

Ministry of Aliyah and Immigrant Absorption

31.12.18

Directive 372

Re: Additional assistance for the study of the Hebrew language for Olim

1. Background

Acquiring the Hebrew language is a necessary and essential condition for the success of the process of Aliyah to Israel. Fluency in Hebrew is essential for every aspect of life in Israel and certainly in parameters regarding educational, social and employment integration.

In light of the unique characteristics of the large-scale influx of Olim and in accordance with the policy of the Ministry to strengthen the processes of Aliyah, the Ministry has decided to adjust its activities in the field of immigration absorption in a way that will express the full potential of Aliyah, and will match the responses necessary for the successful absorption of Olim in accordance with the different characteristics unique to the current wave of immigration.

The decision in question deals with acquiring the Hebrew language, and states that in addition to the Ministry of Education's Hebrew Ulpans that are currently operating, Olim will be given vouchers for participation in the cost of learning Hebrew in private institutes.

2. Entitlement

Participation in the cost of a course for Hebrew study, attended in an institute listed in the Hebrew language course operators list (Appendix A).

3. Eligibility

3.1 An Oleh who made Aliyah and received Oleh Status beginning 01.01.2017 and until 31.12.2019.

3.2 Age of applicant must be 18 years of age or older on the day of filing the request for a voucher for participation in the cost of learning Hebrew.

- 3.3 An eligible applicant that has exercised the entitlement to study Hebrew through the Voucher track mentioned in this directive and is interested in the end of the process to study in a Ministry of Education Ulpan, can do so.
- 3.4 An eligible applicant that has exercised the entitlement to study Hebrew through the customary Ulpan A track of the Ministry of Education, attended the Ulpan through to **the end** as is customary and is interested in the end of the process to execute also the entitlement to study Hebrew through the track mentioned in this directive, can do so.
- 3.5 For the avoidance of doubt, one who has redeemed a voucher for study of the Hebrew language can execute his right to receive a voucher for Vocational training, this is in accordance with the eligibility criteria in directive No. 331.

“Oleh” in this directive- including Katin Chozer and Ezech Oleh.

4. Assistance

- 4.1 The limit of a voucher for the study of the Hebrew language is 7,500 ₪, or the actual price of the course, the lower of the two and as long as the hours of the course are as follows:
 - 4.2 Up to 4 students in a group- a minimum of 150 study hours.
 - 4.3 Up to 6 students in a group- a minimum of 200 study hours.
 - 4.4 Up to 8 students in a group- a minimum of 250 study hours.
- 4.5 Entitlement to reimbursement of travel expenses to the Ulpan, according to the criteria stated in Travel Procedure No. 6.119.
- 4.6 Whoever learns Hebrew as stated in this directive during the months in which Sal Klita payments are not collected and the studies are during morning hours, may be eligible for Dmei Kiyum for the duration of the studies if he meets the criteria stated in regulation 6.113 and according to an attendance sheet of at least 20 weekly hours.

5. Voucher approvals procedure

- 5.1 The eligible applicant shall submit a request to the regional personal Aliyah advisor on a designated form.
- 5.2 The advisor will check propriety of the request, eligibility of the requestor and that the chosen institute is on the above mentioned list of institutes.
- 5.3 The request will be transferred in the system to be signed by the regional treasurer who will check the propriety of the request.

5.4 Following approval from the regional treasurer an approval will be generated by the system that will be signed by the authorized signatory: Regional Manager or his Deputy and the Regional Treasurer.

6. Payment

6.3 The ministry's participation in the cost of Hebrew studies as stated, will be transferred to the eligible party's bank account in 3 installments as follows:

6.3.1 40% upon beginning the course and following presentation of a receipt of full payment.

6.3.2 30%- will be paid after half of the duration of the course and following presenting attendance sheets proving attendance in the course sessions.

6.3.3 30%- upon completion of the course based on a certificate indicating **participation in a test by Misrad HaChinuch and 80% attendance.**

Everything mentioned in the directive above is contingent on existing budgets