

# Israel Launches Initiative to Double the Number of International Students

(Courtesy of the Council for Higher Education)

The Council for Higher Education in Israel (CHE) recently officially launched the national initiative "Study in Israel" to double the number of international students enrolled in Israeli colleges and universities. Although initially targeting students in North America, China, and India, the program will eventually be aimed at students worldwide. There are currently about 12,000 international students studying in Israel.

"Study in Israel," which features a dedicated website, touts high Israeli academic standards and a distinctive, focused approach to education with the theme "Engage in Excellence." The program highlights the country's innovative academic and research landscape as part of the "The Startup Nation," and accentuates Israel's competitive tuition costs.

Recently, four Israeli universities were ranked among the top 50 undergraduate programs globally that produce the most



venture capital-backed entrepreneurs, according to the latest ranking by PitchBook.

The initiative also underscores that Israeli universities and colleges offer dozens of short-term study programs, as well as full degrees and research opportunities, taught in English.

"We have committed to making Israel a brain gain country for excellent students and researchers from around the world - North and South America, Europe, and Asia," said Professor Yaffa Zilbershats, Chair of the CHE's Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC). "With this new campaign, Israel is now more attractive than ever for students in North America and beyond - and we're looking

forward to bringing many more students from around the globe in years to come."

Meanwhile, the CHE also recently authorized 26 new international degree programs in a range of fields in which Israel is globally recognized, including: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics), Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Jewish Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Agriculture, Urban Studies, Environmental Studies, and Design.

In addition, the Council has provided earmarked funding to its public higher education institutions to bolster marketing and recruitment efforts, create new courses in English and develop international student services. The Council also finances and manages a number of fellowship programs for international students and post-doctoral researchers.

"Study in Israel" is the latest effort by the CHE to promote internationalization in the Israeli higher education system and attract international students.

For more information, visit [www.studyinisrael.chc.org.il](http://www.studyinisrael.chc.org.il).



**Chair of the CHE's Planning and Budgeting Committee, Professor Yaffa Zilbershats.**

(credit: Council for Higher Education)

The Council for Higher Education (CHE) is a statutory corporation established by Israel's 1958 Higher Education Law. The Council designs policy and is responsible for Israel's higher education system.



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