

ISRAEL NATIONAL BRAIN GAIN UNDERSTANDING WITH *BITUACH LEUMI*

The Israel National Brain Gain Program announced an understanding arrived at with The National Health Insurance (Bituach Leumi) under which all Israeli postdoctoral students residing abroad for over 5 years will be allowed to extend their status of residency for up to 7 years abroad, provided their stay is mainly for postdoctoral training and they are not doing anything that bears evidence that they are resettling abroad. Of course they have to continue paying Bituach Leumi, as required.

This important achievement will help avoid paying ransom for health insurance, will ease their return to Israel and is of course an important sign from the Israeli Government to Israel's future leading scientists, who are currently abroad.

Israeli postdoctoral students abroad who receive letters from Bituach Leumi after being abroad for 5 years, announcing the end of their residency, should be aware of this agreement and settle their status as close as possible to the end of their 5 years abroad.