

# UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

## Application Procedure

Applicants are requested to return by registered mail the completed form together with the required documents by February 28, 2006.

Applicants must fill in their ID/passport number on their application form and make sure that the ID/ passport number listed on the application form is identical to the number listed in the psychometric exam application form. Lack of a number or discrepancies between the numbers may delay and disrupt acceptance procedures.

Please note that grade transcripts and certificates submitted as part of the application procedure must be either originals, photocopies authorized by a notary from the country of origin, or photocopies authorized by the candidate's school or university. A notarized translation must accompany transcripts in languages other than English. Originals may be brought to the Registration Center, where they will be photocopied and certified free of charge.

### Candidates must submit:

1. Application forms properly completed. Please note: your date of arrival in Israel must be clearly indicated on this form.
2. Applicants abroad should enclose a postal order or a check for \$80 US made out to Tel Aviv University to cover the registration fee. This fee is non-refundable.
3. A matriculation certificate/high school diploma including a transcript of record; certificates attesting post-matriculation study, if any.
4. Official transcript of high school or further education records, including grade point average and an explanation of the scale of grades.
5. Applicants who are studying in a Preparatory Year Program (Mechina) other than that of Tel Aviv University are required to supply a certificate of participation from the Mechina office.

Upon completing the Mechina, applicants must submit an authorized final certificate from the Mechina and an authorized copy<sup>1</sup> of grades, including the average or final grade. This must be done no later than July 14, 2006 for the Faculty of

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1 Each grade should be at least 60.

Engineering and the School of Architecture; July 26, 2006 for the Department of Psychology; and July 31, 2006 for all other faculties. Applicants completing a Mechina program other than that of Tel Aviv University are requested to submit a final certificate including 4 subjects<sup>1</sup> with a minimum grade of 60 (no exemption grade).

Please note that the Mechina beginning February 2006 (second semester) does not finish in time for candidates to apply for acceptance to the fall semester in October 2006.

6. Candidates who want their SAT<sup>2</sup> results to be considered in lieu of the Psychometric Examination (or in addition to it)<sup>3</sup> must attach a written request to their application. Candidates should send an official certificate of the SAT scores to the Registration Center of Tel Aviv University immediately upon receiving the results.

Candidates must specify the date on which they took/will take the SAT. They are also requested to provide this information on their application form.

SAT results should be in the Registration Office no later than one month after the last Israeli Psychometric exams, or according to the requirements of the various Departments.

Please note carefully the section below: "Knowledge of Hebrew" (p. 25).

7. Curriculum Vitae (life history), for social work only.
8. Photocopy of the ID or passport page on which personal details are indicated (birth date, etc.).

## **Transfer of Credits**

Applicants who wish to receive credits for previous studies at other universities and/or institutions of higher learning are required to submit an official transcript, including confirmation of examinations passed.

## **Israeli Matriculates**

The Israeli Matriculation (Bagrut) grades will be forwarded directly from the Israeli Ministry of Education for graduates since 1990. Therefore such candidates are required **not** to attach their "Bagrut"

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1 One of these subjects must be mathematics.

2 Tel Aviv University will continue considering only the SAT Verbal and Math sections as before, and the writing new section will be ignored.

3 The higher score will be taken into consideration.

Certificate to the application material. Only graduates of year 1989 or earlier must attach their "Bagrut" Certificate.

Applicants who have taken Israeli matriculation examinations and have not yet received official certificates must submit a confirmation of the results issued by the Ministry of Education. Those who have not yet completed all the exams must take them no later than January 2006.

Only those who complete all the required examinations by January 2006 may apply.

In instances where one exam is lacking, candidates may still submit an application for Humanities (except for the School of Education) and Arts (except for Film and Television and Architecture). These candidates should take the last exam in June 2006.

Applicants are advised to submit the results of the matriculation examinations as soon as they are available, but no later than May 1, 2006 (for the January exam) and September 10, 2006 (for the June exam).

### **Final Year High School Students in Israel**

Students currently attending their final year of high school (except those belonging to the Academic Reserves) may not apply for registration to the University. However, once students planning to apply receive their matriculation results, they should contact the Registration Office as soon as possible, but no later than September 10, 2006.

Their applications will be considered in light of the following factors:

- There are vacancies in the department of the applicant's choice.
- The entrance requirements to the department of the applicant's choice are fulfilled.
- The Psychometric Entrance Examination is taken no later than July 2006.
- The required level of proficiency in English as a Foreign Language has been attained.

### **Alternative Majors**

Applicants are advised to indicate second and third alternatives on their applications.

Indicating a second and third alternative does not influence acceptance to the department of the applicant's first choice. Likewise, applying to only one

department in no way enhances the prospect for acceptance to it. If candidates wish to keep all their options open, they must meet all the requirements that their various choices entail, such as writing departmental entrance examinations.

Candidates who wish to change their alternate majors after they are already registered should:

- a. Check with the Registration Office if the relevant department is still open.
- b. Pay half of the current registration fee at that time.

### **Programs of Study**

Applicants may choose a single major (sm) program or a double major (dm). Second and third choices will be considered when applicants are not admitted to their first choices.

Certain programs require additional entrance examinations. These are noted on the Examinations Schedule; see the Examination Schedule (colored pages).

Most of the departments offer three-year undergraduate programs. A list of the departments and their code numbers is given below.

### **Academic Reserves (Atuda Academit)**

Israeli citizens who wish to be accepted to the Academic Reserves should obtain application forms from the University or they may register through the University website: [www.tau.ac.il/admissions](http://www.tau.ac.il/admissions) (in Hebrew) and return the registration material to the Academic Reserves. Letters of acceptance or rejection to the Academic Reserves will be sent only by the Academic Reserves.

Last Psychometric exam permitted by the army authorities is April.

# GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

## Matriculation

To be eligible for admission, applicants **must** hold a matriculation certificate issued by the Israeli Ministry of Education or an **equivalent** certificate from abroad.

Diplomas such as the French Bacallaureate, German Abitur, General Certificate of Education<sup>1</sup> and I.B. (International Bacallaureate) and others are equivalent to the Israeli matriculation for registration.

Candidates in this category may apply to the Certificate Evaluator in the Registration Office to determine the conditions for their acceptance to the University.

Most newcomers are required to enroll in the Preparatory Program (Mechina) first (see page 13). There are some exceptions to this rule (in all cases, the documents of students from abroad will be examined in order to determine whether they must study in the Mechina):

1. Completion of at least one full academic year in Israel or abroad (30 semester credits at least for all faculties, 40 semester credits<sup>2</sup> for Medicine and Dental Medicine) may replace the Mechina.
2. Graduates of U.S.<sup>3</sup> and Canadian high schools with a grade average of B (3.0) and over, who know Hebrew and have SAT 1 or the new SAT Reasoning test<sup>4</sup> scores of at least 1270, may register directly for studies at the University. These conditions do not apply to the Faculties of Engineering, Law, Medicine and the School of Architecture.

Israelis returning to Israel after completing high school in the U.S.<sup>3</sup> or Canada (who stayed abroad no more than 3 years) can register directly to the University if they have a grade average of B (3.0) on their diploma and received at least 1,180 (on condition that this includes at least 600 in mathematics). This condition does not apply to the

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1 Only one A level Exam may be in a "Language Subject."  
2 AP courses are not considered as part of the university credits.  
3 Candidates who complete grade 12.  
4 Tel Aviv University will continue considering only the SAT Verbal and Math sections as before, and the writing new section will be ignored.

Faculties of Engineering, Law, Medicine, and the School of Architecture.

3. Graduates of US high school who completed grade 12 and got a grade average of B (3.0) and over who know Hebrew and have at least 4 AP examinations with a grade of 4 or 5 may apply to the university (acceptance to the different faculties will be according to their AP subjects).

Candidates not meeting these conditions may take the Mechina Program or 4 Israeli matriculation examinations as follows:

1. At least 12 units together with a minimum grade of 55 in Math, and 60 in all other exams.
2. One of the four exams must be at least 3 units in mathematics.
3. One exam should be of at least 4 units.
4. In case Mathematics will be the 4 units subject, another 3 units subject must be taken.
5. Hebrew Language as a subject should be consisted of at least 2 units: Hebrew Essay and Hebrew Grammar.
6. Only final matriculation grade is accepted. "Sub" exams are not accepted.
7. Foreign Language is not accepted as a matriculation subject.

The exams must fulfill the requirements of the departments of the candidate's choice and should be taken no later than January 2006.

Candidates in this category may apply to the Certificate Evaluator in the Registration Office to determine the conditions for their acceptance to the University.

**Special requirements for applicants to the Faculties of Medicine, Exact Sciences, Engineering, and the School of Architecture.**

- a. Most foreign high school graduates must have successfully completed one year of the Mechina in the Natural Sciences program or one academic year in a university program which included at least one advanced mathematics course, equivalent to 5 units in the Israeli Matriculation certificate ("Bagrut"), as well as courses in the exact and natural sciences.
- b. Those who hold the British G.C.E. must pass A-level exams in at least two subjects:<sup>1</sup> mathematics and the exact or natural sciences.

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1 The subjects required by each faculty/department may vary,

- c. Those who hold an International Baccalaureate (I.B.) must pass higher level exams in at least two subjects:<sup>1</sup> mathematics and the exact or natural sciences.
- d. Graduates of French secondary schools must have certificates indicating successful completion of the mathematics or natural science course.<sup>1</sup>
- e. Graduates of US high school with a grade average of B (3.0) and over, must pass 4 AP examinations from which one exam must be in Mathematics and another in an Exact science subject with a grade of 4 or 5.

**For Medicine and Dental Medicine candidates must pass exams in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry.**

### **Knowledge of Hebrew**

Applicants who take the psychometric exam in a language other than Hebrew and do not have an Israeli matriculation<sup>1</sup> **must take the Hebrew Language Proficiency Exam** and prove satisfactory knowledge of Hebrew on an academic level before the beginning of the academic year. For those who take the psychometric exam, April and July, the Hebrew Proficiency Exam immediately follows and no separate registration is required. In this case, there is no fee for the Hebrew exam. It is advisable to take this exam after studying in an Ulpan in Israel.

For those who do not need to take the psychometric exam, those who take it abroad, or those who failed the Hebrew exam previously, may apply to the Hebrew Proficiency exam that will be given in July and September 2006. A fee is required, except from those candidates who take the psychometric exam abroad.

Applicants submitting SAT scores instead of the psychometric exam and applicants for graduate studies will take the Hebrew Proficiency Examination in July or September. (See examination schedule and explanation in the Entrance Examinations (colored pages). This applies to all applicants to undergraduate and graduate studies, even for departments where the language of instruction is not Hebrew (see Hebrew Placement Examination – Page 11).

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and are specified in the Hebrew booklet.

- 1 Except for those who are exempted according to the list in the chapter: "The Hebrew Studies" above.

## **Psychometric Entrance Examination and SAT**

All candidates must take the Psychometric Entrance Examination,<sup>1</sup> including candidates who have already studied in a university even if they apply for an advanced year. Holder of a BA degree must take the Psychometric for several departments.

Candidates who do not pass the minimum required level (450)<sup>2</sup> will not be accepted.

Tel Aviv University will accept SAT results as a substitute for the Psychometric Entrance Examination if the test has been taken within the last ten years (from October 1996 onward).

Applicants who have taken the SAT are required to submit, together with other registration materials, an official copy of the scores along with a letter requesting recognition of these scores as a substitute. These scores, which can be sent separately, must reach the Registration Office no later than one month after the last possible date of taking the psychometric exam for the relevant department (please see timetable below).

SAT scores are transformed in terms of the scale of the Israeli Psychometric Entrance Exam.<sup>3</sup>

**Because of various factors effecting this transformation, it is strongly advised that all candidates, especially Israelis residing abroad, take the Psychometric Entrance Examination.** For those candidates who have sent their SAT scores and have also sent their Psychometric Entrance Examinations, the highest result will be considered. The results of both the Psychometric Entrance Examination and the SAT scores are valid for ten years.

### **Please Note!**

Applicants with foreign certificates are requested to attach a photocopy of the result of their Psychometric Entrance Exam or SAT to their registration form or to send the results as soon as
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- 1 See the Entrance Examinations (colored pages).
  - 2 The School of Music and the Department of Musicology require a minimum level of 400. Candidates of the Performing track in the Academy of Music may be accepted according to their success in the Departmental Entrance Exams, regardless of their psychometric score.
  - 3 Tel Aviv University will continue considering only the SAT Verbal and Math sections as before, and the writing new section will be ignored.

they are received directly to the Registration Office at Tel Aviv University.

## Knowledge of English

All applicants taking the Psychometric Entrance Exam **must take the English Placement Exam** within the framework of the Psychometric Exam, including those who are exempt from English as a Foreign Language.

Candidates not taking the Psychometric or SAT Exam who have not proved a certain English level **must take the separate English Placement Exam "Amir"** – except for those who are exempt from English as a Foreign Language.

Each candidate or student of Tel Aviv University may take the "Amir" exam even if a certain level of English was attained at a previous psychometric or "Amir" or SAT exam. There is no limit to the number of times and no minimum waiting period between one "Amir" exam to the next, or between Amir and Psychometric exams.

The classification into 5 levels is as follows:

1. Fail level – (Nichshal): grades 1-84
2. Basic level – (Besisi): grades 85-99
3. Intermediate level – (Beinoni): grades 100-119
4. Advanced level – (Mitkadmim): grades 120-133
5. Exemption- (Ptor): grade 134+

Examinees in the "Amir" exam should subtract 100 from their score in order to determine their level according to the above scale.

The applications of those who fail will automatically be rejected. This regulation pertains to all candidates, even those who were accepted earlier. Candidates to most of the departments must reach the Intermediate level by the beginning of the first academic year and reach the "exempt" level by the end of the first two or three semesters, according to the requirements of their respective departments.

The highest result will be taken into consideration for candidates who take the English Placement Exam (Psychometric or "Amir") more than once.

## Special Cases

1. Applicants from countries where English is not taught at a level equivalent to that taught in Israeli

high schools may be accepted even with a Fail level. These candidates must reach the Intermediate level by the beginning of their second year and reach the Exemption level by the beginning of the third year. This applies for all departments except for those which indicate otherwise.

2. Applicants to the Faculty of Law, School of Medicine and School of Dental Medicine should receive a pass grade according to the Faculty's requirement (120 points, or "Mitkadmim" level in the English Placement Exam in the Psychometric or at least 220 points in the "Amir" Exam).
3. Applicants to the Communications Disorders Department should achieve a "mitkadmim" level in English before the beginning of the academic year.

### **Admission Counseling Service**

The Selection and Research Unit at the Registration and Admission Center advises candidates for undergraduate studies concerning the possibility of acceptance to each of Tel Aviv University's different departments and faculties and the possibilities of improving the chances of acceptance. This service is provided only at the request of the candidate. A fee is charged.

The counseling is based upon the candidate's matriculation achievements, former academic studies, the Mechina, Psychometric and SAT results, updated departmental admission requirements known at the time (including the changes in these requirements during the last years) and the various possibilities for increasing their prospects for admission.

Appointments should be made in advance by phone, Sunday – Thursday: 9:00-12:00.

Tel. 03-6408686, 03-6408290.

### **Special Requirements of the Faculties and Relevant Departments**

The decisions of the various departmental admissions committees are based on the Psychometric Entrance Examination, matriculation grades, previous academic grades (at least 30 semester hours for all faculties, 40 semester hours for Medicine and Dental Medicine), Mechina grades, and, in some cases, departmental entrance examinations or requirements.

For special requirements, please see the following timetable, the chapters of the relevant departments and the Entrance Examinations section (colored pages).

*Candidates will be notified by mail by the Registration Office as to whether they have been accepted to the department of their choice.*