Dear future BGU student/post-doctoral fellow! This To-do List was prepared for your convenience and includes important steps of your arrival to BGU, in short. More detailed information is at our International Students site.

To-do list BEFORE the arrival:
1. Complete your registration process. Receive a formal letter of invitation/acceptance from BGU.
2. Ask your advisor for a letter of acceptance in Hebrew. This is a demand of the Israeli embassies abroad.
3. Get a valid health insurance for the period of your stay in Israel. If you plan to stay for more than a year – order it of 1 year and extend later). You can also get a health insurance through Harel – a company BGU works with, or bring it from your home country – but the policy must be in English and cover all areas stated at the above mentioned website.
4. Get an appropriate visa. A student/ a post-doctoral fellow will need an A2 visa. If you are not sure what kind of visa you'll need – please contact Ina Aviv, the Research Coordinator of the Faculty of Natural Sciences. You might receive also a multi-entrances visa. It'll allow you to travel outside of Israel for conferences and vacations during your fellowship. If you got only an A2 visa – please consult Ina Aviv.
5. Send the copies of health insurance policy and visa to your supervisor and to the administrative coordinator.
6. Only after the visa is approved – look for plane tickets and plan your arrival to BGU according to your and your supervisor's needs, BGU/dorms working days and hours, public holidays, possible transportation to BGU, etc.
7. Look for an apartment at BGU dorms (you can book right after the formal registration is over and you have a BGU ID number (850…) / private market.

To-do list AFTER the arrival:
1. Meet your supervisor, lab manager and members, and an administrative coordinator of your Department. Find out who at the Department/Faculty/University is responsible for various issues – scholarships, courses, trainings, travels, equipment, etc. Please note that each department and office in BGU has different office hours. Most of them are open at mornings (Sun-Thu).
2. The administrative coordinator will register you as an active BGU student/fellow. You might need to send her the copies of health insurance policy and visa again.
3. Get a student card – find out the options at Student Union association (located at Students Center at the entrance.
4. Get a BGU computer authorization (+ BGU email address) – building 58, office 1. You'll need to present your passport and your BGU ID number 850… The computer authorization usually becomes valid after up to 24 hours.
5. Open a bank account. You are welcome to check the prices and the conditions of international accounts of banks.
6. Make sure you update your new Israeli bank account at BGU system, by clicking the "Updating Bank Account Details for Scholarship payments and Refunds" option.
7. Schedule yourself a reminder to extend a visa and a health insurance about 1 month before its validity date. We advise you to extend both visas – student visa and a multi-entrances visa.
8. Learn about your living area, closest facilities, super-markets, their opening hours.

GOOD LUCK!