

December 2, 2024

Dear High School English Coordinators and Teachers,

Re: New Bagrut Updates

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well.

I would like to notify you of three recent updates from the Testing Department that are effective immediately:

1. The BOOST/COBE (16387, 16486 & 16586)

Students in **1,2,3 מעגל** can now be tested by a human tester. They should be tested by an English teacher from the school who is not their teacher at present. A teacher MUST be registered and approved on the [Experts' Site](#) to test these exams. (בוֹחַן לִשְׂאֵלוֹנִים 16585, 16485, 16385).

2. Extra time

Students in **1,2,3 מעגל** are now entitled to 15% extra time on all the Bagrut exams.

These two accommodations are valid for **1 מעגל and 2 מעגל** in the **winter Moed only**.

You will find a link to this letter issued this morning [HERE](#).

You will find an explanation about the different מעגלים in the letter [HERE](#).

3. Native Speakers and Advanced 5-Point Students: COBE (16586) in the 11th Grade

The Testing Department has decided to open registration for the COBE (16586) for these students in the summer of 2025 (קיץ תשפ"ה). However, starting in the summer of **2026 (קיץ תשפ"ו)**, the COBE will no longer be open for registration in the 11th grade. This new guideline requires schools to implement a three-year program, to enhance students' English proficiency and prepare them for academic success.

I wish you and your students great success in the Bagrut exams.

Sincerely,
Dr. Elias Farah

State of Israel
Ministry of Education
The Pedagogical Secretariat
Languages Department
English Language Inspectorate

Chief Inspector, English Language Education (JH & HS)

CCs:

Dr. Tali Yaniv, Senior Director, Office of Pedagogical Affairs

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Dr. Tziona Levi, Director of the Department of Languages

District English Inspectors

National Counselors