Need to Know: Israel

Objective of the “Need to Know” Document
The Need to Know document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student’s decision to apply for an EAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. The best source of detailed program information is always the UCEAP Program Guide from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or Need to Know document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information
For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/contact/advising

Citizenship Restrictions
Students who were born in Israel, born to Israeli parents, were previously an Israeli citizen, or are a dual citizen, must contact an Israeli consulate or embassy as soon as possible regarding their plans to study in Israel. A military release may be required before departure.

Application Materials
Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJ)
Students must complete HUJ application materials immediately after submitting their application. Application instructions and materials are posted on the application checklist for the program. Students should note that the HUJ application will require items that may take additional time to prepare, including, but not limited to, two recommendation forms, official transcript, passport-size photos, Hebrew placement exam, resume, and a physical exam.

Ben-Gurion University (BGU)
Students must complete the BGU application materials at the same time they submit their application to Berkeley Study Abroad. Application instructions are posted on the application checklist for the program. Students should note that the BGU application will require items that may take additional time to prepare, including, but not limited to, an online application, photos, official transcripts, personal statements, Hebrew Language Placement exam, Financial Aid application and medical form.

Israel Institute of Technology, Technion/Neubauer (Technion)
Students must complete the Technion application materials at the same time they submit their application to Berkeley Study Abroad. Application instructions are posted on the application checklist for the program. Students should note that the Technion application will require items that may take additional time to prepare, including, but not limited to, a CV or resume, health forms, official transcripts, personal statement, etc. Technion will email you directly concerning their acceptance decision within two to eight weeks after they receive your complete Technion application. The email will contain a request for an Acceptance Deposit of $250.00. You must respond to the email and you DO pay the Acceptance Deposit.

Housing
Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJ)
Students live in on-campus housing at HUJ with Israeli and international students. Students are prohibited from living off-campus. UCEAP fees will cover the Ulpan housing cost, but students must make their dormitory reservation and payment for term or year housing directly with the Rothberg International School.

Ben-Gurion University (BGU)
UCEAP students are required to live in BGU dormitories for security reasons and live with Israeli and International students. Housing during the Ulpan is paid by UCEAP, but students are responsible to reserve their own term housing and pay for it directly to BGU.

Israel Institute of Technology, Technion/Neubauer (Technion)
You are required to live in Technion housing for safety and security reasons. You will need to reserve and pay for housing directly to Technion by their published deadlines. You pay the full housing cost upon arrival.
Financial Resources
Scholarships are available based on merit and financial need. See below. Students should also consult the Program Guide, BSA Finance page and in the Host University application materials for additional financial resources.

UC Education Abroad Program Scholarships
UCEAP offers over $1.5 million in scholarships for all categories of participants and for a comprehensive range of programs.

American Jewish League for Israel University Scholarship Fund
Assists students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents to study in Israel for the academic year. Scholarship awards are applied towards one year's tuition. Eligibility is limited to students who have been accepted for at least one year of academic study at select institutions in Israel.

Haas/Koshland Memorial Award
Provides awards up to $20,000 to support a year of personal development and/or study in Israel. The award is open to college students, from sophomore year through masters-level graduate school, who are from, or attend school, in the San Francisco Bay Area.

MASA Israel Grants & Scholarships
Offers universal grants and need-based scholarship awards for young adults to travel to Israel. Includes awards of $1,000 to study abroad participants and $3,000-$4,500 awards to eligible participants over the age of 21.

Students who are Pell grant recipients and planning to apply for a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship should be aware that students who study in Israel and other countries that currently have a U.S. Department of State travel warning are not eligible to apply for the Gilman scholarship.

Special Demands of the Program
Safety remains a primary issue of concern for study in Israel. Students must be prepared to avoid travel to specified areas inside Israel and Jerusalem, and to follow all safety and security regulations and guidelines established by UCEAP, the partner institution, and the U.S. Department of State. Students are prohibited from visiting the West Bank or Gaza during the program. Students should review the Program Guide to familiarize themselves with risks associated with participation on the program.

Given the special demands of the program, it is highly recommended that applicants meet with the BSA adviser prior to submitting an application.