and therefore we recommend filing a special services allowance application (if you have not done so or already or if your previous claim has been dismissed, or if you wish to receive a higher rating).**

Among people on the autistic spectrum, only those who receive a general disability allowance in addition to having a medical disability of 60% or more are entitled to file a special services allowance.

Adults on the autistic spectrum who need significant supervision or assistance with their day-to-day activities are eligible for a special services allowance.

You should exercise your right to file a special services application in addition to the general disability application.



**Attention! An adult claimant living in Ministry of Welfare away-from-home housing is not entitled to a special services allowance.**

**All the criteria listed below must be met:**

1. The claimant is insured with Bituach Leumi, her or his age is between 18 years and 90 days, and up to retirement age, and she or he is in Israel.
2. The claimant receives General Disability Pension from Bituach Leumi and a scope of at least 60% medical disability was set (relative to special services) **OR** the claimant does not receive General Disability Pension but Bituach Leumi set medical disability at 75% (relative to special services) and the claimant also fills the criteria detailed below:
3. The claimant does not receive benefits in accordance with a mobility agreement.
4. The claimant is not hospitalized in an institution where medical services, nursing assistance services or rehabilitation services are provided.

**Who to approach, and how?**

After receiving certification for the General Disability Pension, apply to the Bituach Leumi offices in your home area and submit a [Claim for an Attendance Allowance](#) on the designated form.

**Attach the following documents:**

It should be noted that the eligibility of adults for an allowance and the percentage of that allowance are determined, to a great extent, on the basis of **functional criteria**.

**The diagnosis, in and of itself, does not entitle the Insured to an allowance.**

Therefore, you must include the following documentation:

- A. Medical certificates and any other relevant medical document, such as certificates of treatments, certificates of regularly-taken medications, certificates of other medical problems such as: anxiety, depression, epilepsy, allergies, etc.

- B. A functional report provided by the educational/therapeutic/military facility (if the Insured served in the military) must also be included.
- C. Documents indicating the Insured's functional difficulties that attests to their eligibility for allowances must be included.
- D. Any other document that substantiates the Insured's eligibility for an allowance.
- E. If available, a document certifying that a guardianship file has been opened.
- F. The information of the bank account to which the allowance is to be transferred.

After the claim is filed, you will be invited to appear before the medical committee, which consists of a specialist physician (psychiatrist or neurologist) and a Meeting Secretary. In some cases, the allowance claimant will also be examined at their home by a professional, who will assess the degree to which they are depended upon others. The Committee Physician's role is to determine the difficulties and disabilities from which your child suffers and to translate them into a disability percentage value, in accordance with National Insurance Laws.

When appearing before the Committee, you will be asked to specify the problems and reasons, including diseases that caused to you come to the Committee.

This is not the place for you to feel ashamed or to apologize. This is where you should explain, in detail, all of the difficulties entailed in your child's day-to-day activities, such as functional difficulties and the need for supervision and oversight.

**Important!** At the Committee, you will have the opportunity to present other relevant medical documents to support your claim, and which you were previously unable to file.

**Important!** You may also be accompanied by a companion who will assist you (interpreter, relative, friend, attorney, etc.).

After the Committee, a letter will be sent to your home specifying the decisions made regarding your child's case.

**The allowance granted to adults with autism who live at home and who were found to be eligible for supervision.**

Pursuant to the concerted efforts of ALUT's professional headquarters, in collaboration with activist parents vis-a-vis the National Insurance Institute and government ministries, the special services allowance for adults with autism living at home and found to be eligible for supervision has increased.

Each adult with autism (over 18 years of age) for whom the National Insurance Institute Medical Committee determined a medical disability of 70%, **and who additionally** receives a special services allowance, will be **automatically** eligible for an additional supervision allowance.

**Allowance Rates**

Anyone who, until today, has been receiving a special services allowance of 50% (the lowest rating provided) will now receive **an additional NIS 1,675 per month**, where the new special services allowance will now amount to **NIS 3,076 per month.**

Anyone who, until today, has been receiving a special services allowance of 105% (medium rating) will now receive **an additional NIS 2,124 per month**, where the new special services allowance will now amount to **NIS 5,046 per month.**

**Please note:** you do not need to actively approach the National Insurance Institute, file a new claim or reappear before the Medical Committee. The additional amount is automatically granted.

Moreover, **from now on**, in any case of previous eligible for a disabled child allowance was granted on account of autism, and if a medical disability of at least 70% is determined pursuant to a general disability allowance claim, the adult with autism will be automatically entitled for an additional supervision allowance , without having to file another special services allowance claim or to physically appear before the Committee.

Here too, with regard to all future cases, the additional amount granted on account of supervision (which is to be paid in additional to the general disability allowance) will be granted in accordance with the two ratings described above.

### **Submitting an appeal**

The National Insurance Institute's decision regarding the special services allowance can be appealed against. However, we must distinguish between two different cases:

- A. Cases where the allowance is not paid due to the Insured's failure to meet the preconditions, which is derived from the medical disability percentage or Earning Incapacity Rating determined. In such cases, you must file an appeal against the disability or Earning Incapacity Rating percentage determined, in accordance with the procedures described in the chapter that deals with general disability allowances.
- B. The second case involves appeals against the determination of the **extent to which the Insured is depended upon others**, which dictates one's eligibility and allowance percentage, or the date on which allowance payments commence. In such cases, a detailed written appeal must be filed with the Special Services Appeals Committee within ninety days of receiving the letter.

## **Submitting an appeal to the Regional Labor Court**

An appeal can be submitted to the Regional Labor Court by an individual who is dissatisfied with the Bituach Leumi decision only on legal issues. The appeal must be submitted to the court within 60 days from receipt of the written Bituach Leumi decision.

Further details on both the General Disability Pension and the Special Services Allowance are at the Bituach Leumi site: <http://www.btl.gov.il>

### ***3. National Insurance - Advice for Parents***

At age 18, the allowance to be provided by the State to your child for the rest of his life at home will be determined.

The National Insurance Institute Committee determines the right to a disability and special services allowance, and thus the quality of life of adults living at home together with their parents is determined. The allowance to be received from the National Insurance Institute will determine the ability of each and every one of you to provide them with an adequate quality of life, which naturally entails financial support.

Over the years, you as parents do your best to see the half-full glass. To see and take pride in your child's achievements and to repress the difficulties. When you pay a visit to the National Insurance Institute, this is not the place to exhibit pride in achievements and capabilities. This is where and when you focus on the difficulties.

This is a challenging process, but in order to receive suitable support from the State, you need to look squarely at the difficulties suffered by your children, each according to their ability to function, and to acknowledge the fact that even though you are proud of their independence in the shower, in the bathroom and even their ability to prepare food, you must remember that they still need help with all of these activities. Help is more than just washing your child, you also need to make sure there is hot water and soap in advance. In short, you are required to create the conditions that will allow your children to be independent.

It is hard to talk about the difficulties, but at this juncture, you simply have to.

The criteria for determining one's degree of disability are not set according to people with autism, and therefore you must emphasize to Committee that the term "daily activities" (getting dressed, eating, controlling one's excretions, washing, independent mobility around the house and everything these entail) must be considered in the context of autism, and not as though autism is a physical disability. The difficulties suffered by your children do not stem from a motoric difficulty to carry out these tasks, but rather from the inability to understand their significance or how to solve

even the simplest problems that arise during the execution of these tasks (what to do when you run out of toilet paper, when there is no more hot water, etc.).

- Due to the excitement and stress involved in this experience, it is best to thoroughly prepare oneself prior to appearing before the Committee, both in terms of obtaining documents and in terms of reciting the examples which you will present before the Committee.
- It is important that you arrive with an opinion authored by a psychiatrist and/or neurologist, of educators and welfare service representatives. It is important that the letters and opinions use the terminology known to the National Insurance Institute, such as: “The person in question is depended upon the assistance of others in carrying out daily tasks throughout most of the day on account of their disability.”
- Make sure to arrive with a companion, so that when you proceed to talk about your child, the companion will leave the room with them.

Following are examples meant to explain the dependence on the assistance of others. You may use them based on your child’s level of function.

1. Due to the person’s disability, they are depended on the assistance of others throughout the day. The person in question is a young man with autism who, only after having received intensive treatment and guidance, is capable of engaging in basic daily activities with support and supervision.
2. The person in question does not understand the significance of day-to-day activities: if there is no more toilet paper in the bathroom, he will simply not wipe himself; if he is pensive, he will fail to wipe himself thoroughly; when there is no soap in the shower, or when the water is cold, he will not notify his parents; his soaping technique is technical and without assistance he will execute these techniques offhandedly, and it will be as though they were not executed at all.

3. The person in question is unable to shave/shaves under supervision/is unable to prepare his own food/is only able to prepare basic food items/is only able to prepare food if assisted and closely supervised.
4. The person in question does not understand the significance of a live flame and is unaware of the risk of fire if he places anything close to the fire.
5. The person in question is able to get dressed on his own, but is unable to choose the right articles of clothing for the season, or for the type of activity which he is about to pursue. Moreover, he does not distinguish between dirty and clean clothing.
6. When left unoccupied, the person in question becomes echolalic, disconnected and restless, with the end result's being a reduced level of function.
7. The person in question is unable to leave the house on his own, not because he is unable to walk, but because he is unaware of the risks posed by vehicles and people. He is unable to report where he went, and there is a tangible risk that he would disappear and be unable to return home.
8. The person in question does not distinguish between right and wrong or between proper and improper (e.g., taking off his pants in the street as opposed to taking them off in the bathroom. He is unable to infer from one case to another, and therefore requires close mediation.
9. Changes make the person in question extremely anxious, and he becomes panicked and aggressive. Due to the difficulty of explaining himself, he tends to communicate violently and to have tantrums, and therefore he needs a familiar adult, precious object or a ritual to help him feel confident.
10. We ask that you furnish us with what we need to allow him to live his life with dignity, rather than force us, his parents, to remove him from the house, with great sorrow, and put him in a special facility against our wishes.
11. Given all of the above, the person in question depends on the assistance of others in executing all day-to-day tasks, and throughout most of the day on account of their disability. Due to impaired communication and inability to understand situations in day-to-day life, which may escalated into tangibly dangerous



situations, the aforementioned needs constant assistance and supervision at all hours / throughout most of the day. (See attached opinion).

If all preparations were of no use, and you still think your child needs higher allowances, you may file an appeal in accordance with National Insurance Institute rules. When filing the appeal, and in general, you may avail yourself of the assistance of the ALUT Family Center by calling 03-6703077.

## **The rights of general disability pension recipients**

### ***Electricity bill discount rate***

Adults who are 18 years old and have not reached the age of retirement and are receiving a Special Services allowance at the rate of 112% 188% are entitled to pay a reduced rate of 50% of domestic tariff, for the first 400 kWh consumed each month, for domestic use only.

The National Insurance Institute will furnish the Israel Electric Corporation with the names of all eligible adults, and the discount will be updated automatically.

The eligible person or parent/guardian will seek to register the contract with the Israel Electric Corporation in the eligible person's name by contacting the telephone service center of the Israel Electric Corporation (103).

### ***Domestic water bill discount rate***

Adults 18 years of age who are on the autistic spectrum, for whom a medical disability of 70% or more was determined, or who were found to be eligible for a special services allowance, will be granted an additional 3.5 cubic meters per eligible person per month in addition to the basic rate.

This benefit is allocated for domestic consumers which reside at the billed property.

\* Every citizen is eligible to receive 3.5 cubic meters of water per month at the low water tariff. This Benefit allows receiving an additional quota of 3.5 cubic meters of water per month at the low water tariff.

**For every question this issue, please contact the water authority's hotline at:**

**072-2755440**

## ***Income Tax***

Parents of adults for whom a permanent Earning Incapacity Rating of 74% was determined by the National Insurance Institute are entitled to two tax credit points, based on the broad interpretation of Section 45 of the Income Tax Ordinance [New Version], which does not expressly mention autism.

Recipients of General disability allowances with a medical disability of 100% may be entitled to an income tax exemption under Section 9(5) of the Income Tax Ordinance.

Moreover, recipients of General disability allowances with a medical disability of 90% or more, based on a special calculation, may also be entitled to an income tax exemption. Under the rules determined.

### **Forms to submit**

1. Form 116A – request for taxation credit points for an incapacitated relative: the form is attached as Appendix A.
2. Form 127 – “Medical Certificate” for Income Tax purposes, to be completed by a specialist physician only (neurologist / psychiatrist): the form is attached as Appendix B.
3. Confirmation of receipt of general disability allowances.

The tax credits apply to one of the parents’ salary, as chosen by them, and the credits may be distributed between the parents pursuant to their request.

The forms can be downloaded from the Income Tax website at [www.mof.gov.il/itc](http://www.mof.gov.il/itc) under the category “Forms”.

The entitlement is linked to the income of one of the parents, but the points can be split between the parents at their request.

The eligibility period for the credits is in accordance with the eligibility period of the general disability allowance specified in the National Insurance Institute confirmation.

You may try and ask for a “multiannual certificate” from the officer, even without a certificate from a doctor/the National Insurance Institute, as they are able to provide such a certificate.

Parents are eligible for retroactive tax rebates for the six years that precede the application date (provided the National Insurance recognition was in effect during those years), added by interest and linkage differences as customarily applied by the Income Tax Authority.

If one of the parents does not work, the entitlement is altered.

### ***Bank Commissions Reduction***

A client who has shown the bank Bituach Leumi certification indicating that she or he suffers from 40% or more disability, is entitled to four teller actions per month for the cost of one direct service action. The entitlement commences on the 1st of the month following presentation of the required certification.

### ***Disabled Person's Parking Permit and Exemption from Licensing Fee***

A disabled person's parking permit allows parking in spaces designated for the disabled, and in places where parking may not generally be allowed under certain set by law (which chiefly relate to non-disruption of traffic flow). The disabled parking permit and the Ministry of Transport do not exempt from paying parking fees.

However, a disabled person is exempt from payment in public places where the only access for the disabled person is by parking in a public place requiring payment.

### **Who is entitled?**

Parents whose children receive a disabled person's allowance of at least 60% medical disability, where transporting the child without a car may disrupt the child's health, and parents with children having disabled legs and requiring a wheelchair or vehicle as a means of conveyance. The Ministry of Transportation introduced a new workflow

procedure for the Disabled Parking Permits Committee, which includes autism as an explicit criterion, but this criterion does not apply automatically. Each request is examined on its merits and decisions are made accordingly.

### **Who to approach?**

The Regional Licensing Office in your area (or the Licensing Center in Ramla). Submit your request to the Unit for Limited Mobility, Update & Control Center, POB 72 Holon, 58100, or via fax 03-5027686. There is no need for you to go to the Licensing Office.

Any questions / problems in this matter are to be referred to the Public Inquiries Licensing Office in Holon - Yaffa Sri [yaffas@mot.gov.il](mailto:yaffas@mot.gov.il)

You can receive further details via recorded or live assistance on 1-222-56-78 or \*5678.

### **Forms to submit**

[Request for Disabled Person's Parking Permit, and Exemption from License](#) Fee (attached as Appendix D).

Bituach Leumi certification of receipt of allowance for disabled/mobility challenged child (copy of the Bituach Leumi medical panel protocol).

Photocopy of the Bituach Leumi Medical Panel Protocol.

Medical certification detailing the mobility limitation, that the applicant requires supervision and assistance with mobility and that lack of a vehicle could undermine the applicant's health status.

Parental request letter.

Photocopy of the ID of the person in whose name the vehicle is registered, including the tab showing the relationship to the individual with limited mobility.

Photocopy of the vehicle license.

- If the vehicle is not registered in the name of the person with the disability, documents must be shown that prove a relationship with the disabled person: photocopy of both parents' IDs, or ID of the vehicle owner with whom the child is registered, or a legal guardian's documentation.
- If the vehicle is registered in the name of a person who is not a relative of the disabled person, a declaration signed before an attorney or the court of law must be added, showing that the vehicle owner has placed the vehicle permanently at the personal service of the disabled person.
- If the vehicle is registered on a company name, a letter should be presented by the company on company logo/letterhead that the vehicle is permanently dedicated for the disabled person's use.
- If the vehicle is registered with a rental/leasing company, a rental agreement must be provided.

**Important !**

In accordance with adjustment to the [Disabled People' Parking Permit Law](#) 5754-1993, you can now receive the parking permit for two cars if you can prove that both of the individuals requesting the permit transport the child.

A person who does not possess authorization of disability allowance and is not entitled to a reduced license fee can nonetheless request a Disabled Person's Parking Permit direct from the Licensing Department physician. The request must be submitted to the Licensing Office closest to you together with current medical documents. The request will be examined by the Licensing Office's physician and a response will be forwarded by the office.

Note that the Disabled Person's Parking Permit can only be used when the disabled person is present. Using the permit under other circumstances may incur a heavy fine.

## **Licensing Fee Exemption**

Eligible persons are entitled to a disabled placard. The licensing toll for vehicles of people with disabilities is revised from time to time.

### **For further details:**

Ministry of Transport

POB 42, Bet Dagan 50250

Tel: 03-954.5400 Fax: 03-954.5450

Sunday to Thursday between 10:00 and 12:00

## ***Exemptions from Queues and Personal Care Assistance Fees.***

### **Queue-free Public Services – Who Is Eligible?**

\* People 18 years of age or older diagnosed with ASD, with a medical disability level of over 50% or more, are eligible to queue-free public services.

\* Please note – Queue-free public services shall not be rendered in places where the waiting takes place inside a vehicle (national parks, gas stations, etc.)

### **Exemptions from Personal Care Assistance Fees for People with ASD in Public Places – Who Is Eligible?**

\* People 18 years of age or older diagnosed with ASD, with a medical disability level of over 50% or more, are eligible to queue-free public services.

\* Persons 18 years of age or older, diagnosed with ASD, who receive Special Services Allowances (Attendance Allowance).

Please note – The exemption from personal care assistance fees in public places does not apply in places where the service being rendered entails individual services provided to the personal care assistant, such as separate seats, rooms, etc.

\* The above specified rights may be exercised by presenting the new NII Disability Certificate specifying their Queue/Personal Care Assistance Fees Exemption on its back.

- NII will issue the new certificates, and automatically sent to entitled recipients' homes. Not required to actively contact the NII .

\* For further information, please contact the Equal Rights for People with Disabilities Commission at 02-5088034 or by email: [iritsha@mishpatim.gov.il](mailto:iritsha@mishpatim.gov.il).

### ***Public Transport – Discounts***

Recipients of the General Disability Allowance with at least 75% Inability to Earn, and recipients of the General Disability Pension who receive Income Assurance,

Eligible for a 33% discount from all public transportation companies (Dan, Egged, Israel Railways, etc.).

The discount can be utilized only by means of your personal Rav-Kav bus card. To update your personal eligibility profile, please visit one of the “AL Ha’kav” service centers spread throughout the country.

### **Who to approach?**

The Discount Entitlement certification is automatically produced once every two years and given out in the month following receipt of the Bituach Leumi disability pension certification. There is no need to apply to the Ministry of Transport.

If the Ministry of Transport certification was not received, write to:

Department of Public Transport

8 Hamlacha Street, POB 57109, Tel Aviv 61570 Fax: 03-565.7281

The entitlement certification will be mailed to you. It must be shown to the bus driver, or the ticketing booth, in order to purchase a reduced price multi-use ticket.



## ***Municipal Rates [“Arnona”]***

A recommendation to the local authorities for discount on property taxes (based on the State Economy Arrangements (property tax reductions) - 1993) exists. The discount rate is a decision of the local authority and varies for each one.

Who is eligible?

According to an amendment from 2010, a discount to a child will remain even after the age of 18 is reached only if due to his disability an allowance was made for a disabled child as a minor and an allowance continues to be received for him from the National Insurance Institute as an adult. The maximum discount is 33% as long as an adult is residing with his parents / foster family.

If an adult lives on his own and he is paying for municipal tax payment he will be given a discount depending on the rank of medical disability and degree of earning capacity set for him. Additional information in the link:

[http://www.nevo.co.il/law\\_html/law01/297\\_032.htm](http://www.nevo.co.il/law_html/law01/297_032.htm)

## **Who to approach?**

To receive the reduction, apply to the Municipality's Rates Collections Department to obtain a form, and submit a request for reduced municipal rates, attaching the documents required by the municipality such as disability allowance and medical documents.

- The discount is not given automatically but is considered by its merits.

**You can apply for a higher discount rate on the basis of need (according to income level test and the number of persons living at home). The disability rate to which the child is eligible will not be calculated into the test.**

## ***Bezeq Telephone Company***

### **The Entitlement**

Individuals who have Bituach Leumi certification of medical disability at 80% or higher, **and** receive Bituach Leumi disability allowance of 75% and more, are entitled to installation and relocation discount, and a fixed reduction within the monthly account.

Only both certifications together will enable granting the reduction.

For as long as that person is living at home, the family is entitled to the reduction but when the disabled individual leaves home, the family will no longer be entitled and it will be cancelled.

There are no retroactive reductions. It is recommended that you do not delay submitting the request.

### **Who to approach?**

The Ministry of Welfare is responsible for activating and funding Bezeq reductions.

Contact the Ministry of Welfare Rehabilitation Department on 02-670.8111 and request the appropriate form (attached as Appendix B).

To this attach certification showing disability of 75% or higher, and medical certification of disability of 80%; photocopy of telephone bill; and photocopy of the applicant's ID. Mail the form and documents to:

Ministry of Welfare Department of Rehabilitation

POB 1260, Jerusalem 91012.

**Parents of two children both of whom have disabilities are entitled to a doubled discount.**

**Currently the reduction is only for the Bezeq telephone line. If there is any change and other telephonic suppliers advise of reductions, official notification will be issued.**

### **How the request is handled**

1. The authorized Rehabilitation Department officers will review the applicant's eligibility in accordance with the documents attached to the request.
2. If the applicant is considered ineligible, the request and attachments will be returned with an explanatory letter.
3. If the applicant is considered eligible for a reduction in installation costs and/or telephone bill, signed certification will be mailed.
4. The applicant should then approach the Bezeq office in her or his home area to implement the reduction.
5. The reduction will appear in the telephone bill itself.
6. Parents who are entitled to a reduction on behalf of their disabled child will need to register or add the child as an owner of the telephone line, because the reduction is given only to the disabled individual. A fee is charged for adding a name.

### ***Purchase Tax***

“Exemption” refers to payment of purchase tax of 0.5% of the value of the transaction alone (standard purchase tax is graduated from between 0.5% to 5%).

The exemption is granted when purchasing a home or plot of land on condition that it will be used as the disabled person's home. When purchasing a plot of land, the exemption will be given if the home is built within two years.

Receiving the exemption requires that the contract is signed in the name of the disabled individual.

This exemption can be received only twice in the course of one's life.

### **Who is entitled to purchase tax relief?**

An adult determined by Bituach Leumi as having Inability to Earn of at least 75%, or a permanently disabled adult with 100% medical disability, or with at least 90% disability in various parts of the body according to special calculation of the various

deficiencies, is entitled to purchase tax relief. An individual with disability who is employed and is not entitled to a Bituach Leumi disability allowance can request that her or his scope of disability be determined by the Income Tax Ordinances.

### **How to apply**

The applicant should submit a declaration of purchase and request for exemption due to disability, to the Lands Taxation Office in the area where the purchase is located. Submit the request for exemption on the [appropriate form](#) together with [Declaration of Purchase](#) to the Lands Taxation Office in the area where the purchase is located.

### **Legal Capacity**

When the home is purchased in the name of the individual with the disability: In accordance with Clause 33 of the Law, and the individual having reached 18 years old, the court is entitled to appoint a guardian for an individual who is legally incompetent (being an individual who due to mental illness or disorder cannot care for her- or himself according to Clause 8 of the Law) or for any other persons who cannot consistently take care of their own requirements in full or part. This process is revocable. An appointed guardian is not authorized to represent the ward for actions whose validity depends on legal registration without the court authorizing same in advance (Clause 47(3) of the Law).

In addition, according to Clause 48 of the Legal Capacity Law, “in legal actions between the ward and the guardian, the guardian’s spouse or relatives, other than providing the ward with gifts, and for legal actions between the ward and any other ward over whom the same guardian has guardianship, the guardian is not entitled to represent the ward without the court or another guardian appointed for this purpose, authorizes same in advance.”

In other words, parents wishing in the future to transfer rights in the home to the disabled individual’s sibling/s will require court approval for this action.

Request to make the transaction must be submitted to the Family Court in the area where the home is located. The court will advise its decision as beneficial to the disabled individual.

A Lands Taxation Open Line answers queries: Mondays and Wednesdays, between 13:00 to 15:00, on 1-800-222-337.

**Important !** Purchase of a home and registration in the name of the disabled individual is not merely technical but carries legal implications and consequences. We recommend that parents consult with a lawyer.

### ***Home Loan Purchasing Assistance***

Individuals with the appropriate Bituach Leumi, Ministry of Health or Ministry of Defense certification indicating permanent disability or Inability to Earn of 75% and more, or limited mobility at 75% or higher, on condition that such individual is “**lacking a home**”, a term which, relevant to this situation, refers to:

1. An individual who currently does not own, nor previously owned, a home in full or in part.
2. An individual on whose name a home is registered, but that home is not available being populated by first degree relatives (family members) who do not currently own, or in the past owned, another residence registered in their names nor received assistance of any kind for residential purposes.
3. A family or single person whose home as registered in the family's or individual's name was transferred without remuneration resulting from divorce.

### **The scope of the loan is fixed according to several criteria**

1. For a disabled individual who lives with her or his family: number of years married, number of unmarried children up to the age of 21 who live with the family, number of siblings and of spouse's siblings who are residents of Israel,

and number of months of military or national civic service of both the individual and her/his spouse.

2. For a disabled individual who lives alone, entitlement is granted from age 21 and up. To calculate the scope of the loan, the following factors are taken into account: the individual's age, number of siblings who are Israeli citizens and residents, and number of months of military or national civic service.

These parameters determine the entitlement points which are then translated into monetary values. The points system can be seen on the Ministry of Construction & Housing website: [www.moch.gov.il](http://www.moch.gov.il)

### **How to receive the loan**

The loan is provided through one of the mortgage banks (listing included in this booklet). Register for the program via one of the mortgage banks and provide all relevant certification to the bank representative.

**When a guardian has been appointed for the applicant, registration at the bank must be in the presence of the registered individual and signed by the guardian who must present legal guardianship appointment.**

### **Certificates and documents required**

ID and photocopy of ID with tab showing details of children and photocopies of the IDs of any single children over the age of 18 living with the parents, and certification of pregnancy (from 5 months and more) where relevant.

Marriage / divorce certificate or any other official document indicating personal status.

Immigrant ID (for new immigrants).

Documentation proving military or national civic service.

Certification of disability from Bituach Leumi of 75% at least.

## **Appeals**

If your request to purchase a home with assistance has been rejected you can appeal to the Ministry of Construction and Housing Appeals Panel.

**We strongly suggest that you consult with a lawyer specializing in home ownership by wards in order to prevent a situation where a property registered in the disabled individual's name cannot be sold in the future.**

## **Kupat Holim [Health Fund]**

### ***Exemptions from Payments***

Individuals receiving the General Disability Pension are exempt from payment for an appointment with an internal or specialist physician, for hospital liability and in various medical testing institutes and outpatients clinics.

The exemption is automatic, linked to a list provided to the health fund by Bituach Leumi. For details apply to the Registration and Allocation officer at Bituach Leumi, 02-6707744

It is recommended that you check the higher level and assistive capabilities of each of the health funds for rights they provide in funding and refunding for services.

### ***Dental Treatment under Anesthesia***

Under the State Health Insurance Law [and the Health Administration Circular](#), general anesthesia for dental treatments is included in the Health Basket only in special cases where the medical condition of the Insured does not allow for dental treatment except under general anesthesia.

The autistic population group is included in the aforementioned definition and therefore they are entitled to general anesthesia during dental treatments.

**Please Note:** The dental treatments themselves, which take place under general anesthesia, are not included in this eligibility.

### **Who to approach?**

Please contact the Insured's clinic to receive more details.

**Please Note:** If you wish to receive treatment at a hospital, you must make sure to obtain a Form No. 17 in advance.



## ***Supporting and alternative communication devices for people with disabilities***

As of 2015, the Health Basket includes supporting and alternative communication computers. The computer is intended for people who are unable to engage in verbal communication and to make use of voice output / photo tables / tablets for communication purposes, and whom the communication computers would enable to engage in efficient communication.

### Requisite Documents:

A. Medical documents from the attending or another physician, which include an accurate diagnosis and relevant medical information.

B. Functional report of the referring speech therapist (a referring speech therapist is a speech therapist working on behalf of the insuring health maintenance organization. However, it is also possible to obtain a report from a speech therapist who belongs to other facilities such as hospitals, rehabilitation programs and educational programs).

The application must be sent to the “National Unit for Rehabilitation and Mobility Devices” at:

[nayadut@moh.health.gov.il](mailto:nayadut@moh.health.gov.il) Fax: 02-5655985, Postal Address: National Unit for Rehabilitation and Mobility Devices, 15 Noah Moses Street, Tel Aviv.

## Law Governing Sick Leave – Escorting an Individual with an Impairment

Due to the nature of the impairment, a disabled child or adult will often need supervision or personal care assistance, such as to treatment or special services, paramedical care or other assistive support, and medical visits and follow-ups. For this reason, parents are often required to absent themselves from their place of employment. To balance employer / employee needs, the Law Governing Sick Leave (Absenteeism due to Child's Illness) 5753-1993, Clause 1b, states that:

**(Please note; the Law's name employs the word "child", but there is no restriction as regards the age of that child, and the reference below applies to both children and adults over 18 years of age).**

(A) A disabled child's parent who has worked for at least one year in the same place of employment is entitled to receive up to 18 days annually for absences in order to provide personal assistance to a disability-diagnosed child and requiring parental absence from the workplace. These days can be offset against the parent's own sick leave days or annual vacation, as the parent chooses.

(B) The parent is entitled to a further 18 days to cover these absences as long as no one else (the other parent) has taken advantage of them as absences to provide assistance, under the following conditions:

- The spouse works and has not absented her- or himself from the workplace for the purpose of child supervision and personal care assistance.
- The spouse is self-employed and has not been absent from her or his place of work in order to supervise and/or escort the child.
- The parent is single-parenting.
- The disabled child is in sole custody of the single parent.

(C) The parent may also choose to be partially absent on some work days. Under such circumstances, the absence of the parent will be calculated on an hourly basis.

1. (D) An employee may use their sick leave days in order to assist their children, beginning from their first day of absence. Such payment also includes partial absences, and, under such circumstances, the absence is calculated on an hourly basis.

2. (E) The parent is entitled to 52 more hours per year (if employed full-time, and on a *pro rata* basis if less), which are added to their sick leave days as provided by law.

These annual leave hours can only be used for the purpose of assisting the child.

Unused special sick leave days may not be accumulated. Such days may also be used on an hourly basis, beginning from the first day of absence. If the parent is a single-parent or if their spouse has not used their special sick leave days, the employee may also use special leave days not used by their spouse based on the extent of their employment.

**\* The Law concerns any person with disabilities, irrespective of age**

## **Permit to Employ a Foreign Worker**

### **The Entitlement**

Employment of a foreign worker to care for an adult requiring assistive care and employed at least as a full time employee.

### **Who is entitled?**

**An individual who is entitled to a Special Services Allowance from Bituach Leumi.**

An individual whose claim for Special Services Allowance was rejected due to scope of income, or because that individual chose a mobility allowance, is entitled to request a “renewed panel discussion” on her or his case at Bituach Leumi for the purpose of obtaining the permit to employ a foreign worker.

### **Who to approach?**

Foreign worker permits are handled by the Interior Ministry’s Bureau of Immigration, Population and Border Passes Authority.

The process involves:

1. Receiving a permit in principle to employ a foreign worker: this request can be submitted independently or via one of the certified private bureaus or human resources offices for employing foreign workers; OR
2. Applying to a private certified bureau for employment of a foreign worker, to choose an employee and request a visa for the employee at the Ministry of the Interior.

## **Documents required**

For the permit in principle:

### **Complete the following three forms:**

- Form A – request to receive permit for employment of a foreign worker or extend existing permit
- Form B – Employer's Commitment
- Form C – Waiver of Medical Discretion

### **Attach to every such request the following documents:**

- Receipt showing payment of the permit request (a request submitted without this receipt will be returned to the applicant)
- Photocopy of the applicant's ID plus tab; and the employer's ID if the employer is someone other than the applicant who cannot complete these requirements
- Certification of official Guardianship if the applicant is a ward
- Certification showing entitlement to Special Services will be transferred direct from Bituach Leumi to the Permits Unit, Nursing Assistance Section, and does not need to be attached to the submitted request, subject to the applicant signing on the Waiver of Medical Discretion attached to the request.

### **When requesting permit extension, also add the following:**

- Photocopy of foreign employee's visa corresponding to the permit (as it appears in the passport).

Send the forms and required documents to the Support Unit, Department of Assistance, as follows:

Jerusalem: 34 Ben Yehuda Street, 13th Floor, Migdal Ha'ir Building. 02-622.9813/4

Tel Aviv: 53 Derech Shlomo, 4th Floor, 66089. 03-512.5422/6

North: 7 Pal Yam Street, Zim Building, POB. 109, 31003. 04-860.6703/4

South: 12 Alumot Street, Mashovit Building, 2nd Floor, Omer Industrial Area. 08-625.3017

It takes some two months to receive the permit, which arrives by mail.

After receiving the permit, approach the private certified bureau/s and request details on suitable employees currently in Israel, with a permit, and free to work, or alternately, employees still in their source country but interested in this type of employment. When the appropriate person has been found, the human resources placement company will request that the Ministry of the Interior issue the appropriate visa.

**Foreign employees usually arrive in Israel with very minimal Hebrew, having received some months of training in their home country. You can request a completely fluent Hebrew speaking employee but the salary will be higher, and it may take longer to find the appropriate person.**

**The Law does not allow partnering with another family to employ the foreign worker. The visa is issued only for a specific family.**

### **Important ! Information following changes to the employment method**

- A private organization is not entitled to charge the employing parent/s or employee any fee whatever for registration only. The organization is entitled to charge the employer NIS.70 per month for services it must provide, including: quarterly visits, assistance in solving employment problems, assistance in arranging insurance, and extending permits and visas, etc.
- The organization is entitled to charge NIS.2000- from the employer when the organization acts as an agent/placement service for a new foreign worker.
- If the employer discharged the employee or the employee left the employer, the employer must advise the organization.

- If the employer has employed a new worker, a new placement letter must be received from the organization.
- A work permit cannot be extended if both employer and employee have not been registered as noted above.

Additional information and a list of private organizations can be found at:

<http://www.moital.gov.il/NR/exeres/ADD9C3AC-FA3F-460F-97E6-3ACA31BF5EDA.htm>

Pre-recorded or live information can be accessed via the National Information Line,  
Assistance Nursing Permits: 1-700-707-147

## Guardianship

### The Entitlement

A minor who has not reached the age of 18 years is under the responsibility of her/his parents, who are the “natural guardians”. The minor is legally unable to sign contracts or authorize medical treatments and take other major decisions. On reaching 18, the child is considered an independent adult, and by law is also legally self-responsible. They may sign contracts, do shopping, sign informed consent to surgery forms, face trial and sign affidavits. The parents of an 18-year old are prohibited from committing any act in their stead, or make any decision in their name.

Usually this would be a normal, natural process of a child turning into an adult, but for people with special needs, such as those diagnosed with autism, the person may be 18 years old, but they are normally unable to take care of themselves, and therefore they would need to appoint **a guardian**, a person with the legal capacity to take care of them, to make decisions in their name, and to protect their interests in their stead. A guardian is authorized to do whatever it takes to fulfill their duties, but certain acts mandate court approval (such as the buying and selling of real estate).

### Who to approach?

Only the court can certify a guardian. When parents request guardianship over a child with autism who had reached the age of 18, the submission is lodged with the Family Court.

### When is a guardian appointed?

The court appoints a guardian when it feels that the individual [“ward”] for whom guardianship is requested cannot take care of his/her own needs in full or in part, and that appointment of a guardian is in the ward’s best interest.

The court can decide that an individual is **legally incompetent** due to psychological or mental impairment that prevents the individual from taking responsible decisions. An



individual certified as legally incompetent requires the agreement of a guardian for every legal action taken in every sphere of life.

A guardian can also be appointed when a person is not certified as legally incompetent. In such cases, the court will define the spheres over which the guardian is responsible. A guardian can be appointed for matters of property, or matters of body, or both. In the case of a ward with ASD, it is worth considering declaring legal incompetence.

### **Who can be appointed?**

According to the law, a guardian can be: any person, a relative of the ward, attorney, corporation, the institution in which the ward lives, a foundation or association, and so on, or the Administrator General who is the legal representative for all guardianship issues.

Usually preference will be given to a family member. If this is impossible, another party can be appointed. Because the role involves a good deal of responsibility and invested commitment, the court will not appoint anyone who does not agree to be a guardian.

### **How does the court decide guardian appointment?**

The court will appoint a guardian who it deems as most suited under the specific circumstances to benefit the ward. The court must act in the ward's best interests and is entitled to appoint several guardians as appropriate. The court will hear stances presented by the ward's family and even the ward him/herself, if possible.

Many parents find this process insulting and frustrating, in that they were responsible for their child for 18 years. Please bear in mind that this is a **legal procedure** intended to protect all parties, and the court's **legal obligation** to examine that the proposed guardian is indeed the person most suited to care for the ward.

### **Who is entitled to request guardianship appointment?**

A request to be appointed guardian can be submitted by the ward's family or relatives, or the government's Administrator General although the latter will usually derive from a request by the social worker handling the ward's case, and via the Ministry of Welfare. The request can be submitted direct to the court, or via a lawyer.

### **When is guardianship appointment / legal incompetence submitted?**

It is recommended that the procedure to declare legal incompetence and appoint a guardian commence shortly prior to the individual turning 18 years old. If the request is made after the individual turns 18, attach a request to be appointed as interim guardian until the court reaches its decision.

### **How is the application submitted?**

#### **Application to declare legal incompetence**

The request must be in writing, and detail the following:

**Name, address and ID number of the person making the request**

**Photocopy of the applicant's and ward's IDs.**

**Reason/s for making the request**

**Declaration by the applicant (certified by an attorney) to authenticate facts contained in the application, the declaration is performed in front of a lawyer in court [this involves payment of a fee].**

**Medical documentation (family physician / psychiatrist) detailing the ward's health status.**

#### **Application to be appointed guardian**

The request must be in writing, and detail the following (see also, Appendix F):

**Name, address and ID number of the person making the request**

**Declaration by the applicant (certified by an attorney) to authenticate facts contained in the application**

**Name and address of the proposed guardian, and written agreement to serve as guardian. If the proposed guardian is only one of the parents, written agreement of the other parent indicating no opposition to the appointment must also be attached.**

**An opinion prepared by the psychiatrist or family physician detailing the ward's status. The opinion must relate to whether the ward is capable of taking care of his/her own needs in part or full, and the degree to which the ward is able to understand the significance of having a guardian appointed, and whether the ward expresses any views on the matter. If the ward is unable to present an opinion, the medical report must clearly state the following: The abovementioned individual is unable to express an opinion on the appointment.**

**It is worth also attaching the social worker's opinion; and the decision of the placement panel, if such exists.**

**The application must be submitted to the Family Court in the ward's area of residence. One copy is sufficient to the best of our knowledge, which is scanned to a computer.**

**The procedure requires payment of a fee to the court, and you will need to pay for the Declaration signed before an attorney if you are applying independently.**

Once the application is reviewed, and the opinions of the Administrator General and the Ministry of Welfare Administrator are received by the court, the court will usually appoint the applicant as guardian. Occasionally the Ministry of Welfare may request that a review of the applicant and the ward be conducted prior to making its decision.

### **What are a guardian's duties?**

An appointed guardian is obliged to take care of all the ward's needs and manage the ward's finances and property.

### **Preparing a report of belongings**

Within 30 days of being appointed, the guardian must submit a detailed list of all the ward's assets and debts to the Administrator General. The guardian must continue to keep clear accounts of the ward's assets, income and expenses. In addition, at least once annually the guardian must submit a current report on the status of the ward's assets, income and expenses to the Administrator General.

### **Managing the ward's finances**

The guardian must invest any surplus funds beyond the ward's daily needs such that their value will be assured and even increase if possible.

### **Managing the ward's assets**

If the ward owns registered assets (usually property such as a home, car) the guardian must advise the appropriate authorities of appointment, to ensure that any transactions must be directed through the guardian.

### **Additional information on guardianship**

Details on the duties that a guardian must fulfill relative to the ward, the court and the Administrator General can be received from:

The Administrator General's Supervisory Department,

Ms. Gittit Sar-Shalom, Auditor,

216 Yaffo Street, Jerusalem.

02-531.1612

**More information is available on the Administrator General's website:**

[http://www.justice.gov.il/Units/ApotroposKlali/Departments/ApotroposKlali/Apotropos\\_Pikuach/Pages/TrusteeSupervision.aspx](http://www.justice.gov.il/Units/ApotroposKlali/Departments/ApotroposKlali/Apotropos_Pikuach/Pages/TrusteeSupervision.aspx)

Updated forms can be downloaded from the courts website at:

<http://elyon1.court.gov.il/heb/forms/8.pdf>

And on the Guidelines for Guardianship Applicant, at:

[http://www.justice.gov.il/Units/ApotroposKlali/Departments/ApotroposKlali/Apotropos\\_Pikuach/Pages/faq.aspx](http://www.justice.gov.il/Units/ApotroposKlali/Departments/ApotroposKlali/Apotropos_Pikuach/Pages/faq.aspx)

**The ALUT Guardians for People with ASD Organization:**

The organization provides services to children and adults whose disability stems from their autism, and may serve as the person's guardian as provided by law and subject to court approval. The organization serves as a guardian the person's physical and mental faculties, and is authorized to administer their property subject to court approval.

**Contact Information:**

Tel. 074-704891 Fax: 074-7047892

Email: [info@autropsut.org.il](mailto:info@autropsut.org.il)

Address: The ALUT Guardians for People with ASD Organization

Twin Towers 2, 35 Jabotinsky St., Ramat-Gan.

Reception hours (by appointment): Sun, Wed: 8:00AM-4:30PM, Tue: 3:30PM-8PM.

## **Military Service**

As is the case for all Security Service Candidates, as a rule, young adults on the autistic spectrum receive a written letter from the IDF.

The National Insurance Institute provides the IDF with medical information about the Security Service Candidate on the autistic spectrum, in accordance with the Security Service Law. The medical information received may affect the process of the Candidate's recruitment and their military service.

### **The IDF sends three types of letters to Security Service Candidates on the autistic spectrum:**

**A.** An invitation to attend medical committees in the Security Service Candidate's presence, added by a request to provide up-to-date medical documents.

**B.** An invitation to attend medical committees that review the exemption (in the Security Service Candidate's absence), added by a request to provide up-to-date medical documents.

**C.** Automatic exemption letter. In such cases, if the Security Service Candidate wishes to volunteer, they must actively contact the Recruitment Bureau.

In addition, as part of the collaboration between ALUT and the IDF authorities, it is possible to get an exemption from receiving a First Enlistment Order (in advance), for students who are diagnosed on the autistic spectrum. The pilot is voluntary and was initiated by parents. As such, it depends on their choice and requires their willingness and initiative. It is not mandatory to take part in the pilot. A parent who does not actively choose to take part in the pilot will receive a First Enlistment Order or a written letter for his or her child, as has been the case so far. For more details, call \*3529.

Whenever you are asked to provide documents, the documents in question are as follows:

1. Diagnoses

2. Current and original letter from a doctor that certifies the diagnoses.
3. Summary of National Insurance Institute decisions
4. Placement Committee summary
5. A document that contains the exemption application and a request to carry out the procedure in absentia + details such as: the adolescent's full name + I.D. No. + Parents' telephone number.

### **Two enlistment possibilities for adolescents on the Autistic Spectrum:**

**Mandatory enlistment program** (for very highly-functioning persons) - Candidates are granted a Personal Profile Rating of 45 (under "Mental Disability").

**Volunteer program:** Anyone who fails to meet the criteria of Section A above is exempt from security service and is welcome to volunteer.

### ***Mandatory enlistment***

Should it be determined that the Security Service Candidate is able to serve in the IDF, he will be required to carry out complete enlistment procedures at the Enlistment Bureau, including psychotechnical tests, a personal interview and physical examinations.

If the Security Service Candidate has a learning disability or suffers from attention deficit disorder, it is strongly recommended to conclude the didactic diagnosis before arriving at the Enlistment Bureau, so that the Candidate will be able to benefit from all the special adjustments suitable for them in accordance with IDF criteria.

### **Military Service**

Every recruited soldier must undergo basic training, during which s/he receives a weapon. A 45 profile does not automatically presume a placement near home, but

obligates the commander to letting the soldier home at least twice a week at the end of the day's activities.

Once the quality category ["kaba"] is determined, placement is usually completed by the aide, who has no information about the youth's status. It is also not possible to intervene in placement, or control in any way who the recruit's commander or unit mates will be during basic training.

### ***Volunteering for the IDF***

1. It is only possible to become a volunteer on receipt of a military exemption. The volunteer process takes time, so it is worth commencing it as soon as you have the exemption. Go to the recruitment center near your home, request the Department for Individuals Volunteering Officer, and submit your request to volunteer.
2. Following this, several procedures need to be undertaken at the recruitment center:
  - Psychometric exam
  - Personal interview (if not conducted at primary recruitment stage)
  - Another medical panel
  - Data authentication

Completing the process, and having the file transferred to the volunteers department can take 2 months from submission date. For an applicant with a mental health profile, an additional process is involved at the Mental Health Center to sign that the recruitment process is complete.

At this stage, the candidate undergoes a further psychiatric evaluation. When the file returns from the recruitment center, it must be signed once again before being transferred to the medical unit.

3. The file is transferred from the Recruitment Center to the Volunteers Unit (Administration and Induction Center). Within several days the file will be seen



by the medical unit to review the request. If authorized, the youth will be invited to the Volunteers Panel within 3 to 4 weeks.

You may be asked to provide additional documentation (which may include general medical documents if there are additional medical issues) before the candidate is invited to the Panel. All the material will be reviewed by the physician who will set the Panel date. The waiting period depends on the time needed to process these extra documents.

Simultaneously, the candidate will be mailed a preferences questionnaire, to be completed and returned within two weeks.

4. At the Volunteers Panel the candidate will receive the decision concerning suitability for volunteerism from the medical viewpoint; if found suitable, the candidate will be asked to choose recruitment time.
5. Five months before recruitment, the candidate will be invited for an interview according to the preferences submitted. Placement will endeavor to take these preferences and medical requirements into account, alongside the IDF's needs.
6. On recruitment day, arrive in the morning. A bus will take the recruit from the center to the Meitav Base [formerly "Bakum" – Induction Center] to begin official enlistment. At the end of this day, the recruit returns home. The recruit will be told when to report to Tzrifin, Bahad 7 [Training Center 7] to complete a 5 day volunteers program which parallels to some degree the basic training from which they are exempt. On the 5th day, there will be a swearing-in ceremony with parents attending, and every volunteer will receive orders concerning which unit, and where, to report the Sunday immediately following.

**For your information:** the new IDF guidelines determine that volunteers who are unqualified for military service due to physical / mental health issues prior to recruitment will complete 24 months of volunteering. This is the minimum time possible but does not apply to special placements or long term courses [duration of service will be determined separately]. This instruction applies to youth born from 1991 and on.

## **Volunteers' rights**

1. There is no guard duty or basic training.
2. Service must be close to home, unless special certification is received.
3. The volunteer position can be foregone up to one week prior to recruitment date.
4. If medical assistance is required during service, it will be provided via the health fund.

## **Volunteers' Branch 03-737.9064/3**

Info Call Center, Recruitment Center: 03-738.8888 ext. 7

Recruitment Administration Volunteers' Supervisor.

## **Recruitment Center contact details**

Calling \*3529 takes you to the IDF recruitment and categorizing telephonic call center.

Access further information at "Olim al Madim" , the IDF website:

<https://www.aka.idf.il/Main/giyus>

List of Enlistment Bureaus:

<https://www.aka.idf.il/Main/giyus/general.aspx?docId=64966>

## **◀ "Hiburim" -Connections - Preparation and Support for IDF Volunteer Work**

This program is intended for highly-functioning adolescents diagnosed on the autistic spectrum/with Asperger's Syndrome, who received the IDF's permission to serve as volunteers. The program is suitable for adolescents who want to individually participate in military service and who need preparations for the service and support throughout it. The program is supported by Effie - the Israeli Asperger Society, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Welfare.

**Contact Information:** [moralon1@012.net.il](mailto:moralon1@012.net.il)

## **National Civic Service**

If you received an exemption from military service, you can volunteer in National Civic Service, but you must begin before the age of 24. National Civic Service is one year long with an option for a second year, and includes volunteering in various roles.

Two National Civic Service programs integrate ASD youth. Other associations conduct National Civic Service activities which are not specifically geared for ASD youth.

### ***“Meshalvim” Program***

*Meshalvim* is a program coordinated by Bat-Ami and Gvanim and is activated throughout the country. The program enables youth with impairments to integrate into the National Civic Service system, helping them also integrate into society, and constitute preparation for entry into the world of employment and normative society as contributing productive citizens. Volunteers serve 1-2 years depending on National Civic Service budgeting, and work a 30-40 hour work week.

Volunteers with ASD can integrate into all the public and social sector areas that National Civic Service volunteers can be found: kindergartens, schools, hospitals, old age homes, special needs institutions for children, and other organizations.

*Meshalvim*'s target population is youth between 18 to 21 years old with physical, cognitive, sensory, communicative, and emotional impairments, who can be recruited for normal military service due to their impairment.

Candidates are located jointly with community systems such as special needs schools, welfare systems, and mental health clinics.

On completing their service, these youth are entitled to all the rights that released servicemen receive.

## **Basic Acceptance Criteria**

Young adult aged between 18 to 24 with an impairment [service MUST begin at by the age of 24, by law].

Strong personal motivation

Independent mobility with public transport

Independent ability to work [in an appropriately needs-adapted environment].

Exempted from the IDF

Commitment Form for psychiatric/medical or other required treatment to continue during the course of National Civic Service volunteering, signed by the candidate

Participation in preparatory workshop, activities and seminars provided by National Civic Service

National Civic Service in the sphere of education (with backup from special needs schools) requires previous experience in working within the community and both a personal and group school support program

## **The acceptance process**

The candidate and her/his family (if the candidate is being educated through special needs education) complete a personal information sheet and personal preferences form. Both are submitted to *Meshalvim* prior to the interview.

The candidate undergoes a personal interview with the National Civic Service coordinator, some of which is conducted without escorts present.

If the candidate fills these basic criteria, the National Civic Service coordinator will look for an appropriate placement according to the candidate's preferences, personal skills and needs.

## **Who to approach?**

1. At the Ministry of Welfare and Social Services department of your local council, submit a request that the candidate be registered as having ASD (if the candidate is not yet registered).
2. When this is acknowledged, request your family social worker to submit a request to the Supervisor for a “National Civic Service slot” in *Meshalvim* for the coming work year.
3. When this is certified, check with the Ministry of Welfare department that the confirmation has been forwarded to *Meshalvim* for follow-up and placement in the program.
4. Once the slot is confirmed, and details conveyed, you can approach the program’s administrator, Ms. Elisheva Hayazmi, to receive details about how to progress:  
052-607.0266

**Important !** The number of slots allocated for ASD youth is limited. If there are no more slots available via the Ministry of Welfare option, other avenues will need to be accessed. Contact Ms. Hayazmi for details.

## ***The Volunteers Association – National Civic Service***

### **Criteria for admission:**

The program is intended for young men and women between 18-23 years of age with special needs who do not enlist or volunteer in the army, and who wish to contribute to society as part of the National Service program, and to optimally integrate within the community.

- 30-40 weekly hours of volunteer work at placement locations for 12 months.
- The program is suitable for people who are highly motivated to volunteer, who are able to independently travel by public transport and to fit in a special and accessible occupational setting.

**Admission process:**

An interview is scheduled with the Volunteer Society Coordinator in your district.

The candidate fills out a questionnaire. The following documents must be provided:

A. Exemption from IDF service. Medical certification of occupational fitness.

Photocopy of identity card

D. Small (passport-suitable) photo Waiver of medical confidentiality form the candidate's bank account information

Volunteer placement - Choosing a placement location and scheduling an interview with an employer, which will be attended by the supporting Coordinator.

\*Additional relevant documentation - Diagnoses, Welfare recognition, eligibility for a disability allowance, guardian certificate.

**Who to approach?**

Please register for the Introduction Day and the interview. You may register through either of the following:

Through the website: <https://www.sherut-leumi.co.il/> or by calling the Center at 1-800-233-133.

Please state your name, full address, email address, telephone/mobile number and school name.

***Additional National Civic Service organizations***

Shlomit: <http://www.shlomit.org.il/web/>

Aminadav: <http://www.aminadav.org.il>

National Civic Service is supervised by the Special Roles Department of the Ministry of Welfare. Further information from the Ministry of Welfare site:

[http://www.molsa.gov.il/MisradHarevacha/HomePageMenu/VolunteersInfo/Noational Service](http://www.molsa.gov.il/MisradHarevacha/HomePageMenu/VolunteersInfo/NoationalService)

## **Ministry of Welfare – ASD Services**

The Department for Services for Individuals with Autism, which is part of the Ministry of Welfare, is responsible for providing services within the community or in external residential arrangement for children and adults diagnosed with ASD.

Only individuals registered with the Service are entitled to receive its services, even when they are provided by other organizations such as ALUT.

### **Who to approach?**

Contact the social worker in the social services department in your home area to ensure the individual is registered. The social worker will make contact on your behalf with the Ministry of Welfare department.

### **Documents to provide**

1. Detailed diagnosis. If there is no such report, then the report by a clinical psychologist and supporting psychiatrist is suitable. The report should preferably be current.
2. Appointment of Guardian Order. When the diagnosis is unequivocal, the department may require additional testing of its own, which process may take some months.

The Service's response is sent direct to the social worker in the social services department, who will then contact parents.

**Note that registration with the Service prior to the age of 6 automatically terminates at the age of 6. Be sure to renew registration with the Service.**

### **What are adults registered with the Service entitled to?**

### ***External Residential Solutions***

The Ministry of Welfare operates special out-of-home lodging programs as needed.

The Ministry is responsible for allocating budgets for and supervising the program.

The residential programs are operated by service providers.

External residential frameworks exist specifically for individuals with ASD. They can usually be found in residential neighborhoods and provide as close to a family life

style as possible, with community integration. The character of the home ensures the residents' dignity and takes into consideration their unique needs, wishes and abilities.

The residences constitute a rehabilitative therapeutic environment geared at maximizing the individual's own capabilities in every sphere of life.

- Parents seeking placement for their son/daughter must be registered with the Services for ASD individuals, and submit request forms.
- The forms will be relayed to the regional placement panel responsible for matching individuals and frameworks. The decision will be conveyed to the welfare department social worker who will advise the parents.
- If placement is authorized, 80% of the disability allowance is automatically diverted by the government to the external residence, and parents receive only 20% of the allowance.

The external residence placement procedure can be lengthy. We recommend commencing the process and submitting documents at least one year in advance.

### ***Services in the Community for At-home Individuals***

#### **Adults living at home with their parents are entitled to:**

1. Nursing support: direct provision of assistance via funding of a supporter in the family home, for several afternoon hours. Receiving support assistance depends on the family's situation and the Ministry of Welfare budget.



2. “Mo'adonit” - Afternoon leisure clubs: an educational treatment framework that operates during the afternoon hours and provides individual and group therapy to improve social skills. Currently the number of afternoon leisure clubs available is extremely limited.
3. Referral for consultation and treatment of sexual issues.
4. “Nofshon” – an away-from-home framework for short term stays, in places specifically adapted and available particularly during weekends and vacation periods. The entitled individual may receive 15 days annually: entitled days cannot be accrued.
5. “Keitanah” - Day camps adjusted specifically for adults on the autism spectrum. The day camp is on a day by day basis and does not include sleeping over.

### ***Employment***

The Ministry of Welfare operates rehabilitative day care centers throughout Israel via various organizations, among them ALUT. The day care centers provide solutions for adults with ASD over the age of 21 and living at home, who are employable by age but whose functional status does not allow them to independently integrate into the free work place.

## Employment

Employment is a central aspect of a person's adult life. It may provide a source of interest, personal expression, satisfaction, a sense of belonging, aptitude and success. The employment of persons with disabilities symbolizes their being an essential part of society and contributes to their independence and quality of life. There is a series of occupational solutions that enables persons on the autistic spectrum to integrate within the labor market, and to engage in occupations that are suitable for their abilities and skills.

### ***Professional rehabilitation for people with disabilities -***

#### **National Insurance Institute**

Professional rehabilitation facilitates integration within the open market by imparting suitable skills and/or providing assistance with occupational placement.

The rehabilitation program is based on the candidate's personal suitability and provides help, support and financial assistance. The service is provided by social workers with the Rehabilitation Department who provide rehabilitative diagnosis and consultation services and support the adult until they find employment.

The rehabilitation program enables students to attend higher education institutions and recognized learning and training facilities that grant professional diplomas and that are under government supervision.

#### **Who Is Eligible?**

People with a permanent medical disability of at least 20% (weighted value) who have yet to reach retirement age, and who meet all of the following criteria:

- The disability prevents the candidate from engaging in their work or another suitable occupation.

- the candidate needs professional training in order to return to their previous occupation or to engage in an occupation that is suitable for their post-disability skills.
- They are suitable for professional rehabilitation, able to cooperate in a process of professional rehabilitation and to work as regular employees in the open labor market (as opposed to “protected” or “supported” employment).

### **Eligibility of spouses**

**For people who are eligible for a disability allowance because they are not suitable for professional rehabilitation, the possibility of transferring the eligible for rehabilitation to their spouses will be considered.**

For this purpose, the spouse must meet the following criteria:

- They permanently live with the allowance recipient.
- An additional amount is paid for them as part of the spouse’s disability allowance.
- They are yet to reach retirement age.

### **Formulation of occupational career, meeting with Rehabilitation Officer**

The National Insurance Institute Rehabilitation Officer is the official who provides consultation regarding one’s chosen area of study and employment. At the meeting, the Officer will consider the candidate’s aspirations, skills and limitations. As needed, the Rehabilitation Officer will consult with doctors, psychologists and other rehabilitation experts.

The Rehabilitation Officer will assist the candidate with choosing a profession for which demand exists within the labor market, and which can be taught within a defined period of time. After the candidate’s learning and training period concludes, the Rehabilitation Officer will try and help the candidate with their employment placement as needed.

## **Professional Training and Education Program**

The period, nature and location of the candidate's studies, their disability percentage, medical disability and the type of profession chosen by the candidate.

The chosen profession can be taught at a variety of recognized education and training facilities that are under government supervision (e.g., the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Education), which award professional diplomas or accredited academic degrees.

## **Placement assistance**

Once the candidate completes their education and professional training program, the Rehabilitation Officer could help the candidate with finding employment in the open labor market.

The Rehabilitation Department works with employment agencies that specialize in the integration of people with disabilities within the labor market. (A list of such agencies is found below, under "Employment").

## **Payment of rehabilitation fees and other payments**

During the candidate's professional training studies, the National Insurance Institute will pay the following amounts:

- **Tuition** (up to university tuition amounts), educational equipment and devices and auxiliary classes.
- **Travel expenses** - For people without a vehicle, the expenses entailed in traveling to school will be paid according to their actual travel expenses and the applicable public transportation rates.
- **Rent assistance** - If the educational facility is situated more than 40km away from the candidate's domicile, so that the candidate lives outside of their home, and the candidate's studies are under a complete program, the possibility of rent

assistance will be considered, in accordance with Regulations and the amounts determined, **and subject to the prior approval of the Rehabilitation Officer.**

- **Support and accessibility services** - Sign-language interpretation, transcribing and reading services.

### **Clarifications**

- The rehabilitation payments for people who are legally eligible for rehabilitation and who study at least 20 hours per week under a professional training program.
- People who do not receive a disability allowance are eligible for rehabilitation fees that are equal to the disability allowance paid to people with a 100% disability.
- People who receive a partial disability allowance are eligible for rehabilitation fees of up to the allowance paid to people with a 100% disability, based on the family's composition.

### **How to apply?**

In order to receive professional rehabilitation services, the candidate must fill out an Professional Rehabilitation Application Form and file it with the Rehabilitation Department at the nearest National Insurance Institute branch.

### **√ For your information:**

An information service is available that is provided by National Insurance Institute volunteers. The National Insurance Institute offers volunteers who may provide

assistance at the front desk of the following branches: Karmiel, Nahariya, Safed, Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv and Rehovot.

Volunteers provide information about the rights to a general disability allowance, the possibility of working and receiving a disability allowance under the Laron Law, an on occupational rehabilitation.

Moreover, you can receive information about the medical committees and explanations about letters received from the National Insurance Institute or other agencies.

Volunteers can assist you with filling out and filing the general disability allowance application with the National Insurance Institute.

The volunteer service is available at the aforementioned branches on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:00AM-12:30PM.

### ***Supported Employment***

Supported Employment refers to employment that **is not** part of a protected setting or a rehabilitative employment center, which is carried out at workplaces within the community, with the support of a rehabilitative professional who liaises between the employee and the employer and who helps the employee with finding and keeping their job.

The Supported Employment service is designed to allow for optimal integration within the open market, under employer-employee conditions (adjusted minimum wage in accordance with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor's directive under the Adjusted Minimum Wage Regulations, social benefits as customary at the workplace, and without reducing the person's disability allowance - in accordance with the Laron Law, 2009). the service is designed for rehabilitating persons who are motivated and able to integrate within the open market.

**The services rendered under the Supported Employment program are as follows:**

- A. Creation of a personal and group rehabilitation program that includes a series of workshops suitable for the participant's needs. The workshops will include various tasks that emphasize occupational aptitude, such as take-home assignments and exercises, as well as tours at workplaces. The workshops take place over a six-month period.
- B. A series of workshops is provided to facilitate employment integration, including a computer workshop as needed.
- C. Creation of training groups that prepare the candidate for employment as needed.
- D. Possible individual training program (instead of workshops) as needed and based on the professional judgment of the social worker and service providers.
- E. Placement at the workplace and supporting the employee and employer until the employee is optimally integrated at the workplace. Support is provided over an 18-month period.
- F. Developing an occupational future and a career: upgrading the standing and position of the employee at the current workplace or searching for more advanced positions at other workplaces.

**Who Is Eligible?**

People with a physical, sensory, development or learning disability who wish to integrate within a Supported Employment program must contact the Social Services Departments of the local authorities in their area (the departments are under the responsibility of the Ministry of Welfare's Rehabilitation Department). The service is provided with the Ministry of Economy's funding.

Supported Employment services are rendered by the Ministries' suppliers and under their supervision. The service rendered to eligible persons is funded by the Ministries, but can also be purchased privately.

## **Rights of Supported Employment Employees**

To a person with disabilities who has integrated within the labor market through a Supported Employment program, whether he are paid minimum wage or more, and whether a reduced minimum wage was determined for him and his application, **all of the rights derived from labor laws, collective bargaining agreements and Extension Orders that exist the Israeli economy apply.**

An employee with disabilities for whom a highly-reduced occupational fitness was determined, and who is defined as a Rehabilitating Person under the Rights for People with Disabilities Employed as Rehabilitating Persons Law is entitled to rights as provided in the first and second addenda to the law.

- ◀ **Addresses and telephone numbers of Social Service Departments across the country [link](#)**
- ◀ **Rights of Supported Employment Employees [link](#)**
- ◀ **List of societies that deal with employment [link](#)**

## ***Protected Employment of the National Insurance Institute***

Protected Employment is an occupational framework intended for people who are unable to integrate or meet the requirements of the free labor market. In Protected Employment settings, such as “protected factories” or “rehabilitative factories”, an assessment of the adult’s level of function is carried out, and a rehabilitation program is formulated that includes the provision of skills and work habits.



No employee-employer relations apply Under Protected Employment programs. However, the factory is obligated to pay the employees for their work.

### **Who Is Eligible?**

The service is intended for people a disability that is recognized by the National Insurance Institute, and who are eligible for professional rehabilitation. Rehabilitation employees, through the employment agency, will seek to find suitable employment, and will support the candidate at every step of the way, until they are hired.

### **Contact Information:**

You may contact the Rehabilitation Department of your local National Insurance Institute branch on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursday, between 12:30 - 8:00. For more details, please call 02-6463488.

### **Day Center Employment**

The day center is intended for ASD adults who have completed their compulsory education (age 21 in special education and age 18 in regular frameworks) who are not in any other therapeutic framework. The center's guiding principle is that individuals with ASD are also entitled to integrate into the work force.

### **Who Is Eligible?**

Adults on the autistic spectrum who are 21 years old or older and who live with their parents within the community and who are recognized by the People with Autism Service of the Ministry of Welfare.

The service is provided by the Social Services Departments of the local authorities.

Staying at the day center entails a 10% deduction from the disability allowance.

◆ **Addresses and telephone numbers of Social Service Departments across the country [link](#)**

### ***Transportation services***

People who are eligible for rehabilitative-therapeutic employment services (employment centers) or Protected Employment, and who, on account of their disability, are unable to reach their workplaces on their own, are entitled to transportation and accompaniment services provided by the local authority. The service is provided in accordance with Social Work Regulations is funded by the Ministry of Welfare and Social Services.

- Staying at the day center entails a 10% deduction from the disability allowance.
- An adult who cannot reach their workplace within the community on their own may apply for partial transportation service funding. The maximum payable amount, which entered into force on March 1, 2014, is NIS 3,200, subject to the provision of receipts.
- In addition to the increase of the maximum payable transportation service amount, persons found eligible for a companion that escorts them during their travels to the employment center can apply for partial funding of their accompaniment expenses, the maximum payable amount of which is NIS 2,600.

Please note: the minimum amount paid by eligible persons is equal to the price of a “Monthly Bus Card” (Hofshi-Hodshi) or a “Rav-Kav” Bus Card.

In order to receive the services operated by the Ministry of Welfare - Service for People with Autism, Service recognition is required. In other words, to provide the requisite documents and obtain approval.

### **Who to approach?**

Please contact your nearest Social Services Department. The Department’s social worker will provide the parents with instructions regarding the requisite process. For your convenience, attached is the relevant directive and you are welcome to make use of it when contacting the social worker with the Social Services Office in your area.

## Laron Law Amendment -

### **Employment, Disability Allowance, and Bituach Leumi**

The goal of Bituach Leumi Amendment 109, the Laron Law, is to encourage individuals receiving the General Disability Allowance to enter the free work force and earn income. The rationale is to make participation in the workforce an activity having value, where the sum of monies combined from earnings and the disability allowance will always be higher than the allowance per se.

The law is not automatically activated. If Bituach Leumi is not advised that the individual with impairment wishes to be included in this program, Bituach Leumi will not implement any change to that individual's status.

#### **Who is the target population?**

An individual “with a severe impairment” or “a long term impairment” [i.e.: has received disability allowance for at least 5 of the past 8 years] who is working and who receives up to 60% income or an individual “with light impairment” or “not long term” whose monthly income is 45% of the average salary.

- “Severe impairment” refers to an individual with a medical disability of 70% and more, or 40% medical, mental or psychological impairment in accordance with the list of impairments appearing in Clause 33 (titled “Psychotic Disorders” – evaluated as “social incompatibility”) or Clause 91 (which relates to mental retardation) in the list of disorders appearing as additions to the Bituach Leumi regulations (Determining Scope of Employment Disability). Individuals with ASD may be included under these clauses, as no specific clause relates to ASD per se.
- An individual receiving Disability Allowance who earns **more** than these amounts is still entitled to “**Encouragement Allowance**” as detailed below (but not to General Disability Allowance).

#### **Main Principles in the Amendment**

1. The more that recipients of disability allowances earn, the greater their overall income will be (earned income + disability allowance).
2. The scope of Inability to Earn set for the individual will not be lowered due to increased earnings from employment for as long as that individual is still entitled to disability allowance (regarding Encouragement Allowance – see later).
3. No further 75% disability levels will be set. Anyone with a 75% disability will be viewed as having 100% disability.
4. Auxiliary benefits – municipal tax reduction, rent assistance, electricity and telephone bill discounts, etc. – will remain valid for as long as the individual is entitled to a disability allowance and fills the criteria for these benefits, without any time limitations. (A different arrangement exists for recipients of the Encouragement Allowance – detailed later).
5. An individual exempt from income tax payment will continue to enjoy this benefit. Nothing in the law is directed at detrimentally affecting the “negative income tax” benefit.
6. During the first 3 years, the individual receiving disability allowance is entitled to cease working, or if her/his income has lessened, can return to receiving the previous disability allowance without additional evaluations.
7. The amendment to the Law does not detrimentally affect the Mobility or Special Services allowances.
8. For individuals receiving the General Disability Allowance rather than the Encouragement Allowance, who commenced employment but were then dismissed or found that their income was reduced, their rights to Inability to Earn remain intact and do not change as a result of the period of employment.
9. When individuals are entitled not only to General Disability Allowance (rather than Encouragement Allowance) but also to any other kind of monthly allowance, these will continue to be received as usual, without being affected by the scope of income earned, for an **unlimited** period of time.

## **Concerning Encouragement Allowance**

This allowance is substituted for disability allowance and paid automatically to anyone who is employed and fills the following criteria:

1. The individual received disability allowance for at least 12 consecutive months.
2. The individual's income from employment is higher than the figure set by law.\*  
This figure is not uniform but determined according to the severity of the medical impairment and the period of entitlement to disability allowance.

\* Severe disability: an individual for whom medical disability is set at 70% at least, or 40% as a result of mental or psychological disability.

Long term disability: an individual entitled to disability allowance for at least five years (60 months) of the 7 years preceding the date 1 August 2009.

The sum fixed by law for the above 2 instances is **60% of the average salary**.

The sum fixed by law for all other statuses is **45% of the average salary**.

## **How does Encouragement Allowance affect other benefits?**

1. Increments for spouse and children (dependents' increment) decreases gradually relative to the sum over NIS. 8,006 earned by the individual [activated as of 1 January 2010].
2. Additional monthly allowance: one year after the Encouragement Allowance was commenced, the additional monthly allowance begins to increase gradually over a period of 4 years.
3. Auxiliary benefits:
  - As long as the individual is entitled to a graduated additional monthly allowance, s/he is also entitled to full auxiliary benefits, which continues to be the case for the following 3 years. Seven years thereafter, benefits will be provided relative to the scope of allowance.

- If the individual is not entitled to graduated additional monthly allowance, no change will occur to entitlement to auxiliary benefits during the first 3 years. When these 3 years are over, benefits will be provided relative to the scope of the allowance.
- The scope of the Encouragement Allowance is calculated according to several criteria: income, family status, percentage of medical disability, and scope of Inability to Earn.

To help calculate the scope of Encouragement Allowance, use the Bituach Leumi site:

<http://www.btl.gov.il/benefits/Disability/laron/Pages/Calculator.aspx>

Audio-calculator: 02-646.3555

**Please note that the Laron Law is not automatically applied but needs to be joined by** sending copies of your salary slips and a Declaration with name and ID number, requesting to join the Laron Law.

Further details on live answer service, 04-881.2245, Sundays to Thursdays inclusive, 08:00 to 17:00.

## Employment Programs

◀ **List of societies that deal with employment [link](#)**

◀ **ALUT**

ALUT operates 11 employment centers for adults on the autistic spectrum, which are designed to meet their special rehabilitative/employment needs. These entail a personal work plan that is suitable for the abilities, needs and skills of each and every adult, and the support of professionals who specialize in autism and paramedical caregivers.

### **Contact Information:**

Website: [http://alut.org.il/?page\\_id=434](http://alut.org.il/?page_id=434)

Tel.: 03-7238307

Email Address: [michalb@alut.org.il](mailto:michalb@alut.org.il)

◀ **Elwyin Israel**

The society works to provide the tools and support needed to improve the level of independence and function of individuals within the community. The society operates day centers for occupational activity, as well as a center for occupational training or supported employment in the community. Supported employment services - This program provides training, facilitation and support and helps people with disabilities with their integration within the open labor market. Occupational placement and training - Identification of workplaces and training at the workplace for people with disabilities.

### **Contact Information:**

Website: <http://www.israelelwyn.org.il>

Tel.: 02-6415448

Email Address: [info@israelelwyn.org.il](mailto:info@israelelwyn.org.il)

### ◀ **Effie's Employment Project**

This service is designed to enable adults with Asperger's Syndrome to find employment in the free market. The purpose of the project is to find suitable employment for people with Asperger's Syndrome, to provide professional training for employers and employees and to establish a long-term support network that will enable their successful integration at workplaces. The service will provide "tailor-made" occupational solutions for each person based on their abilities and needs.

#### **Contact Information:**

Website: <http://asperger.org.il/Web/?PageType=0&ItemID=272223>

Tel. 03 5446046.

Email Address:: [effie.taasuka@gmail.com](mailto:effie.taasuka@gmail.com)

### ◀ **Beit Ekstein - Placement Service**

The Beit Ekstein Placement Service specializes in the placement of people with disabilities at free market workplaces, identifying workplaces and providing support throughout the placement process, even after the employee has integrated.

The training process includes an "occupational observation and assessment center" that lasts for two weeks, during which extensive and comprehensive information is gathered in order to formulate the adult's personal occupational profile, which is used to identify a position that is suitable for their needs and capabilities.

#### **Contact Information:**

Website: [http://www.b-e.org.il/page\\_23801](http://www.b-e.org.il/page_23801)

Tel.

Tel Aviv 03-5292027

Jerusalem 02-6794968

Haifa 04-8620099

Email Address: [michall@b-e.org.il](mailto:michall@b-e.org.il)



## ◀ **Keren - Network of Professional and Occupational Diagnosis and Rehabilitation Centers**

An executive branch for occupational diagnosis and rehabilitation for people with disabilities of the Rehabilitation Department of the Ministry of Welfare. The fund is deployed throughout the country and is comprised of thirteen occupational diagnosis and rehabilitation centers for adults, four rehabilitation centers for adolescents and 29 Employment Facilitation Factories (Protected).

### **Contact Information:**

Website: <http://keren.org.il/>

Tel.: 03-6813378

Email Address: [info@keren.org.il](mailto:info@keren.org.il)

## ◀ **Special Tech**

The project is designed to find positions for employees on the autistic spectrum at high-tech companies to provide services such as software testing and software quality assurance. Special Tech provides its employees, throughout the term of their employment, with close support by the finest professionals, both in terms of technical and social, emotional and psychological expertise, so as to ensure ongoing employment and effective integration at high-tech companies.

### **Contact Information:**

Website: <http://specialtech.co.il/>

Tel: Silvina Oz 052-3410570

Email Address: [info@specialtech.co.il](mailto:info@specialtech.co.il)

## ◀ **Avoda Negisha (Accessible Work) - Employment Website for People with Disabilities**

<http://www.avodanegisha.org.il> - The website contains a list of job offers specifically intended for people with disabilities, and information about tools that can help them find employment.

## Communal Mental Illness Rehabilitation Basket

The purpose of the Rehabilitation of People with Mental Illness Law is to rehabilitate and integrate people with mental illness within the community, so that they may achieve the greatest degree of functional independence and quality of life possible, while securing their dignity in the spirit of Basic Law: Human Dignity and Liberty.

There are certain situations where an adult with autism is recognized by the National Insurance Institute **and has a medical disability due to a mental disorder of at least 40%**. In such cases, the adult can choose to apply for recognition and eligibility under the Rehabilitation of People with Mental Illness Law.

### Who is eligible for the Communal Mental Illness Rehabilitation Basket?

Israeli residents 18 years of age or older, who are coping with mental disabilities, and who meet both of the following conditions:

- A. They are recognized as having a medical disability on mental grounds of at least 40%, in accordance with the [National Insurance Institute Regulations](#).
- B. The Regional Rehabilitation Committee certified that they are eligible for Rehabilitation Basket Services.

### Who to approach?

You must contact the Regional Rehabilitation Committee to determine the eligibility of the person eligible for a rehabilitation program. The inquiry will be added by a professional opinion by a psychiatrist that determines that the rehabilitation applicant requires rehabilitation services on account of his or her disability.

### Formulation of Rehabilitation Programs

A key aspect in the rehabilitation process is the development of a rehabilitative program that is suitable for the wishes, needs and abilities of the person with mental disorder. Rehabilitation can take the form of complementing education, assistance with employment, assistance with housing within the community, and more.

## Recreation

Recreational activity is key to the enrichment of every person's inner world, and it contributes to the normalization and integration of all students on the autistic spectrum within society, and to their ability to acquire and develop social skills.

Recreational activities accommodate the needs and inclinations of the person in question, and gives them the a variety of methods of self-expression, and of interacting with and integrating within society. These activities are orchestrated by a professional team that supports, educates and encourages the student, while providing them with an enjoyable experience.

### **Mo'adonit (after-school child care facility)**

An educational-therapeutic facility that operates in the afternoon, at which personal and group treatment is provided to improve social skills, to engage in recreational activities, and to participate in classes and courses. It allows pupils to explore and learn how to spend time with their peer group. The Mo'adonit is operated by a professional organization that caters to the special needs of each and every pupil.

### **Who Is Eligible?**

Children on the autistic spectrum **who live with their parents** and who are recognized by the People with Autism Service of the Ministry of Welfare. Please contact the Welfare Department of your Local Authority to receive the service.

### **Nofshon (Recreation Center)**

An out-of-home program for short-term stays at suitable locations, particularly on weekends and holidays.

The Nofshon is designed to allow adults on the autistic spectrum to spend time in a protected environment and homelike atmosphere. Events take place on certain days over the year, and allows family members to organize or be absent while their children are engaged in activities that are suitable for their needs. The program includes lodging

arrangements. The Nofshon offers a variety of life-skill teaching programs that prepare students for independent life.

### **Who Is Eligible?**

Children on the autistic spectrum **who live with their parents** and who are recognized by the People with Autism Service of the Ministry of Welfare. Please contact the Welfare Department of your Local Authority to receive the service.

## Recreational Programs

### ◀ Mo'adonit (after-school child care facility)

[The Ministry of Welfare's Service for People with Autism - List of Mo'adonit Facilities link](#)

### ◀ ALUT

The main concept that guides ALUT Mo'adonit facilities is to allow pupils to explore and learn how to spend time with their peer group. Mo'adonit facilities offer educational activities, leisure and recreational classes that are suitable for each group of pupils. The Mo'adonit is operated by a professional organization that caters to the special needs of each and every pupil. Mo'adonit facilities operate in the afternoon throughout the year.

#### **Contact Information:**

Website: [http://alut.org.il/?page\\_id=441](http://alut.org.il/?page_id=441)

Tel.: 03-7238313

Email Address: [baruchb@alut.org.il](mailto:baruchb@alut.org.il)

### ◀ Milman Center

Mo'adonit facility in Haifa for adults (age 14 or older). Managed by a social worker, and includes instructors who are healthcare professionals such as occupational therapists and students. The activities at the facility emphasize and develop the social connections of its members. The facility offers a variety of activities and classes designed to develop the life skills of each and every pupil based on their abilities and needs, to enable them to enjoy social interactions and acquire tools for independent life and social involvement in the community.

#### **Contact Information:**

Website: <http://www.milman-center.org.il/moadonit.html>

Tel. 04-8325190, 04--8227560

Email Address: [Milmnctr@bezeqint.net](mailto:Milmnctr@bezeqint.net)

### ◀ **Re'im Program**

a social program that operates at youth centers throughout the country. The Re'im Group provides a warm and supporting social framework for people with communication difficulties.

Website: <http://www.matnasim.org.il/?CategoryID=1771>

Email Address: [talliabm@matnasim.org.il](mailto:talliabm@matnasim.org.il)

### ◀ **Bishvilcha (For You) - The Avnei Derech (Milestones) Society**

This group is intended for highly-functioning young people between 17-21 years of age on the autistic spectrum from across the country, who are expecting to graduate from high school soon, or who participate in IDF, National Service or other program at the conclusion of which they are expected to begin their life as adults.

#### **Contact Information:**

Website: <http://www.avneiderech.org.il/index.php/il/groups>

Tel.: Yael 052-5611014

Email Address: [yaels@avneiderech.org.il](mailto:yaels@avneiderech.org.il)

### ◀ **There are various private recreational programs throughout the country. For more information and details, please contact the ALUT Family Center branches.**

## Out-of-home Housing

Adults on the autistic spectrum vary extensively in their functional and intellectual capabilities. Some adults on the autistic spectrum will need support for the rest of their lives, whereas others will be able to live an independent life. Today, there is a large variety of housing models tailored to meet the various needs of the autistic spectrum population. Out-of-home housing facilities are operated by societies and companies and are overseen by the Ministry of Welfare. These facilities provide for comprehensive care throughout the year, at varying degrees of support and assistance:

**Home for Life/Hostel** - Supporting and rehabilitative accommodation programs for adults who are unable to receive a therapeutic solution within their communities. The hostels are suitable and designed for the various function levels.

**Training Apartments** - Transitional apartments that prepare adults for their independent lives within the community. Tenants stay in these apartments for one to two years.

**Communal Apartments** - These apartments are intended for persons capable of independent functioning who require support and guidance.

**Supported Housing** - Assistance and mediation for adults who are interested in independent housing within their communities.

### Who Is Eligible?

Adults recognized by the Ministry of Welfare's Autism Service.

### The process of exercising the right to Out-of-home Housing

- An application must be filed with the Social Services Department for an out-of-home arrangement reference.
- If the person in question is a child or adolescent up to 18 years of age, a meeting will be held by the Resolution Committee in the presence of the Unit's District Supervisor.
- Once approval is received, the documentation will be relayed to the Ministry of Welfare's District Placement Committee. The Committee's role is to identify the arrangement most suitable for the candidate.

- The candidate's compatibility will be reviewed by the intended housing facility, by way of observations taking place at the candidate's home or in the setting in which they spend most of their days.
- An admission committee will decide about the candidate's suitability for the intended arrangement, and its decision will be relayed to the social worker whose job it is to present the candidate's parents with the decision made by the committee.

### **Financial support and transfer of National Insurance Institute allowances**

If the tenant is under 18 years of age, the National Insurance Institute allowances will be transferred to the Ministry of Welfare and the Hostel, and the parents will have to incur some of the expenses in accordance with eligibility calculations.

For tenants over 18 years of age, 80% of the disability allowance will be transferred to the out-of-home facility and 20% will remain with the allowance recipient.

### **Important!**

The out-of-home housing process could take a considerable amount of time, and therefore it is recommended to begin the process a year in advance.



## Housing Arrangements

### Hostel/Home for Life

- ◀ **[The Ministry of Welfare's Service for People with Autism - List of Out-of-Home Facilities link](#)**

- ◀ **ALUT**

ALUT's "Homes for Life" operate under a holistic approach that views the person as a whole and addresses the variety of needs that characterize people with autism - Their mental, physical, cognitive and social needs. Home for Life is usually situated next to residential neighborhoods, and makes it possible for tenants to live a life that is as similar as possible to life with one's family and community.

**Contact Information:**

Website: [http://alut.org.il/?page\\_id=429](http://alut.org.il/?page_id=429)

Tel.: 03-7238305

Email Address: [gala@alut.org.il](mailto:gala@alut.org.il)

- ◀ **Beit Ekstein's Housing Network**

The communal housing network of Beit Ekstein's hostels provides an solution for people who are able to fit in their communities (age 21 or older). The hostels emphasize the development of social skills, life skills and the consumption of community services. The hostel serves as a "Home for Life" throughout the year, and provides all of the services needed for the tenants' welfare and quality of life: a physical environment that includes housing, support programs and assistance for each and every tenant.

Beit Ekstein's hostels are intended for medium-high and high functioning individuals.

**Contact Information:**

Website (list of hostels) [http://www.b-e.org.il/page\\_466](http://www.b-e.org.il/page_466)

Tel.: 09-9514516; Fax: 09-9514517

Email Address: [nir.s@b-e.org.il](mailto:nir.s@b-e.org.il)

## ◀ Alei Siach

Each apartment houses several tenants supported by instructors who live and sleep with them under the same roof, and who provide them with comprehensive support at each step of their lives. The apartments are located in ordinary residential buildings at the heart of Jerusalem neighborhoods. Their tenants maintain warm and amiable relations with their neighbors and are well-acquainted with their community, owing to their involvement in youth movements, activities at youth centers and synagogues. Each apartment houses several tenants who belong in a suitable group that is characterized by the age and disability level of its members.

### Contact Information:

Website: <https://www.aleisiach.org/%D7%9E%D7%A2%D7%A8%D7%9A-%D7%93%D7%99%D7%95%D7%A8-%D7%91%D7%A7%D7%94%D7%99%D7%9C%D7%94/>

Tel.: 02-50-222-60 or 02-6520932, Fax: 02-50-222-57

Email Address: [alei@alei-siach.org.il](mailto:alei@alei-siach.org.il)

## ◀ SHEKEL Society

Multi-disability and multi-sector housing facility in Jerusalem: institutional housing, communal housing, hostel housing or independent apartment housing.

The housing facility wishes to provide not just a protected housing environment for people with special needs, but also to provide them with a warm home and with most of the conditions that allow for their personal development in every aspect of their lives. The housing facility wishes to provide a service that is tailor-made to each and every tenant. The tenants' parents are fully involved in the formulation of the therapeutic program designed for each tenant, and are part of the SHEKEL family.

### Contact Information:

Website: <http://www.shekel.org.il/?CategoryID=260#.VZkEl4scS1s>

Tel.: 02-6720157Extension 108

Email Address: [offerd@shekel.org.il](mailto:offerd@shekel.org.il)

## ◀ **ELOR**

ELOR provides a comprehensive service for people with special needs, who specialize in mental retardation, mental disorders and autism.

### **Contact Information:**

Website: <http://www.elor.org.il/>

Tel. 03-9380741/2

Email Address: [info@elor.org.il](mailto:info@elor.org.il)

## **Training Apartments**

### ◀ **Yad La'Yeled Ha'Meyuchad Society**

In order to provide children with the training they need to become independent in practice, the Society leases apartments in the community next to the school, and creates an alternative and unique educational setting - where the child is not a “conventional” student but rather a student who directly deals with the challenges of life and adapts to independent life. The apartments are situated at central locations in the city, within walking distance from central public locations, which allows children to authentically experience the city.

### **Contact Information:**

Website:

<http://special.org.il/he/page/%D7%93%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%94-%D7%91%D7%A7%D7%94%D7%99%D7%9C%D7%94>

Tel. 03-9600667 Extension 1, Fax: 03-9607219,

Email Address: [info@special.org.il](mailto:info@special.org.il)

### ◀ **Beit Ekstein's Housing Network - Training Home**

The purpose of the housing network is to improve the quality of life of the tenants, with an emphasis on empowering their independence in various walks of life. This is achieved by providing the experience of living amongst one's peers, with the help and support of a loving and dedicated professional team. The network is intended for high-

functioning young people on the autistic spectrum, and is under the supervision of the Ministry of Welfare. The training apartments and satellite apartments in the community are situated in Tel Aviv, Kiryat Ono and Haifa.

### **Contact Information:**

Website: [http://www.b-e.org.il/page\\_492.aspx?c0=13485&bsp=13448](http://www.b-e.org.il/page_492.aspx?c0=13485&bsp=13448)

Tel.: 03-6486477

Email Address: [tamira@b-e.org.il](mailto:tamira@b-e.org.il)

### **Supported Housing**

#### **◀ Supported Housing - the Joint Masad Disabilities Project**

The program is designed to facilitate the transitional process of people with disabilities who live with their parents or at out-of-home settings who are able to do so and who wish to live independently in an independent residence community. In addition, the Program provides services for people who live in the community under conditions that necessitate professional intervention, support, mediation and guidance.

### **Contact Information:**

Website: <http://www2.jdc.org.il/node/984>

Tel.: 02-6557111

## Education

Education opens the door to occupational integration. There are various post high-school education possibilities for young people on the autistic spectrum. Each program has a different education model, which is designed to furnish students with the tools and support needed to improve their education and skills, and to realize their potential.

### Preparatory Schools

#### ◀ The Avnei Derech (Milestones) Society

A preparatory school that serves as the transitional point between formal education at school and adult life. The Avnei Derech preparatory school is situated in Kiryat Shmona (and operates as boarding school), under the supervision of the Autism Service of the Ministry of Welfare.

The preparatory school is designed for young people on the autistic spectrum between 18-25 years of age who wish to become independent.

#### Contact Information:

Website: <http://www.avneiderech.org.il/index.php/il/>

Tel.: 050-7701126; Fax: 054-7909390

Email Address: [info@avneiderech.org.il](mailto:info@avneiderech.org.il)

#### ◀ Dror Program

This project is in collaboration with Tel Aviv University and the Gvanim Society. The preparatory school is a one-year program for development, management and self-guidance, and for choosing an educational-occupational plan that includes three days of studying at Tel Aviv University, two days of student work, choosing an education program, registration and admission, or continued work experience.

This is intended for high-functioning young people on the autistic spectrum 21 to 35 years of age, who completed National Service or military service.

Candidates must be motivated to achieve social, educational and occupational integration and to improve their personal development.

**Contact Information:**

Tel.: Ravit Shekler-Nissan 052-4611522

Email Address: [dror.tlvu@gmail.com](mailto:dror.tlvu@gmail.com)

◀ **Knafaim - Preparatory School for Life**

The preparatory school is a group and communal setting that includes personal assistance for each young participant throughout the transition from living with one's parents to living as independently as possible. The young participants, who form a social group that maintains a life of social and functional partnership, are supported by a team of instructors. The preparatory school program allows them to acquire work and life skills and social capabilities.

**Contact Information:**

Website: <http://kndarom.wix.com/gvanim>

Oranit 054-668-9012

Rotem 054-672-2738

◀ **Kivunim - A preparatory school for high-functioning young people on the autistic spectrum**

A preparatory school for six young participants, who in the morning engage in National Service activities and then proceed to attend meetings on issues that pertain to young people in the afternoon - managing a bank account, romantic relationships, time management, first aid, and more. The preparatory school is located in Haifa.

**Contact Information:**

Tel.: Ketty Wellstein: 054-2330085

Email Address: [ketty@kvn.org.il](mailto:ketty@kvn.org.il)

#### ◀ **Kishurei Chaim College**

Kishurei Chaim College is located in Kibbutz Ashdot Yaakov Meuhad, and provides education and training for adults with special needs aged 21 or older, the transition from graduation to the real world. Students attend a variety of courses provided by a team of volunteers, which include Israeli geography and culture, housekeeping and alternative medicine. Moreover, they participate in English and math projects, work at a confectionary, and more.

##### **Contact Information:**

Tel.: 04-6756275; Fax: 04-6710055

Email Address: [ravitsela1@gmail.com](mailto:ravitsela1@gmail.com)

#### ◀ **Hashiluv Ha'meshalev**

The Hashiluv Ha'meshalev Program at Ma'ale Gilboa Yeshiva is intended for high- and medium-functioning young men on the autistic spectrum, and offers them the possibility of assimilating within the Yeshiva community, for the purpose of preparing them for life in society.

##### **Contact Information:**

Website:

[http://www.maalegilboa.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=662&Itemid=46](http://www.maalegilboa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=662&Itemid=46)

Tel.: 04-6480712

Email Address: [yeshiva@maalegilboa.org](mailto:yeshiva@maalegilboa.org)

#### ◀ **Military Preparatory School**

The purpose of this preparatory school is to facilitate the students' social and civil involvement and preparing them for full military service in the IDF.

The Program is intended for young people with disabilities who graduated from regular and special education programs, who meet a set of specially-adjusted admission requirements. The program includes a preparatory seminar, support throughout the process, physical, sensual and educational accessibility.

**Contact Information:**

Tel.: Guy Finkelstein, 052-3659956

Email Address: [guyfink@bezeqint.net](mailto:guyfink@bezeqint.net)

**Training Programs**

◀ **AQA - Training and integration of adults as software testers**

The purpose of the program is to train and integrate high-functioning people with autism as software testers.

The program includes a training course that teaches students the principles of software testing and allows them to practice said principles. The course also provides social skills needed for high-tech work, identifying companies that are willing to accept program graduates and considering their suitability for the company's needs and work environment, regular assistance by the employee's manager / team for the purpose of long-term integration.

**Contact Information:**

Website: <http://www.aqa.co.il/>

Tel. Ester Tzabar 052-6755124

Email Address: [ester.zabar@aqaco.il](mailto:ester.zabar@aqaco.il)

◀ **Training and Professional Rehabilitation Center - Beit Levinstein**

The Center offers professional courses suitable for people with special needs, some of which are formulated based on an educational program. The courses are under the supervision of the Professional Training Department of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor. At the end of the course, graduates receive a professional diploma.



Towards the end of the program, students partake in practical work at various workplaces, according to their professional training.

**Contact Information:**

Website:

<http://www.meshi.org.il/%D7%A7%D7%95%D7%A8%D7%A1%D7%99%D7%9D%20%D7%9C%D7%94%D7%9B%D7%A9%D7%A8%D7%94%20%D7%9E%D7%A7%D7%A6%D7%95%D7%A2%D7%99%D7%AA>

Tel.: 09-7719444, 09-7705700, Fax: 09-7705770.

◀ **Roim Rachok - Ono Academic College**

An innovative program designed to train adults on the autistic spectrum in needed professions in the IDF and the civilian market. The program is intended for who are interested in serving in the IDF as volunteers, or in integrating within the civilian market in professions in which they have a relative advantage. Program participants undergo a three-month training course in a civilian setting that teaches them the profession and provides them with the necessary work skills.

**Contact Information:**

Website: <http://www.ono.ac.il/academy/social-agenda/roim-rachok>

Email Address: [rr@ono.ac.il](mailto:rr@ono.ac.il)

◀ **“Nativ Nagish Le'taasuka”**

An innovative training program at the Trump Institute of Beit Issie Shapiro, which is designed to train people with disabilities for the Israeli labor market and integrate them within professions that are suitable for their unique skills and capabilities.

**Contact Information:**

Website: [Trump Center](#)

Tel.: Rasiela Dror 09-7701219

Email: [rasid@beitissie.org.il](mailto:rasid@beitissie.org.il)

### ◀ **Gil Training Center - Employment-oriented Professional Training for Communication Class Graduates**

The program includes comprehensive diagnosis and personal and professional support by the school staff, designed to identify the occupational inclinations, skills and wishes of each student, so as to formulate a personal and tailor-made training program while providing them with practical experience within the community.

#### **Contact Information:**

Tel.: 03-5711871

Email Address: [gilschool@gmail.com](mailto:gilschool@gmail.com)

### ◀ **Megama Le'atid - Technological and Professional Special Education**

This program is under the Ministry of Education's responsibility. The Program is intended for 18 year old students with special needs, who wish to participate in technological-professional certification studies towards their integration within the open labor market. This three-year education program emphasizes the augmentation of the knowledge, skills and capabilities needed by young people who wish to successfully integrate within the labor market.

#### **Contact Information:**

Tel.: 050--5321730

Email Address: [osnate@atid.org.il](mailto:osnate@atid.org.il)

### **Academic Studies**

#### ◀ **Seminar Hakibbutzim - Center for Special Populations**

The Center for Special Populations was founded to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities by facilitating accessibility to education, training and

employment and by promoting professionals who are active in the field. There are several programs that are accessible to people with disabilities.

**Contact Information:**

Website: <http://www.smkb.ac.il/certificate-programs/special-edu-studies>

Tel.: 03-6901200

◀ **Ono Academic College - Kfir Program**

The Ono Academic College and Beit Ekstein's "Kfir" Project allows students to attend academic studies that include technological training for students with Asperger's Syndrome.

The purpose of the program is to train students to fill out roles with a technological orientation at various organizations. The training program is modular and is subdivided into stages. Studies take place in groups of up to ten students. The educational workload is adapted to the special needs that characterize this population, and is comprised of half of the workload found in regular academic programs.

**Contact Information:**

Tel: Ronit Ronen Man 054-2162468

◀ **Ariel University in Samaria**

The project is intended to promote and integrate people with autism within the workforce and within higher education, and seeks to maximize the abilities of each graduate in terms of education, employment and life skills, and to allow them to develop personal independence and optimal ability to integrate within society, their families and their day-to-day function in every respect, while choosing the objectives most suitable for the capabilities of each graduate.

It should be noted that some project students are funded by the National Insurance Institute Rehabilitation Basket.

### **Contact Information:**

Tel.: 03-9066660; 03-9066673

### ◀ **Beit Ekstein Academic College**

BA studies of the Open University for adults with Asperger's Syndrome, under three programs: psychology and education, economics and computer science, psychology and communication. Four-year educational professional, small groups and professional assistance for social and emotional support.

### **Contact Information:**

Tel. Efrat Arava 050-3059337, 03-5605248

Email Address: info.academy@b-e.org.il

### **Integrated University**

### ◀ **Academic accessibility for students with learning disabilities and acclimatization difficulties**

A program of the Trump Institute for Continuing Education in Developmental Disabilities of Beit Issie Shapiro, designed to provide equal opportunities for people with complex learning disabilities for higher education in an academic setting. The Integrated University allows students to find a suitable setting for education, added value, professional training and personal growth.

The plan operates at a number of academic institutions.

### **Contact Information:**

Tel.: Rasiela Dror 09-7701219

Email Address: rasid@beitissie.org.il

### ◀ **The Social Academy at Kaye Academic College of Education**

An education program intended for students with special needs aged 18 or higher.

The Program is operated by the Projects Promotion Society near the Kaye Academic College of Education, and its students benefit from Kaye College's services. Students receive a student card as well as social tutoring by one of the college students.

#### **Contact Information:**

Tel.: Dr. Nitzan Cohen, Head of the Special Education Program 054-4909128

Email Address: [cohennit@gmail.com](mailto:cohennit@gmail.com)

## Index of Forms

Form	Sphere of responsibility	Download from:
General Disability Claim	Bituach Leumi [National Insurance Institution] <a href="http://www.btl.gov.il">www.btl.gov.il</a>	Bituach Leumi site: <a href="http://www.btl.gov.il">www.btl.gov.il</a> <a href="#">Form</a>
Request for Bezeq Telephone Company discount	Ministry of Welfare	<a href="http://www.bezeq.co.il/media/PDF/DISCOUNT.pdf">http://www.bezeq.co.il/media/PDF/DISCOUNT.pdf</a>
Request for Permit to Employ Foreign Worker	Interior Ministry: Population & Immigration Authority	<a href="https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/service/nursing_foreign_worker/he/nursing_permit_aplication/012016.pdf">https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/service/nursing_foreign_worker/he/nursing_permit_aplication/012016.pdf</a>
Request for Disabled Person's Parking Sticker & License Fee Exemption	Ministry of Transport, Dept. of Licensing & Transportation	Ministry of Transport site: <a href="file:///C:/DOWNLOADS/Bakasha/LeTav%20(1).pdf">file:///C:/DOWNLOADS/Bakasha/LeTav%20(1).pdf</a>
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