**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Travel: Passport, Visa, Student flights, Parental Visits**

1. Passport Questions:
* Does my passport have to be valid for at least 6 months? Yes! Make sure your passport satisfies the six month validity passport rule. As a general rule, passports must have at least six months of validity when traveling internationally. Most countries will not permit a traveler to enter their country unless the passport is set to expire at least six months after the final day of travel. That means if your passport has less than six months remaining until the expiration date, you should [renew it right away](https://www.fastportpassport.com/renew-passport/).
* Should I make a copy of my passport? Yes! Parents should keep a copy, and Students should keep a picture of it saved on your phone.
1. What is a student visa for? In order to remain/learn in Israel longer than 3 months (tourist visa) one must have a student visa.
* Every non-Israeli student who is 18 years old or over is eligible for a student visa which Reishit will obtain for the students. If a student is turning 18 after November they will go to the Ministry of Interior to obtain the visa for themselves (as instructed by the office in Reishit).
* Any student who has an Israeli parent will be **unable** to get a student visa. They will need an Israeli passport. It is advised to do this **before arriving in Israel, at your nearest Israeli consulate**.
1. Flight: Where do I book my group flight **and return** trip ticket?

Ariel tours: <http://www.arieltours.com/schools/>

1. What is the rule about traveling home during the year?

Reishit only allows traveling home during year for an immediate family occasion. Students must get permission from the administration about going home.

1. What happens when parents come to visit Israel?

We allow 3 full days which can be broken up during the time of your visit.

We respectfully ask that if you choose to take out a group of your son’s friends to eat, please do so only during break times.

On Thursdays the students are off from 2:30pm-8pm. They are also off all Friday and Saturday nights.

**Health:**

1. Do I need health insurance?

Every student **MUST be insured, as well as have all their vaccinations up to date.**

We recommend Harel Insurance. Any questions should be addressed to the insurance company. To sign up:

<https://www.egertcohen.co.il/health/reishit.asp>

Harel provides a doctor that comes to Reishit twice a week for a minimum of 3 students that sign up for the doctor. Anyone needing to see a specialist should contact the Reishit office for explanation. There is another option to see a doctor in Ramat Beit Shemesh as well as Terem Emergency Medical Center.

1. What do I do if I need a doctor?

Harel insurance sends a doctor twice a week to Reishit (as long as there are at least 3 students signed up to see the doctor). If you need a doctor at other times then you can go to Terem (Emergency Medical Center) located in Beit Shemesh or make an appointment at a Harel doctor in Ramat Beit Shemesh. If you need to see a specialist, go to the Reishit office, or tell a madrich.

1. What do I do if I need medications?

If a doctor prescribes medicine, it can be filled at **specific** pharmacies. Broder’s pharmacy (local Beit Shemesh pharmacy) takes Harel prescriptions and is conveniently located close to Reishit.

**Do not send medicine in the mail**. Best is to bring as much with you as possible or have someone you know flying to Israel bring from your home.

1. How can I get a flu shot? **Ema Care** provides health care services in Israel for students from abroad.

We at Reishit have used their services in the past and highly recommend them. Here is their website for further information: [www.healthcareisrael.com](http://www.healthcareisrael.com/). We will send an email about signing up for a flu shot with the information about the cost as soon as Ema Care has the vaccinations in stock. The cost is approximately 200 shekels.

Harel insurance does not cover the cost for flu shots

**Tuition/Transcripts:**

1. What are the steps that I need to do in order to apply for Financial Aid?

In the following order students must:

* Register on the Joint Application
* Pay the registration fee
* Download the Financial Aid application from the website (place link here) and email it to our Executive Director Yaakov Ribner: yaakov@reishit.org
* Once Masa registration opens, we will inform the parents
* Apply for a Masa Scholarship (place link)
1. How do I pay tuition?

A short while after you have registered (and paid for registration) you will be emailed with instructions about how to pay tuition

1. Transcripts: How do I get my transcript from Reishit?

You must be financially cleared. Then you should contact the office: Jackie@reishit.org

1. How will my credit card charge show up on my bill?

**American Friends of Genesis Jerusalem** is the name of our American Office.

1. How do I go about receiving my student transcript from Reishit?

You must email the office with a request including your student ID, or social security number and the exact address where the transcript is to be sent.

**Cellphones:**

Your son will need a cell phone plan in Israel which includes calls and data. We have partnered with Talk n Save <https://www.talknsave.net/> who provides service and support for overseas students.

If you choose to use an Israeli cell phone company, please know that all communications and support with them is done in Hebrew.

**Dorm Life: Sheets, Packages, Dress Code, Calendar**

1. What size sheet should I bring?

 Twin size will fit the mattresses (35x75)

1. What is best way to sending packages?

 Amazon packages are delivered to the door.

Ideally packages should be sent **direct delivery to Yeshiva**. If that is not possible, best not to mail packages as things take a long time and is not so reliable.

Keep in mind that most things can be bought in Israel and if you want to send special treats there are services here that do that with delivery included. An email will be sent out to parents about that at the beginning of the school year.

1. What happens on Yeshiva Vacations?

Reishit dorms and kitchen are open all year long, even during vacations (Succot, Chanukah, Pesach). Students always can stay in the dorm as well as receive meals. The head madrich will make a list of anyone who will be staying in yeshiva during vacation to be able to inform the kitchen staff. The dorm is never closed to the students

1. Do I have to dress according to the dress code on the plane?

Yes, the dress code starts from when you are traveling to Israel.

1. Do I need to bring sefarim or notebooks from home?

Sefarim will be sold on campus at the beginning of the year and throughout the year as well from a local Beit Shemesh store.

You should bring Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur machzorim.

1. How do I find out important dates **throughout** the year?

At the start of the year parents and students will receive an email with the Reishit Academic calendar. Please print it out or keep it handy to refer to it when questions arise throughout the year.

1. What is Reishit’s address, office phone number and office hours?

21 Rashi Street

Beit Shemesh 9952331

Phone: 972 2 999-7155

Office hours are **Israeli Time**: 8am-4pm

Jackie@reishit.org