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# Israeli Immigration Law Update - New Requirements & Government Fee Changes

January 30, 2025

Dear Clients,

As we begin this new year, we would like to update you on several important changes in Israeli immigration law

## Increase in Mandatory "Foreign Experts Salary" for 2025

All employers of Foreign Expert employees in Israel must pay a mandatory minimum "B/1-Foreign-Expert Salary," defined by Israeli law as a gross monthly base salary of no less than double the average monthly salary in Israel, as published by Israel's National Insurance Institute (NII).

The NII has announced on their official website (<u>link</u>) that the average gross monthly salary of salaried employees has been updated to NIS 13,153 for January 2025. **Therefore, the minimum monthly Foreign Expert salary for 2025 will be NIS 26,306** (approximately \$7,300 at current exchange rates).

#### Important notes:

- 1. This amount applies to a regular full-time position and does not include overtime or other mandatory benefits under law.
- 2. The update is effective January 1st, 2025.
- 3. The "B/1-Foreign-Expert Salary" is mandatory, and all employers must ensure their 2025 salaries meet these requirements.

Updated 2025 Government Fees (the Population and Immigration Authority "PIBA")

As of January 1st, 2025, PIBA has updated the government fees for various procedures. Key changes for Foreign Experts include:

- 1. Foreign Expert B/1 Application: NIS 1,390
- 2. Foreign Expert Annual Employer Government Fee: NIS 11,260 (including B/1 license)
- 3. Multiple Entry Visa: NIS 200

Please contact our team for information about other updated government fees.

## <u>Israeli Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA-IL) Updates</u>

Effective January 2025, travelers from visa-exempt countries using any type of B/2 visa (tourist, visitor, business visitor (non-working), family members of foreign experts) and foreign experts on short-term permits (up to 90 days per calendar year) from visa-exempt countries, must obtain an Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA-IL) before entering Israel.

For more information, to check eligibility, and to begin the application process, visit the official website of the Israel Population & Immigration Authority (link).

- 1. The ETA-IL application must be submitted exclusively through the official Israel Population & Immigration Authority website. The Israeli Immigration Authority has issued warnings about unauthorized websites claiming to process ETA-IL applications. These unofficial sites may charge excessive fees and may provide invalid approvals that will result in denied entry to Israel. To ensure valid entry, please use only the official government website (Link).
- 2. While applications can be submitted at any time before travel to Israel, the Population and Immigration Authority strongly recommends submitting travel authorization applications at least 72 hours before booking any flight tickets, hotel accommodations, or other travel-related expenses.
- 3. You should receive a response to your ETA-IL application within 24 to 72 hours (in some cases within minutes).
- 4. Israeli citizens and holders of an Israeli identity card are exempt from the ETA-IL requirement.
- 5. Please be aware that the ETA-IL is not a work permit or work visa and cannot replace required work permits.
- 6. As for Short Term Permits (STP) for up to 90 days, an STP must be obtained before applying for the ETA-IL and traveling to Israel.
  - Our legal team will continue to guide you through the STP work permit and B/1 visa process. Foreign experts with STP work permits must secure their ETA-IL independently before departing for Israel.
- 7. Foreign Expert Family Member Visas: Please contact our legal team if you need a visa for a foreign expert's family member. After approval, each family member must obtain their own ETA-IL before traveling to Israel.

## Work Permit Document Requirements for 2025

The Immigration Authority is placing additional emphasis on document signing dates and apostille verification this year. Please ensure all applications for Short-Term Permits (STP) and Long-Term Permits (LTP) include documents signed and updated for 2025, including a Power of Attorney (POA) and affidavits, to avoid processing delays.

We wish you a successful 2025 and remain available for any questions.

## **Contact Information**



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For additional information about our firm's Immigration and Foreign Expert Relocation group, click **here**.









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