

## Presented in Conjunction with Tsav Shmoneh – The Reserves Forum in Israel (reg. ass.)

### **Question: How many days of reserve duty can I be called up for?**

Answer: A reserve soldier can be called up for up to 42 days in a year, and not more than 3 times a year. An officer can be called up for up to 84 days every 3 years, an NCO for up to 70 days and a regular soldier for up to 54 days.

### **Question: How many days of reserve duty can I be called up for as a student?**

Answer: A student on a pre-army mechina program and pre-engineering program, as well as veterinarian students in their fourth year can be called up for up to 12 days. Students in other faculties can be called up for up to 21 days. During the semester, students will not be called up for more than 4 days' reserve duty more than once.

### **Question: How soon after I complete my regular army service can I be called up for reserve duty?**

Answer: Except for special cases, reserve soldiers are not called up during the first year after their release from regular service for 2 days and more of reserve duty.

### **Question: How can I cancel, shorten, bring forward or defer reserve duty?**

Answer: A request can be submitted (Form 58) for cancelling, shortening, bringing forward or deferring reserve duty for personal reasons (including studies and work), or for family-related reasons, by applying to the liaison office of the reservist's unit. The application may be submitted on the reserves service web site - <http://www.miluim.aka.idf.il>, together with the requisite approvals. A decision will be made within 10 days of submission, and no later than one day before the mobilization day. A Reserves Coordination Committee (RCC) application may be submitted. The application may be submitted on the reserves service web site - <http://www.miluim.aka.idf.il>, 30 days before the starting date of reserve duty (ARD). The committee will only consider reserves orders of 6 days or more. The committees will not handle requests for deferment of reserve duty on personal or medical grounds. Students are entitled to 2 positive responses to committee application, per school year. Appeals may be submitted against committee decisions within 7 days of the committee hearing.

**Question: To whom can I apply if my physical or emotional state changes?**

Answer: A request should be submitted to a medical committee or the psychological health officer, together with the appropriate medical documents, via the reserves web site. The committee has the right to summon you to appear before it.

**Question: Can I change my reserves profession, role or location?**

Answer: A request may be submitted via the reserves web site, together with the relevant approvals, and will be conveyed to your unit officers. If you find a unit to which you wish to transfer, you should contact that unit's liaison officer, and she will request your transfer. If the request is not approved it will be submitted to the reserves personnel officer of your unit. Processing of the request takes 35 days. You may appeal against the decision, in writing, to your liaison officer.

**Question: How can one volunteer for reserve duty?**

Answer: It is recommended that you find a unit with which you wish to volunteer, and contact the unit's liaison officer. The liaison officer will send you the relevant forms to complete, in order to make a recommendation or decision.

**Question: Does the IDF insure me during my reserve service?**

Answer: According to the law covering benefits for reserve soldiers and their families, a reservist is insured against injury or, God forbid, death during the course of their service. For information on this matter you should contact the Reserves Section, on: (03) 569-0293.

**Question: What allowances are made for students on reserve army service?**

Answer: The Council for Higher Education has determined adjustments at academic institutions, for students on reserve army duty. Each institution will appoint a reserves coordinator who is responsible for applying the adjustments who is the reference for enquiries regarding allowances. The student will be granted allowances with regard to missing classes, deferring or extending studies, submitting assignments, for examination dates, scholarships, student dormitories, academic credits, participating in laboratory work, seminars, workshops, trips and practical training courses, and help with completing study material through tutoring, mentoring, remedial classes, auxiliary material etc.

**Question: How can I receive pay for reserve army service?**

Answer: Pay for reserve army service is provided by the National Insurance. The amount of pay is contingent on the occupation of the reservist, and the length of duty, and is calculated by the National Insurance. An employee who is employed at their place of work for more than 3 months may submit Form 3010 to their employer. In all other cases, the form should be submitted directly to the National Insurance.

**Question: What can I do if I do not receive full receive pay for reserve army service?**

Answer: First you should ascertain that the full length of reserve duty has been inputted to the liaison officer's system. The number of reserve duty days can also be seen on Form 3010. If an error has been made you should contact the liaison officer. In exceptional cases the liaison officer will refer you to the reserves section of the National Insurance.

**Question: Are transportation costs, to and from the reserve duty location, reimbursed?**

Answer: A reservist is eligible for travel vouchers for public transport. Reservists who use their own vehicle will receive a refund directly to their bank account, covering part of the costs, for traveling costs to the location of the service and back – including for vacation trips based on eligibility. The reservist has to choose between the two options, before call-up for reserve duty, and he or she may change their choice (but not during the course of reserve duty). Refund details are provided on the reserves service web site.

**Question: What does Israeli law determine if someone is fired from their work due to reserve duty?**

Answer: The 1949 Veterans (Return to Work) Law determines that it is prohibited to make an employee redundant due to reserve army duty, or following their call-up or due to expected reserve service, including as a result of the frequency or length of reserve service. The law also applies to non-renewal of a work contract and is binding on all employers, whether this involves an actual employer or a subcontractor. The law also extends the prohibition to equal opportunity, discrimination against someone with regards to their being accepted for employment, employment terms, promotion, professional recognition or advanced training and redundancy pay, benefits and severance pay.

**Question: What should I do if I am made redundant following reserve duty?**

Answer: There are employment committees run by the Foundation and by the Discharged Soldiers Guidance Unit of the Ministry of Defense which consider applications from soldiers whose employment has suffered due to their service. The committee has the authority to determine that the employer must reinstate the reservist, with the terms, at the time and location determined by the committee. The committee may rule that the reservist is eligible for compensation as well as a refund of his expenses. The committee's decisions may be appealed against at the region labor court. A reservist is eligible for legal aid to cover representation at the employment committees, for appealing against their rulings and for enforcing their decision.

**Question: Am I eligible for an “active reservist card” and how can I obtain one?**

Answer: An “active reservist card” can be issued to someone who has carried out At least 20 days of ARD accumulated over a period of 3 consecutive years, part of them. The card will be sent to the home of those eligible during the second half of April 2014 and will be valid for 3 years, from May 1 2014 to April 30 2017.

**Question: What benefits does an “active reservist card” offer, and what is the Behatzdaa club?**

Answer: The card offers a range of benefits and discounts at government ministries and other bodies, in accordance with the government's decisions. The card also provides leisure and welfare benefits for the reservist and his family, as part of the Behatzdaa club – a leisure and welfare benefits club for active reservists. The club was established by the Ministry of Defense and the IDF, and is operated by a civilian concessionaire.

**Question: What assistance can I receive during my reserve duty?**

Answer: The Behatzdaa club operates an insurance service called Mashlim Lemiluim which is provided 24 hours a day, at no cost to the holder of valid “active reservist” card (including for reservists who have yet to register for the club) during his ARD. Mashlim Lemiluim provides the reservist with **home services** - immediate pipe repairs, repairing electrical fuses and opening doors; **vehicle services** – puncture repair, providing fuel if the vehicle runs out during a journey; **medical services** – telephone consultation, provision of a doctor to the home in the evening and at night, dental care – emergency care;

**electrical appliance services (repairing important appliances)** – fridge, solar water heater, washing machine (involves an excess payment of NIS 90).

**Question: Is a returning resident obliged to carry out reserve duty?**

Answer: A returning resident who has lived abroad for over 2 years will not be called up for reserve duty within the first 6 months of his return to Israel. A returning resident who has lived abroad for over 5 years may request an extension of a further 6 months. Even so, the head of the IDF Manpower Directorate may call up the returning resident. A request to volunteer may also be submitted via the reserves service web site.

**Question: What should I do if I intend to travel abroad?**

Answer: You should advise your reserves unit with regard to the planned trip, to see whether you are due to be called up. A reservist who is called up for the time when he is planning on being abroad, or who returns from abroad and finds call-up papers have arrived while he was abroad, may submit a request to cancel, shorten or defer reserve duty (Form 58) via the reserves service web site. If the request is rejected, an appeal may be submitted to the responsible unit commander, with a rank of colonel or higher, and his decision will be final.

## State Benefits for Reservists

### **Ministry of Transport**

- Renewal of driving license for a token price of NIS 10.
- Discount of NIS 59-NIS 179 on the cost of the annual vehicle licensing test, conditional on eligibility for additional recompense.

### **Nature and Parks Authority**

- Nature and Parks Authority discounts
- Discount on the price of a Matmon annual subscription for active reservists and their families.
- Discount on the cost of holding events at Nature and Parks Authority sites
- 25% discount on a one-time entry to Authority sites, for the reservist only
- 15% discount for active reservists and their families for use of designated camping areas

### **Ministry of Construction and Housing**

- Eligibility for housing at a reduced price – new housing prices.
- The companies that provide benefits are: Amidar, Magar and Malag
- Threshold conditions: applicants must satisfy Ministry of Construction and Housing criteria
- Active reservists will receive 5 additional credits for a partner
- Supplement to bank mortgages only for reservists who have carried out duty for six consecutive years, who do not have housing.

### **Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Internal Security Benefits**

- 50% discount on the price of a passport
- 50% discount on the cost of changing your name

### **Ministry of Internal Security**

- 50% discount on the price of weapon license renewal. If the discount on the fee is not automatically issued it will be given when the active reserve duty card is presented at the time of payment.

### **Ministry of Defense and State Service Commission**

- Free entry to the Ministry of Defense Museum. The benefit is for reservists only, on presentation of an active reservist card.

- The list of museums is available on the reserves service web site.

### **State Service Commission**

- A Commission support and nurturing basket is available to active reservists and their partners who are employees of the State Service Commission.

### **Ministry of Education**

- An additional NIS 1,000 for Perach scholarships for a reservist who participates in the project, and who carried out at least 10 ARD days during the school year, in other words, between July 15 and July 14 the following year during the year of participation in Perach.
- The scholarship will be transferred to the bank accounts of those eligible, in August after the end of the project year.

### **Israel Land Authority**

Only a reservist who has carried out duty for six consecutive years, may benefit from a discount on the price of land, via advertising, registration or a lottery, or wins an exemption from participating in a tender, on condition that the discount does not exceed NIS 50,000:

- a. Regions that are not national priority regions – 10%
- b. National Priority Region B – 20%
- c. National Priority Region C – 35%

The law stipulates that an employee cannot be made redundant due to him taking time off for reserve army duty, or following a call-up to the reserves, or due to expected reserve duty, including based on the frequency or duration of the reserve duty.

**For additional information: Tsav Shmoneh – The Reserves Forum in Israel (reg. ass.) – [forum.tsav.8@gmail.com](mailto:forum.tsav.8@gmail.com)**