



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 invitation in Hebrew.** This is a demand of the Israeli embassies abroad.
3. **Get valid health insurance for the period of your stay in Israel** (if you plan to stay for more than a year – order it for 1 year and extend later). Please note that due to the COVID situation, every international citizen and accompanying family members and dependents, associated with BGU must be covered by a comprehensive health insurance policy **provided by an Israeli provider**, for the period of their stay in Israel. (All medical care provided to you in accordance with the coronavirus). You can get health insurance through [Harel](#) (a company BGU works with).
4. **Get an appropriate visa.** A student/ a post-doctoral fellow will need an A2 visa and a multi-entrance visa (- which will allow you to travel outside of Israel for conferences and vacations during your fellowship). If you are not sure what kind of visa you'll need – please [click here](#) or contact [Noga Gez](#).
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 you and your supervisor's needs, BGU/dorms working days and hours, public holidays, possible transportation to BGU, etc.
7. **Look for an apartment-** after you will receive your visa and after the formal registration to BGU is over and you have a BGU ID number (starts with 850..), you can decide whether you'd like to live in: Gimel (C) & Daled (D) Dormitories / Research Housing / BGU Student Village. For more details, Please see [Housing in BGU](#) site. Or you can rent an apartment from the private market.
8. See the [Pre-Arrival Guide for International Students and Researchers](#).

**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 opening 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. **Open a bank account-** please note that in order to open a bank account, you'll be asked to present 2 ID's. One is your international passport, and the other should be another ID from your home country – your "regular" ID, driving license (with a photo), etc. It is very important, and the banks refuse to open bank accounts without these documents. Also, take your invitation and acceptance letters with you. Please note that the documents you are taking to the bank are **printed** (copies on mobile phones are not accepted).
5. **Make sure to update your new Israeli bank account at BGU system** for scholarship payments and refund's option.
6. **Schedule yourself a reminder to extend the visa and the health insurance** about 1 month before its validity date. We advise you to extend both visas – student visa and a multi-entrances visa.
7. **Learn about** your living area, closest facilities, super-markets, and their opening hours.
8. See the useful [Information for the New International Student](#).

Noga Gez, [nogayah@bgu.ac.il](mailto:nogayah@bgu.ac.il)

The Faculty of Natural Sciences