



A Proposal to Support Medical School Scholarships for Ethiopian-Israeli Students

For the past 12 years, Delta Israel has played a pioneering role in supporting the diverse student body that makes up the University of Haifa. Through ongoing dialogue between the Delta Israel team and the University's Dean of Students Office, a unique and ambitious opportunity has surfaced. As the University of Haifa prepares to establish a pioneering Medical School at the Mt. Carmel campus, we remain committed to promoting and supporting a diverse classroom that includes Ethiopian-Israeli medical students.

Context

Israel faces a severe physician shortage, with only 3.3 practicing physicians per 100,000 population, below the OECD average. This shortage is compounded by an aging medical workforce and unique demographic pressures. The new Herta and Paul Amir School of Medicine, opening in October 2025, will play a crucial role in addressing these challenges by training the next generation of Israeli physicians and creating opportunities for underrepresented communities to enter the medical profession.

In line with this mission, the University of Haifa seeks support for **two full scholarships for Ethiopian-Israeli students** at the new School of Medicine. This initiative aims to address the critical need for greater diversity in Israel's medical workforce, particularly focusing on increasing the representation of Ethiopian-Israeli doctors.



The Benefits: Better Care for All

Integrating Ethiopian-Israeli doctors into the medical system can significantly improve the efficacy of healthcare services in the following ways:

> **Improved patient outcomes:**

By understanding the specific health concerns and cultural practices of the Ethiopian-Israeli community, these doctors can provide more tailored and effective care.

> **Increased trust and accessibility:**

Ethiopian-Israeli patients may feel more comfortable seeking medical care from doctors who share their cultural back-ground, potentially leading to earlier interventions and better health outcomes.

> **Role models for future generations:**

The presence of Ethiopian-Israeli doctors in the medical field can inspire younger Ethiopian-Israelis to pursue careers in medicine, further diversifying the healthcare workforce over time.

Addressing Financial Hardship

Supporting Ethiopian-Israeli medical students with comprehensive financial aid is essential for their success. Many come from families living below the poverty line, where the high cost of medical school is a significant barrier. While student loans exist, the looming debt can discourage talented individuals from entering the field. Once enrolled, the real challenge begins: managing the rigorous demands of medical school while also supporting themselves and their families. Without solid financial backing, students may be forced to take on additional work, potentially dividing their attention or even causing them to drop out of the program. By covering both tuition and living expenses, we enable these students to concentrate solely on becoming the skilled, compassionate doctors Israel desperately needs.

Funding Needs

A generous contribution of NIS 624,000 will cover tuition (estimated at NIS 192,000) and living stipends (estimated at NIS 432,000) **for two Ethiopian students over their six-year** medical school program (see breakdown below).

We invite you to partner with the University of Haifa in this vital initiative to empower the next generation of Ethiopian-Israeli doctors and ensure culturally competent, high-quality healthcare for all Israelis. Together, with your support, we can make a meaningful difference.

<i>Total Cost Per Student</i>		
Tuition	Living Stipends	Total Cost for One Student for 6 years
NIS 96,000 (NIS 16,000 x 6 years)	NIS 216,000 (NIS 3,000 x 72 months)	NIS 312,000