

Exchange Students Pre-Arrival Guide



R.U. READY?



Fall Semester & Full Year 2026 - 2027

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INTRODUCTION

Shalom and congratulations on your acceptance to Reichman University as an exchange student!

We highly encourage you to read this booklet in its entirety as it contains important and practical information, which will answer many of your questions and assist you in preparing for your time at Reichman University.

The Fall Semester will begin with a mandatory Orientation Day tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2026. Further orientation information will be sent to you by e-mail closer to that date.

If you are unable to arrive on time for the Orientation Day and the beginning of the semester, please inform us ahead of time in writing. Our contact information can be found [here](#).

All Exchange students are invited to participate in the [social activities](#) of the Raphael Recanati International School (RRIS) at Reichman University besides the Orientation & North Trips.



For more information about the student exchange program, please visit:
<https://www.runi.ac.il/en/global/incoming-students/>

DISCLAIMER

Please bear in mind that all the information provided in this booklet is applicable as of today. There might be some changes in accordance with campus needs and/or health/safety regulations.

ACADEMIC SCHEDULE 2026/27

Fall Orientation Day <i>(Tentative)</i>	October 13, 2026
Fall Semester Begins	October 18, 2026
Hanukah Break	December 6, 2026
Fall Semester Ends	January 15, 2027
Fall Exams Begin	January 17, 2027
Spring Orientation Day <i>(Tentative)</i>	March 4, 2027
Spring Semester Begins	March 7, 2027
Purim Break	March 23, 2027
Passover Vacation	Apr. 18 - 30, 2027
Studies Resume	May 2, 2027
Eve of Holocaust Memorial Day	May 3, 2027
Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony	May 4, 2027
Eve of Israel Memorial Day/ Israel Memorial Day Ceremony	May 10, 2027
Israel Memorial Day	May 11, 2027
Israel Independence Day	May 12, 2027
Shavuot Break	June 10-11, 2027
Spring Semester Ends	June 18, 2027
Spring Semester Exams Begin	June 20, 2027

****Changes may be made in accordance with campus needs.***

***** Your exam schedule will be available to you online once the school year/semester begins.***

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Students who are unfamiliar with the Israeli education system may find aspects different from what they are used to. It is essential to familiarize yourself with the policies and procedures governing academic coursework, exams and research at Reichman University (RU) as you will be responsible for complying with them. As academic life is the heart of the university, these policies and procedures are very strictly enforced and respected among the university community. [Click here](#) to go to the student regulations site.

A. Reichman University E-mail Account:

The Reichman University e-mail addresses provided to the students are usually in the following format:

first name.last name@post.runi.ac.il and in some cases: **last name.first name@post.runi.ac.il**

A few weeks prior to the beginning of the semester, you will receive an e-mail with your university username and password along with your university e-mail. This e-mail will come **directly** from our Technical Support Team (Helpdesk) to the e-mail you put in your application. Please note that your Reichman e-mail account is the university's primary form of contact with you and you are expected to check it on a regular basis. There are many computers available on campus and there are wireless hot spots in every building on campus.

B. Course Registration and Information:

Exchange students will receive a **dedicated list of courses** approved for exchange students from a variety of disciplines **around the middle of September 2026** including registration instructions. This e-mail will be sent out to all exchange students and include information about the online course registration system, dates and instructions.

In the meantime, you may [click here](#) to look at courses that were approved for exchange students this past 2025-2026 academic year. For the general 2025-26 online handbook, students may visit [here](#), but keep in mind **that not all courses listed in the online general handbook are offered to exchange students**.

Exchange students should select courses according to the regulations, procedures and rules laid out by Reichman University (RU). Each course is usually worth between 2-4 Israeli credits. A 2 credit course meets for 90 minutes per week over the course of the semester (14 weeks).

The normal course load for RU students is 6-9 courses for one semester, but it's important you follow any requirements you might have from your home university and/or Erasmus+ Scholarship. **It is important that you do not sign up for more courses than necessary as courses are limited in space and the more courses you take, the less courses would be available for other exchange students.**

Courses with pre-requisites: Students need to pay attention to course prerequisites and make sure they have fulfilled them at their home university in order to have the proper knowledge to succeed in the course at Reichman.

Exchange students are able to register for courses that are on the approved course list even in fields they are not studying as long as their home university approves. For example, a student studying Government, would be able to register for Communications / Psychology / Business courses listed in the approved course list.

C. Course Restrictions:

The following course restrictions apply to exchange students –

- **Zell, Entrepreneurship, Argov Fellowship and Public Diplomacy Program** courses are **not available**.
- Computer Science and Law – Approval to join Computer Science or Law School courses is subject to final approval by the School of Computer Science/Law School **and is only an option for students coming from a university where we have an exclusive Computer Science or Law exchange agreement** as these courses are very limited.
- **Communications Workshops and Seminars** are not open to students outside of the School of Communications. Communications exchange students may select up to two (2) Communications workshops and one (1) seminar.
- **Language Courses:** Language courses at RU are full year in length and therefore can only be taken by full year exchange students.
- **Please note that only MA Government courses are available to Master level students.**
- **Bachelor (undergraduate) students cannot register for Master level courses.**

~ Course Restrictions Continued:

- Students are subject to course availability and/or capacity limitation constraints and in some cases pre-requisites. **Exchange students, therefore, are strongly advised to have a flexible course plan.** Under no circumstances can students enroll in two or more courses that overlap in time.

D. Course Credits:

The following is a chart for credit conversion:

Israeli Credits	ECTS
1	1.5
2	3
3	4.5
4	6
5	7.5
6	9

E. Grading System:

In Israel and at Reichman University, the main grading scale used is 0-100. **Anything below 60 is a failing grade.** The grading scale is as follows:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Pass	Fail
96-100	86-95	76-85	66-75	60-65	0-59

F. Withdrawal from a course:

There is a one and a half week add/drop period during the beginning of each semester when students attend the first one or two lectures and are able to add or drop courses to fine tune their study plan.

G. Incomplete courses, late work, and delayed final exams:

*****In order to get a final grade and course credit, students will need to fulfill all course requirements*****

Students who have not completed all required assignments by the end of the designated grading period following the end of the semester will receive an "incomplete" on their transcript. A transcript cannot be considered final if it has any courses with "incomplete" as a grade. Late assignments will only be accepted with advance permission from the instructor and may result in a lower grade.

Final exams last for approximately 3-8 weeks. Exchange students are expected to study at Reichman University for the entire semester and to sit for the exams **on campus**. Exchange Students who have extenuating circumstances and must leave the program early must submit a formal request in writing to the Office of Global Engagement & Student Exchange which will then be reviewed by the Exam Department. If approved, arrangements will be made to take the final exam(s) at the exchange student's home institution (with a proctor). **The final exam will not be replaced by a written assignment on an individual basis under any circumstance!**

H. Course Attendance:

Students should familiarize themselves with the attendance rules found in the syllabus of each course they are registered for as well as the Reichman University student regulations booklet ([click here](#)). Course attendance is mandatory and instructors are required to check attendance at each course session. All Reichman university students have the first two weeks of the semester to add/drop courses, but attendance is still taken in most of the courses during this time unless the lecturer decides otherwise. ***For the official Reichman University Rules & Regulations, [click here](#).***

I. Transcripts:

Your official Reichman University transcript will be available approximately one month after the end of the exam period. Once all your grades have been updated in the system, log into your Student Information Station and click on the "Documents" tab and then "Ordering Documents". You will then click on the "order button" next to "Grade Transcript". For any issues with your transcript, please email Ilana Benyosef **including in the e-mail - your full name, Reichman University student number and course number & course title you are writing about.**

J. Exams:

Exams begin immediately following the conclusion of the semester and are **taken on campus**. In accordance with traditional Israeli higher education models, Reichman University offers students the opportunity to take a **first sitting** of exams (**moed A** (aleph)). Students will receive their moed A exam schedule at the beginning of the semester. If a student fails the moed A exam, is not happy with the grade or had to miss the exam due to unforeseen circumstances, s/he is entitled to sit for a second exam (**second sitting - moed B** (bet)). These second exams are scheduled immediately following the moed A exams. Therefore, each student has a highly individualized exam schedule. **Fall Semester moed B** exams are generally scheduled from the end of February through March. **Spring Semester moed B** exams are generally scheduled through August.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

Israeli visa requirements vary based on your country of citizenship. It is the students' responsibility to verify with the closest Israeli Embassy and/or Consulate as to what the specific visa requirements are, especially as regulations evolve. **You must arrange for a Student Visa (A2) at the Israeli Embassy or Consulate in your home country, prior to coming to Israel.**

Student Visa (A2): To apply for a student visa, you will likely be required to bring with you the following documents -

- Passport valid for at least six (6) months after expected departure from Israel
- Letter of acceptance from Reichman University
- Completed and signed application for visa [here](#)
- Two passport pictures
- Visa fee
- Birth Certificate
- Proof of health insurance (may require COVID-19 coverage)
- Proof that the student has the financial means to pay for his/her studies and subsistence throughout their stay in Israel
- Proof of accommodation

****** The Israeli Embassy or Consulate at your home country may require additional documents or regulations. Therefore it is important that you check with the Israeli Embassy or Consulate at your home country for their specific requirements.

Students who were born in Israel and/or whose parent/s are Israeli citizens are advised to contact the nearest Israeli Consulate in order to settle their status, including deferment of military service.

We will be happy to try to assist in any matter we can in this process. Should the Consulate request any other information pertaining to the program, please let us know and we will try to supply you with the necessary documentation.

REICHMAN UNIVERSITY HOUSING

Reichman University cannot guarantee student housing on campus for exchange students. Please note – rooms in the dormitories for exchange students are **extremely limited** with only 10 rooms available for **full-year** exchange students. Therefore, **placement is subject to availability on a first-come, first-serve basis for full year exchange students.**

Since the dormitories are a separate entity from the Office of Global Engagement, please be in touch **directly** with the dorms to find out about availability, costs, and answers to your dorm related questions. For Dorm contacts, [click here](#).

OFF CAMPUS HOUSING TIPS

Reichman University is located in the city of Herzliya, which is about a 20-minute car ride from the city of Tel Aviv. From Tel Aviv, Herzliya is accessible by train, bus and taxi. For those living off campus, your first decision should be whether to stay in Tel Aviv, Herzliya or other surrounding areas. Tel Aviv is about 30-60 minutes to campus by bus. Many RU students choose to live in the city of Tel Aviv rather than near the university in Herzliya, but staying in Herzliya reduces your commute time each day. Therefore, both locations work depending on your preferences.

In order to find apartments at a lower cost, exchange students may want to consider looking for apartments in peripheral areas of Tel Aviv/Herzliya such as Yafo, Ra'anana, Kfar Saba, Hod HaSharon, and Ramat HaSharon.

If you plan to search for housing after your arrival, you can look into staying at a hostel, Airbnb or a short term sublet. Hostels - Mugraby Hostel, Gordon Inn, or Sky Hostel. For a great hostel review website, [click here](#).

Further information:

"Sokolov Street" is the main street in the city of Herzliya (about a 15 min. walk from Reichman University campus). Many students who choose to stay in Herzliya, live around there, as it is convenient and close to the central bus station, supermarkets, restaurants, and other shops.

Please note that real estate agencies are scattered around Herzliya and Tel Aviv. **In Israel it is common practice that renters (even short term) pay an agent's fee. The fee is usually equivalent to one months' rent + VAT.** Keep this in mind when approaching an agent.

Suggestions to find apartments in Herzliya/Tel Aviv:

**** Please note that the below off campus housing suggestions are not associated with or sponsored by the university. These are mere suggestions provided by past international students.**

Apartments/roommates in Tel Aviv	Alternative Housing Options
IDC students searching for an apartment	Tel Aviv - Housing, Rooms, Apartments, Sublets, Roommates
Tel Aviv Housing for Students	https://chat.whatsapp.com/DCJK7wjLvMOJX45BLoBOK0 WhatsApp group to help you discover local events, ask questions, and get tips about the Herzliya community.
Apartments for rent near the IDC, Herzliya	Secret Herzliya
Looking For an Apartment in Herzliya	RRIS All Class Group
Janglo Website	Secret Tel-Aviv
Looking for an Apartment in Tel Aviv	Living in Tel Aviv Booklet

Things to consider asking a realtor before renting: Is the realtor licensed? Is there a realtor fee? How much is it? Is there a security deposit? When/how is the deposit returned? Is there a cleaning fee? How much needs to be paid when signing? How is the amount paid (check, cash, etc.)? Can you send me the final contract before signing? Will the final contract be in English or Hebrew? Who is responsible to fix any issues in the apartment? Does the bedroom have a window? What is the policy regarding refund/breaking lease in case of national emergency? Does the apartment or building have a mamad (safe room)? **If shared apartment:** Will I be in an apartment with only females/males? Could my room door have it's own lock?

HEALTH AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

All students are required to have comprehensive health insurance coverage throughout the duration of their studies. Some Israeli Embassies/Consulates abroad require the health insurance to include COVID-19 coverage as part of receiving a student visa. It is therefore important that you check with the Israeli Embassy or Consulate at your home country for their specific requirements.

Pharmacies and hospitals are available in all major cities in Israel and emergency and health care is to a very high Western standard. Pharmacists and all medical personnel usually speak adequate English, but less so outside of major towns and cities. In Israeli pharmacies, "over-the-counter" medications is in fact, over the counter. Ask the pharmacist if you need anything.

You may purchase your own health insurance policy to cover your medical needs while in Israel, or purchase the UMS Harel Yedidim insurance policy for international students, offered by Reichman University.

The insurance plan offered by RU provides comprehensive health coverage for the semester, including COVID-19 coverage.

Prices -

Fall Semester: 2,485 NIS*

Full Academic Year: 4,970 NIS*

**Rates are subject to change according to insurance company rate fluctuations.*

If you are interested in obtaining this health insurance through Reichman University, **you must** fill out this [form](#) and return it to RRIS.insurance@runi.ac.il.

The [form](#) can be filled out only 6 weeks or less before the start date of the insurance:

To prevent any technical errors:

1. First, save the "[Health Insurance Application Form](#)" on your computer.
2. Fill out the form properly (Signature may be hand-written or printed. Address may be either in Israel or in your home country).
3. Save again (File name must contain your full name) and email the form to rris.insurance@runi.ac.il.

For any insurance related questions, please e-mail rris.insurance@runi.ac.il and [click here](#) and [here](#) for further details.

Pre-existing conditions are not covered by Harel Insurance. If you are taking prescription medication, it is advisable to bring an adequate supply for the duration of your trip abroad. If that is not possible, you should bring a doctor's prescription (clearly typed in English) for the medicine you are using, or a prescription of a generic medication that is suitable for your condition. If your medication is sent to you by mail, you will be required to present a copy of the prescription to the Israel Customs Office before it can be released.

- ☒ The HAREL YEDIDIM rate is subject to change from year to year according to insurance company rate fluctuations.

Further Health Insurance Information

Reichman University cannot cover medical costs or take responsibility for students who do not have health insurance. Students will not be allowed to partake in any RU activities without proof of coverage.

Please [click here](#) to receive further information regarding the health insurance offered through Reichman University - UMS HAREL YEDIDIM insurance policy. For any questions regarding the insurance, please e-mail rriis.insurance@runi.ac.il.

DISCLAIMER: REICHMAN UNIVERSITY TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE QUALITY OR THE CONSEQUENCES OF SERVICES RENDERED BY THIS COMPANY. REICHMAN UNIVERSITY IS IN THE CAPACITY OF OBJECTIVE RECOMMENDER ONLY.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON ISRAEL

Weekends:

Weekends in Israel begin Friday afternoon and end Saturday night. This is also referred to as the 'Shabbat' or 'Sabbath.' Most shops and businesses are open 6 days a week (Sunday through Thursday, and Friday until around 2:00 PM. You can find some shops and restaurants especially in Tel Aviv & Herzliya that are also open on Shabbat.

Government Offices are open 5 days a week (Sunday through Thursday), often at limited hours. It is recommended to go as early as possible to avoid bureaucratic delays.

Transportation:

There is no public transportation on Friday nights, Saturdays, and Jewish holidays, however several private taxi companies do operate on weekends.

Weather and Climate in Israel:

Israel's climate ranges from temperate to tropical, with plenty of sunshine. Two distinct seasons predominate: a rainy winter period from November to April, and a dry summer season from May to October. Rainfall is relatively heavy in the north and center of the country, with much less in the northern Negev (north part of the southern region) and almost negligible amounts in the southern areas. Regional conditions vary considerably, with humid summers and mild winters on the coastline, dry summers and moderately cold winters in the hill regions (Jerusalem), hot dry summers and pleasant winters in the Jordan Valley, and year-round semi-desert conditions in the Negev. Weather extremes range from occasional winter snowfall at higher elevations to periodic oppressively hot dry winds which send temperatures soaring, particularly in spring and autumn.

The summer in Israel is extremely hot and temperatures during this time are usually between 30-35 degrees Celsius (about 85-95 degrees Fahrenheit), but can go up to 40 (about 105 degrees Fahrenheit). The center of the country is extremely humid, while the southern desert region is extremely dry. It is advised to drink at least 2-3 liters of water per day during the summer. Wear a hat for protection from the harsh sun, use a high number sunscreen lotion, and avoid excessive exposure to the sun at beaches and swimming pools.

Winter in Israel, particularly the months of December-February, can get quite cold, particularly at night. Buildings in Israel are built to retract as much heat as possible, so be prepared that your apartment might actually feel cooler than the temperature outside.

ARRIVAL AND FLIGHT INFORMATION

Before arriving in Israel, please refer to the latest guidelines as it applies to Covid-19 on the websites of the Ministry of Health (link [here](#) & [here](#)) and the Ministry of Interior (link [here](#)).

Due to heightened security on all flights traveling to Israel, we encourage you to check in at least three hours ahead of your departure time. Security personnel will routinely ask all passengers questions about their baggage, destination, and purpose for traveling. In addition to your passport and ticket, we strongly recommend that you have a copy of your letter of admission to Reichman University and keep it easily accessible to verify your identity and purpose for traveling. Flights arrival & departures information by phone: (03) 972-3344.

Luggage:

We recommend that you do not ship luggage to Israel. It is best to take your belongings with you and check them on your flight. If you must take excess baggage, it is much less expensive to pay the extra baggage charge than to ship baggage. Electrical items of any kind that are sent by mail are subject to customs tax even if they are not new. Rather than bringing excess luggage or shipping baggage, we encourage you to minimize your packing and consider purchasing necessities upon arrival.

How to Arrive to Tel Aviv or Herzliya from the Airport:

Ben Gurion International Airport is very close in proximity to Tel Aviv. The best options are:

1. *Train:* There is a train station at the airport which will bring you directly to Tel Aviv or Herzliya. The ride takes about 10-30 minutes, depending on the time of the day and your destination. The train costs 16 NIS (about \$4.5) to Tel Aviv, or 18 NIS (\$4.9) to Herzliya. From the train station in Herzliya, the number 2 bus will take you to campus for a cost of 6.20 NIS (about \$1.60).
2. *Private Taxi:* Private taxis will wait at the airport to take travelers to all destinations in Israel. If you arrive on Shabbat (Fri.-Sat. evening), a private taxi will be your only option. A private taxi to Tel Aviv or Herzliya should cost between 150-250 shekels (\$50-75 USD), depending on the distance and time of day.
 - Important to be aware that at the moment, the Gett company is the official operator of licensed taxis from Ben Gurion Airport to all parts of the country. Make sure to download the [app](#). before arriving to Israel and for more information, [click here](#).
 - How to order a taxi at the airport in three simple steps: **1.** Create an order – through the app. or through the self-service stations. **2.** Get a travel code – a code will appear on the display which must be saved for identification purposes & receiving service during and after the trip. **3.** Move to the physical taxi queue/line – when it's your turn, show the driver the code, and start the drive.
3. *Bus:* There is no bus from Ben Gurion Airport. The following are the main buses which arrive to the Central Bus Station in Herzliya from Tel Aviv and cost about 9.50 NIS: (Reichman University is about a 15 minute walk from the center of town, Herzliya):
 - 501/502/525: Tel Aviv Central Station, Arlozoroff/Savidor Merkaz Train Station
 - 48: Allenby St., Dizengoff Center, etc.

For more information, including a campus map, please [click here](#).

GETTING AROUND ISRAEL

Useful Apps to use while in Israel:

- [Gett](#) Taxi
- [Moovit](#) - Provides local transit options
- [Waze](#) - Realtime driving directions
- [Mapstr](#) - Keep track of all your favorite places
- [ReichmanU/ReichmanU](#) – University App.
- [EZCheck.me](#) - Class attendance App.

By Bus:

Buses are the most common form of public transportation in Israel. For the best websites with bus schedules and times, click [here](#) or [here](#).

Bus line 347 comes from Tel Aviv directly to campus.

By Sherut (Shared Taxi Service):

Faster than the bus companies are the minivans, known as *monit sherut* or "service taxi", that follow the bus routes, but can be hailed from anywhere. *Sherut* fares are typically an eight to ten seat minivan, which runs on one of three routes – from city to city, within a city (usually along a bus route), and from the airport to Jerusalem and Haifa.

By Train:

The train currently runs along Israel's Mediterranean coast, being particularly useful for connections between Haifa, Tel Aviv and the airport. Central Phone Number: 03-577-4000 or <http://www.rail.co.il/EN>.

By Taxi:

Taxis are very common in Israel. It is advisable to ask the driver to use the meter.

Note: When getting around Israel, pay attention primarily to the *Sabbath*: from Friday sundown to Saturday sundown, there is effectively no public transportation available in Israel (though there are limited taxi services).

Driving in Israel:

Driving in Israel requires a valid driver's license and a compulsory insurance.

- Your regular driver's license, or international driver's license, must be replaced by an Israeli license **one year** after your first date of entry into the country. For all information on driver's and vehicle licenses in Israel (including converting a foreign driver's license), please [click here](#).
- Driving without a valid driver's license invalidates both compulsory and comprehensive insurance. Check with your insurance company if your home car insurance conforms to Israeli standards.
- Seat belts must be worn at all times by both front and back seats passengers.
- Headlights must be turned on in daylight when driving on intercity roads between November 1 and April 1.
- Children under 12 years of age are not allowed in the front seat (unless they are infants in a safety seat).

Helpful Tips:

- Driving in Israel is on the right side of the road and distances and speed limits are marked in kilometers.
- Speed limit: 50 Km/h (31 Miles) in urban areas and 90 Km/h (56 Miles) on inter-city roads, unless otherwise stated.
- Road signs are normally featured in Hebrew, English and Arabic.
- When renting a car, drivers must be over 21 years old, and hold a valid driver's license. (For most nationalities there is no need for an International Driver's License).
- Crossing the border to Sinai or Jordan in a rented car is not allowed.
- Before renting a car, check if your credit card company covers insurance, as some rental companies' rates include insurance.

WHAT TO BRING

In addition to basic clothing, we suggest that you pack/bring the following items:

Bedding & Linens:

Reichman University does not provide any linens, blankets, towels or pillows. Students usually bring their own bedding or purchase it upon arrival.

Electrical Appliances:

The electric current in Israel is 220 volts AC, single phase, 50 cycles (as opposed to the 110 volts and 60 cycles in the USA). If you bring any electrical appliances with you, be sure that they are set on the 220 volt setting or that they can be easily converted using a transformer.

Other Miscellaneous Items:

It should be noted that most American and European brands of toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, feminine hygienic products, contact lens supplies, etc.) can be purchased in Israel, and Israel offers many comparable brands. However, these brands are more expensive. The same goes for batteries and electronics.

Although there are computers available throughout the campus, we strongly recommend that you bring a laptop computer. The RU campus is equipped with free wireless internet access. Be sure that you have a good lock for your computer, and that it is compatible for 220 volts.

Additional Information:

Dress in Israel tends to be very informal. However, students should keep in mind that in religiously observant areas modest dress is required, and on special occasions nicer clothing is appropriate. "Nice clothes" in Israel usually mean pants and a button-down shirt for men and a simple dress, skirt or nice pants for women. In religious circles, "modest" clothing means long pants and sleeves for men, and skirts below the knee and sleeves below the elbow for women.

PURCHASING OR ORDERING FOOD

You can order food products using external providers that offer delivery services.

Chain stores for online orders (some websites are only available in Hebrew):

- ☒ [Shufersal Online](#)
- ☒ [Mega Ba'ir](#) - some English
- ☒ [Rami Levi](#)
- ☒ [Yeynot Bitan](#) - some English
- ☒ [Victory](#)
- ☒ [Tiv Taam](#) - also in English

Ordering Take Away from restaurants/groceries around Israel – can use these 3rd party services:

- ☒ Wolt <https://wolt.com/> ([Click here](#) Apple App | [Click here](#) Android App)
- ☒ TEN BIS <https://www.10bis.co.il/next/en> ([Click here](#) Apple App | [Click here](#) Android App)
- ☒ Quik <https://quik.co.il/> (Website only seems to be available in Hebrew.)

EMERGENCY & IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Safety and Security in Israel:

Safety and welfare of our students is our highest priority. Reichman University staff have many years of experience making sure that our students live and study in safety and return home enriched by their time here.

As you know, recent events have led us to deal with missile and rocket attacks. It's important that you familiarize yourself with the Home Front Command's (Pikud Ha'oref) [guidelines](#) so that you will be prepared and know how to properly act if a siren will sound. In the greater Tel Aviv area, you have approximately 1½ minutes to reach a secure space when a siren goes off. Once the siren stops, remain in the secure area for 10 minutes unless additional instructions are provided. Avoid approaching or handling unidentified objects.

Safety on campus & campus shelters:

Reichman University has signage in both Hebrew and English directing individuals on campus to the closest protected space/shelters (miklat or mamad) should there be a need to take shelter. [Click here](#) and go to page 10 to view Reichman University's self-protection instructions in English.

The RU campus employs security guards who check every individual coming into campus and patrol the campus grounds. All aspects of our social programs, including trips around Israel, are coordinated with security authorities, thus allowing students to see the country in the safest possible way. It is customary to open and check all bags and purses at the entrance to most public places, shopping malls, cinemas, etc. Please comply with security checks, which are for the benefit of all of us. **Do not leave your bag unattended at any time.** Unattended bags are considered to be "suspicious objects" (chefetz chashud) and are dealt with by the police bomb squad. If you see an unattended bag, do not touch it. Call the police (telephone 100).

Despite the security threat, tourists are usually pleasantly surprised to see that Israel is generally safe and relatively crime-free. This does not mean that crime does not occur at all, and students should still take care to avoid danger.

Police	100
Ambulance	101
Fire Department	102
Israel Electric Company	103
Local Municipality	106
Reichman University Technical Support/Helpdesk	09-960-2400 / helpdesk@runi.ac.il
Reichman University – Marc Rich Library	09-952-7370 / RUlibrary@runi.ac.il / website page
Reichman University – Main Gate	09-952-7225 / For further campus logistics & emergency details, click here .
Ariella Azoulay, Head of Office of Global Engagement & Student Exchange	In Case of Emergency in Israel during Office Hours: 09-960-2902 In Case of Emergency in Israel outside Office Hours: 052-5857500

BANKING AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

Bank Cards:

The easiest way to obtain cash while in Israel is to use your bank/ATM card from your bank in your home country. Be sure to check with your bank ahead of time to find out if your card can be used internationally and if extra fees apply. Students are encouraged to notify their credit card company ahead of time of the dates they will be abroad and where they will be traveling. This will help prevent the bank from freezing the student's bank card due to what may be considered suspicious activity abroad.

Banking in Israel:

We do not recommend that students open a bank account in Israel. Israeli banks are exceedingly bureaucratic and charge many fees. It may be more cost effective to use your home bank's ATM card to withdraw cash from an Israeli bank. If you must open a bank account (which you may need to in order to rent an apartment), foreign visitors are entitled to open a bank account in shekels, and/or any other currencies. Here is a list of banks with branches in all cities:

- Bank Hapoalim <http://www.bankhapoalim.com>
- Bank Leumi <http://english.leumi.co.il>
- Israel Discount Bank <http://www.discount-bank.co.il>
- Mizrahi Bank <https://www.mizrahi-tefahot.co.il>
- Mercantile Discount Bank <http://www.mercantile.co.il/Mercantile/English>

Value Added Tax:

(VAT, in Hebrew - *ma'am*) A Value-added tax of 17% is charged on purchases and transactions, except for tourists' hotel bills and car rentals paid for in foreign currency. Keep the receipts for purchases above 400 shekels and you may be able to ask for a cash refund at the airport.

Exchange Rates:

For the latest currency rates, please refer to <http://www.xe.com/ucc/>. Licensed money changers and the post office usually give better rates than hotels or banks. Students are advised to check foreign exchange rates and use discretion when handling foreign currency.

LEISURE

Below is a list of suggested places to explore while in Israel:

Tel Aviv and Herzliya:

- Visit the [Beaches](#) – Tel Aviv and Herzliya are known for their beautiful beaches such as Gordon Beach, Frishman Beach and Herzliya Beach.
- Explore the [Carmel Market](#) – The bustling Carmel Market in Tel Aviv is a great place to experience the sights and sounds of the city and to sample local foods and delicacies.
- Wander around [Neve Tzedek](#) – This charming neighborhood in Tel Aviv is full of narrow streets with cute cafes and artisan boutiques.
- Go on a [Food Tour](#) – Tel Aviv has a thriving food scene with a diverse range of restaurants, street food vendors and food markets to explore.
- Explore [Old Jaffa](#) – This ancient port city is full of historical sites, galleries, and markets.
- Visit the [Herzliya Marina](#) – This marina is a popular spot for boat trips, shopping, and dining.

Jerusalem:

- Visit the [Western Wall](#) – Also known as the Wailing Wall, this is one of the most important religious sites in Judaism.
- Explore the [Old City](#) – Jerusalem's Old City is a UNESCO world heritage site and home to several historic and religious sites.
- Visit the [Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial](#) – This museum and memorial complex is dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust.
- [The Machne Yehuda Market](#) – This market is a great place to shop for souvenirs and sample local food and is especially lively on Fridays before the Sabbath.
- Visit the [Israel Museum](#) – This museum houses a vast collection of Jewish art, archaeology, and history.

- [Mount of Olives](#) – This hill overlooking the Old City is an important site in Christianity, Judaism and Islam and offers stunning views of the city.
- Take a [Walking Tour](#) – There are many guided walking tours available in Jerusalem, which offer a great way to explore the city.

Additional Popular Places to Visit Around Israel:

- Masada National Park & Fortress
- The Dead Sea
- Baha'i Gardens in Haifa - UNESCO World Heritage gardens
- Eilat
- Rosh Hanikra grottoes
- Visit a Kibbutz - a collective community typically centered around a particular job or workplace.
- Sea of Galilee – also known as Lake Tiberias or Kinneret
- Ein Gedi Nature Reserve

MAP OF REICHMAN UNIVERSITY



For a more detailed campus map, [click here](#) and for information on public transportation to and from campus, [click here](#).

CONTACT US:

The Office of Global Engagement & Student Exchange – Office Hours:

Mondays – Thursdays 10:00am – 15:00pm

Ariella Azoulay

Director of Global Engagement

E-mail: ariella.azoulay@runi.ac.il

Phone: +972-9-960-2902

Ilana Benyosef

Coordinator of Incoming Student Exchange

E-mail: ilana.benyosef@runi.ac.il

Phone: + 972-9-960-2496

Nina Slama

Coordinator of Outgoing Student Exchange &
Erasmus+ Mobility Programs

E-mail: nina.slama@runi.ac.il

Phone: +972-9-952-7954



The Office of Global Engagement & Student Exchange

Reichman University

8, Ha'universita Street, P.O. Box 167, Herzliya, 4610101, Israel

Arison – Lauder Building, Room L.205

[Global Engagement](#)

