

# COVID-19 Arrival & Wellness Guide

The arrival of international students from all countries during the Covid-19 pandemic requires strict compliance with the regulations of the Israeli Ministry of Health and the Israeli Immigration Authority.

Your health and safety are our top priority. Our staff is committed to assisting and providing you with the most updated information, and how it may affect your academic life and your health at Tel Aviv University. Below you will find key information for your entry into Israel, and student health and safety during these times. An FAQ section appears at the end of this document.

Confirmed students (confirmed students are students who have been accepted to their respective program and have confirmed their attendance in that program) will receive additional further up-to-date information on next steps and arrival guidelines via email.

## Visas

- Entry into Israel as a student requires an A2 student visa and an entry permit. Without these two items, students will not be allowed entry into Israel.
- Entry into Israel also requires a letter from Tel Aviv University confirming the isolation conditions upon arrival in Israel, and approval from the Israeli Ministry of Health of the isolation conditions required to enter Israel. Both these forms are provided to students by the university ONLY after completion of student enrollment and confirmation payments.
- Confirmed students are sent an additional application form to enter Israel and arrange quarantine.

### **Due to challenges and restrictions during COVID-19 times, please take into consideration the following information prior to arrival:**

- Restrictions and regulations for entering Israel are subject to change (TAU International will inform confirmed students of regulations individually via email closer to the time of arrival)
- Events, activities and other social aspects within the university are subject to change, depending on the regulations issued by the Ministry of Health.
- There may be changes in transport arrangements and routes.
- It is recommended to frequently check the updates regarding COVID-19 regulations in Israel. Updates are provided by the Israeli Ministry of Health and can be found [here](#).
- All TAU courses will be taught in a hybrid format (this is a mix of online and in-person learning, based on what the pandemic climate permits) until further notice. For any academic questions, please email your **academic department**. For questions regarding online courses, please refer to this [COVID19 Distance learning support](#) document.

# Transportation from the Airport & Guidance on Arrival to Israel

- Upon arrival in Israel, it is mandatory to travel directly and individually to the self-quarantine facility in a private taxi with only one other passenger or with immediate family members.
- Travel from the airport by public transportation is strictly forbidden.
- Travelers at the airport are required by law to wear a facemask that covers the nose and mouth at all times (ages 7+), and onboard the aircraft (ages 6+).
- Passengers must maintain a 2-meter distance.
- Passengers must practice hygiene, including washing and sanitizing hands.

Please read the TAU Safety and Security Guidelines carefully prior to arrival in Israel: [https://international.tau.ac.il/safety\\_and\\_wellbeing](https://international.tau.ac.il/safety_and_wellbeing)

# COVID-19 Guidelines to Follow When Residing in Israel

- It is compulsory to wear a mask when leaving your house (violation is subject to a fine of 500 NIS).
- It is compulsory to maintain a social distance of 2 meters.
- Ensure you always maintain a strict hygiene routine – wash your hands frequently and carry hand sanitizer.
- Do not enter a public place if you have fever or respiratory symptoms.
- Your temperature will be measured upon your entrance to campus and other locations (stores/restaurants/shopping malls). Additional guidelines can be found on the Ministry of Health [Website](#).

# Mandatory Self-Quarantine

**Quarantine is mandatory by law, and it is enforced by the Israeli law enforcement officials. Breaking quarantine regulations will result in fines.**

The Israeli Government requires all incoming students arriving to Israel to enter a **mandatory 14-day quarantine period** immediately upon arrival. An exception may apply to students arriving from “Green countries”. The list of red and green countries changes; given the dynamic nature of this list, we recommend that you check this [website](#) for directives on red/green countries. All persons in quarantine are required to stay in their home/dormitory room for the duration of the quarantine period.

Quarantine must be completed at TAU Housing. Students who have a long-term apartment reserved in Broshim dormitories can quarantine there. Those who do not will quarantine in the Einstein dorms.

The quarantine takes place in two-bedroom apartments. Each student has his/her own bedroom. Roommates will be sharing a kitchen and a bathroom.

The quarantine at TAU International dormitories is based on a pre-defined quarantine cycle, and therefore students are requested to plan their arrival accordingly. Confirmed students will be advised

individually of the cycle dates. We recommend booking flexible flight tickets, as restrictions change constantly, and we cannot foresee what the situation will be in the future.

Israeli citizens can quarantine with their families.

## Online Food Options During Quarantine

During quarantine students will be able to purchase things online only. An international credit card is mandatory (such as Visa or MasterCard) for payment of deliveries. TAU will provide students with hot meals and sandwiches for the first 4 days of quarantine, and basic groceries for the 14-day stay.

Confirmed students will be sent additional quarantine information via email.

## Shortened Quarantine Option

Students may opt for a shortened quarantine period of 10 days. This is not mandatory.

The necessary steps to take are below:

- Take a COVID test at the airport upon landing. The first test result must be negative.
- Take a second test on the 9th day from the time of arrival in Israel (count your arrival day + 8 more full days). The second test result must be negative.
- The results will be sent directly to the Ministry of Health, and the approval for quarantine shortening will be received directly from the Ministry of Health.
- You are obligated by law to continue your quarantine until a formal approval from the Ministry of Health is received.

\*\*The above steps may be taken if you did not suffer from any COVID-19 related symptoms (those symptoms are: 38C body temperature or higher, cough, trouble breathing, which is unrelated to chronic conditions such as asthma/allergies. \*\*

## **The only valid and approved option to obtain a Covid-19 test is to order a test through a private provider to your dorm room.**

Covid-19 PCR tests are not covered by TAU International student health insurance and should be ordered and paid for independently by the student. Students who need to get tested while in their dorm room are required to update the TAU International Student Life Team, so they can follow up.

### **Please find below are companies that provide PCR testing services:**

- Lab2door - <https://lab2door.co.il/>
- Target Medcare - <https://target-market.co.il/target-medcare-2/>
- Tenecare - <https://www.tenecare.co.il/>
- Tehila – +97254-2911813 / +97254-6729077

For general questions and inquiries, please contact our [Student Life Team](#). If you feel unwell and are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms, please call 101 **and** contact the Student Life Team immediately.

- For tips to cope with your quarantine stay - please click [here](#).
- For TAU psychological services, you may call this number: 03-6408505.
- For Eran – Emotional First Aid hotline you can call: 1201 extension 6 or visit their [website](#).

# Note on Safety, Health and Wellness

The safety, health and well-being of you, our TAU International students, is our highest priority. Information on these topics is shared with you at every phase of the study abroad process, including in student pre-departure and welcome materials and at the mandatory student orientation and arrival session. While in Israel, you will be provided with the telephone numbers of relevant personnel and campus offices (such as the TAU International Office staff), detailed instructions on medical care and emergencies, and the mobile number of the TAU International Student Life Team (Madrachim) who can be contacted for any type of emergency 24/7 including holidays. You are encouraged to carefully read all information received and keep it easily accessible during your stay in Israel.

## Independent Student Travel

For students wishing to travel, you will need to enter Israel with a valid entry permit. Permits are being issued according to the pandemic situation and policies change frequently. Once a student leaves Israel we cannot guarantee that they will receive an entry permit for the specific date in which they wish to return to Israel. We will do our best to assist in any way we can. After returning from travel, students will be required to quarantine at the TAU dorms.

Students traveling independently are asked to do three things:

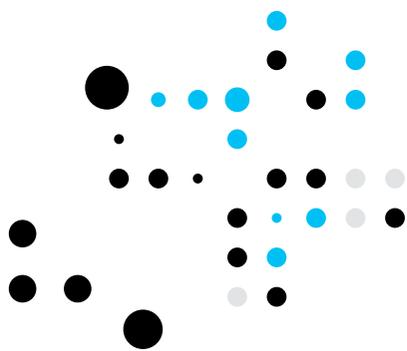
- Check with the Student Life Team regarding travel plans while students are in the planning phases. The Student Life Team is happy to give advice and share insight into what past students have
- enjoyed, recommended, etc. In addition, the Student Life Team can discuss known Covid-19, safety or security concerns regarding a potential destination.
- Complete an Independent Student Travel Form. This form allows the Student Life Team to know student whereabouts and how to contact the student in Israel or abroad in case their usual mobile number will not be available. This form is shared with students at the beginning of each semester and students should complete it each time they travel outside the program, even for day trips.
- Ensure that proper health insurance coverage (including Covid-19 health insurance) is secured prior to travel, if traveling outside Israel.

Due to safety concerns, TAU International strictly prohibits travel to the Sinai Peninsula, Gaza, Lebanon and Syria during a student's program at TAU. TAU International strongly discourages travel in the West Bank apart from parts of Jerusalem.

Students are encouraged to check with the Student Life Team to understand the most up-to-date current safety and security updates for parts of Jerusalem if this is part of their travel plan. While abroad, students are encouraged to keep a low profile regarding both their U.S. identification (for students from or studying in the U.S.) and all students are encouraged to keep a low profile regarding their current study in Israel.



**NON-STOP  
DISCOVERY**



# TAUi Insurance for Eligible Programs

If you are in the programs listed below, you are insured through TAUi as part of your tuition. Long term students (more than 5 months) must submit a health declaration to our insurance coordinator prior to their arrival.

Study Abroad, LL.M., MA in Conflict Resolution and Mediation, MA in Security and Diplomacy, TESOL, MDM in Disaster Management, Sofaer International MBA Program, BA in Liberal Arts, BA & Columbia.

The [TAU International Safety, Security, Health and Wellness Guidelines](#) offer comprehensive information on safety, security, health and wellness at TAU International. These contain detailed information about:

- How to use your health insurance to locate a doctor/make an appointment
- Security Guidelines
- Safety Concerns
- Important Contact Information
- Mobile Phone Policy - Staying in Touch in Case of Emergency
- Psychological and Wellness Services
- Mandatory Health Insurance and How to Use it
- TAU International Travel Guidelines
- Sexual Assault and Harassment
- Discrimination
- Fire Safety
- Environmental Safety Concerns
- Drugs and Alcohol Policies
- Student Code of Conduct

## Emergency Contact Information:

### **In Case of Emergency in Israel *During Office Hours***

TAU International Office is located at the Carter Building, Room 108

The office is open Sunday through Thursday\*, 9:00am-3:00pm

Office Number: +972-(0)3-640-8118 (Ask for the Student Life Counselor on duty)

\*Students will be notified of office closure for holidays in advance. During closure, you should use the 24/7 Student Life contact information below in case of emergency.

### **In Case of Emergency in Israel *Outside Office Hours***

24/7 Student Life Team Emergency Mobile: + 972-(52)-534618

### **TAU International New York Office Emergency Contact Information\***

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm EST

Tel: (212) 742-9030, (800) 665-9828

After Hours Emergency Number: +1-973-919-5988

\*Students, partners and parents of U.S. university students can also use this information as needed. Please be aware that due to U.S. educational privacy laws, if you are calling on behalf of a student currently enrolled with TAU International we are restricted in what information can be shared regarding our students' individual circumstances.

# COVID-19 FAQs



- **Is there a special COVID Refund Policy?** The TAUi [refund policy](#) is on our website. It's important to review the terms prior to confirming your attendance to any of our programs.
- **What happens after a student confirms attendance to a program?** Information will be shared with students as we prepare for arrivals, as COVID and policies are subject to change.
- **Will there be a required quarantine and what is the isolation support?** A quarantine of 14 days will be required upon entry to Israel. TAU will house students in dormitories for the quarantine period, provide a meal plan, basic kitchen and hygienic supplies as well as provide 24/7 support from our Student Life Team. Virtual activities and events will be planned.
- **What are Israel's Government Policy regarding entry, testing, quarantine, and related mandates?** Israel's Ministry of Health Guidelines can be found [here](#).
- **Is there a plan for Academic Continuity if a program is suspended mid-semester/other delivery modifications?** TAU is operating a Hybrid learning model for the 20-21 Academic Year. Should there be interruptions due to lockdowns, classes will continue to operate via distance learning. Please read all notices from TAU International. TAU Housing will remain open for the duration of the term(s) contracted.
- **Health Insurance Coverage** TAUi Study Abroad students are automatically enrolled in Health Insurance. See [Welcome Kit, page 6](#). Students who are enrolled in programs that do not include health insurance are required to obtain Israel Insurance.
- **Is there a 24/7 Emergency Contact?** [Emergency Contact Information](#)
- **Are there any services that you typically offer on your programs, but are currently modifying and/or not offering in light of COVID-19 e.g. in-person orientation?** Orientations will take place via zoom to comply with mass gathering restrictions. Trips and social activities will take place and will comply with all safety protocols sets by the Ministry of Health.
- **Does Tel Aviv University require daily temperature checks, health forms, etc. from students to participate in on-campus activities?** Temperature checks are mandatory for entry onto campus and are performed at all entry gates of the campus. All students are required to submit a TAUi medical form prior to arrival. If students feel ill, they should stay in their dorm room and contact the Student Life Team immediately.
- **Does Tel Aviv University require PPE indoors or outdoors while students are on-campus?** Tel Aviv University follows the requirements put in place by Israel's ministry of health. Currently, masks are required indoors and outdoors.
- **Will you be providing students any PPE or cleaning/sanitizing supplies for self-use?** Basic groceries and toiletries are provided for each student upon entrance to the TAU dormitories for quarantine.
- **What options will students have to get tested? What is testing like in the area/on campus?** If a student feels ill, they should contact the Student Life Team who will assist them in arranging a COVID test if needed.
- **How will the academic experience be impacted by COVID-19?** For the 20-21 Academic Year, TAU will be operating under Hybrid learning format. International student courses will be offered in-person and online.
- **Have you implemented changes to student accommodations?** Students enrolled at TAU International will be housed in our new Broshim dormitories and in our Einstein dormitories.
- **What is your policy regarding visitors in student accommodations?** Hosting guests overnight or after 11pm is not allowed without a formal request.
- **Will students be able to travel internationally?** Students should avoid international travel during the program dates, as quarantine restrictions will apply.
- **What are the university/local guidelines regarding using public transportation, including public buses, trains, subways, taxis and/or private coach?** Public transportation has not shut down since the start of the pandemic. International students should follow the main public transportation apps and websites in order to stay informed on the changes in public transportation.