

**HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS ISRAEL
GRANTS PROGRAM**

Instruction Sheet for Applicants

Please read the entire Application carefully before completing.

- I. Complete the application by typing or writing in black ink and submit no later than December 15, 2017. Approved grants will be distributed directly to the organization in January/February 2016.
- II. Programs must be sponsored by a recognized Jewish organization or institution and approved by the Jewish Community Federation.
- III. For applicants seeking more than \$3,500 for a year program or \$2,500 for a summer program, (parent(s) or guardian(s) must submit the first two (2) pages of his/her/their most recent U.S. Individual Income Tax Return (1040). If the applicant files a separate return, please submit the first two pages of that form as well.
- IV. Your application must be postmarked no later than December 15, 2017. It is your responsibility to check with the Jewish Community Federation office to be sure your application has been received by the December 15th deadline.
- V. Please send completed application to:

Executive Director
Jewish Community Federation of Greater Chattanooga
P.O. Box 8947
Chattanooga, TN 37414

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENT ISRAEL GRANTS PROGRAM
Program Qualifications and Guidelines

The Jewish Community Federation (JCF) makes Israel Program Grants available to local Jewish youth. The purpose of the Grants is to provide supplemental financial aid to be applied toward educational and Jewish identity-strengthening programs in Israel. The grants are in amounts up to \$3,500 for year programs and \$2,500 for summer programs per applicant (up to one-half of the program cost).

It is the intent of the JCF to encourage Jewish high school and college-age students to visit Israel. This partial grant reflects the Federation's desire to increase the number of those who will have the opportunity to go to Israel.

Grants will be awarded primarily on merit based upon the applicant's motivations and achievements as measured by the response to the applicant's questions and to personal interview(s) with the selection committee.

Special additional financial assistance may be available. A review of the applicant's financial situation will be requested from the Executive Director of the JCF. Applicants seeking more than \$3,500 for year programs and \$2,500 for summer programs must submit the first two pages of their parent(s) or guardian(s) last years' U.S. Individual Income Tax Return (1040). If the applicant filed a separate return, the first two pages of that form must be submitted as well.

To be eligible for a JCF Grant, the applicant must:

- I. Be at least a rising sophomore in a secondary school which is located within the geographic area served by the JCF; and
- II. Have resided in the geographic area (except college students) served by the JCF for the school year immediately preceding departure for Israel; and
- III. Reside within the geographic area (except college students) served by the JCF for a minimum period of twelve (12) months beginning upon return from Israel; and
- IV. Submit, with the application a proposed service project in any Jewish community to be completed in the 12 months after the Israel program. This may include volunteer activities with any Jewish religious institution, Federation or Jewish organization.
- V. Belong to a family whose head(s) [parent(s) or guardian(s)]:
 - A. Have contributed to the JCF during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the submission of the grant request; and
 - B. Are in financially current standing with the JCF and use the grant in the calendar year it is awarded for a program in Israel which is sponsored by an educational or religious organization and which is approved by the Israel Program Committee and/or the Executive Director of the JCF. The current programs approved are sponsored by:

B'nei Akiva
Betar
B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO)
Council of Jewish Federations PROJECT OTZMA
Habonim Dror of North America
Jewish Community Centers
High School in Israel
Kibbutz Aliyah Desk
March of the Living
MASADA
Livnot U'lehibanot
National Conference of Synagogue Youth

National Council of Young Israel
National Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY)
Ramah
United Synagogue Youth (USY)
Young Judaea

VI. Grant Recipients agree to:

- A. Read at least one approved book relating to Israel before leaving for Israel;
- B. Maintain a daily journal while in Israel;
- C. Report on the trip to the JCF Board of Directors (if requested);
- D. Write an article for the *Shofar* based upon the daily journal;
- E. Be prepared to report to various groups (BBYO, Synagogue, Religious Schools and Youth Groups, etc.); and
- F. Participate in an approved service project in any Jewish community.

VII. Each person may receive an Israel Grant ONE TIME -- either in high school or college.

The difference in cost between the program chosen and the grant from the JCF will be the responsibility of the person requesting the grant. It will be agreed before that if a grant is made but unused for any reason during the year, the money, if advanced, will be returned within thirty (30) days of request to the Jewish Community Federation.

The Jewish Community Federation retains the right to limit the number of Israel Grants awarded each calendar year.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of the young person(s) granted funds will be required to sign a Liability Release.

A letter of recommendation from an adult other than a family member of the applicant's family must be included with the application. The person preparing the recommendation should be knowledgeable about the applicant's ability to participate in such a program, basing comments on past performance in the Jewish Community and knowledge of the applicant's objectives.

Israel program qualifications, guidelines and application forms are available at the Jewish Community Federation office, 493-0270. Applications must be submitted by December 15 for the following year in which the trip is planned.

*Project OTZMA participants will receive \$2500.00.

P. IF YOU HAVE SIBLINGS WHO ARE PRESENTLY ATTENDING A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY, PLEASE SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION. *(Attach an additional sheet if necessary.):*

NAME _____	NAME OF SCHOOL _____
YEAR IN SCHOOL _____	PROGRAM* _____
NAME _____	NAME OF SCHOOL _____
YEAR IN SCHOOL _____	PROGRAM* _____

*e.g., B.A., Ph.D., M.D., etc.

Q. FAMILY CONGREGATIONAL AFFILIATION _____

R. DO YOU OR YOUR FAMILY CONTRIBUTE TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FEDERATION CAMPAIGN?
YOU: YES _____ NO _____ FAMILY YES _____ NO _____

II. THE PROGRAM

A. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF ISRAEL PROGRAM _____

B. NAME OF SPONSORING ORGANIZATION _____

C. DATES OF PROGRAM _____

D. PLEASE DESCRIBE BRIEFLY THE PROGRAM FOR WHICH YOU ARE REQUESTING A GRANT. *(Attach a brochure of the program if you have one.)*

E. PLEASE EXPLAIN BRIEFLY WHY YOU WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM AND WHAT YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH. *(Attach an additional sheet if necessary.)*

III. FINANCIAL DATA

A. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COSTS OF THIS PROGRAM IN DETAIL. *(Attach an additional sheet if necessary.)*

B. WILL YOU BE RECEIVING ANY OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM? IF YES, PLEASE INDICATE IN DETAIL THE SOURCE AND AMOUNTS. *(Attach an additional sheet if necessary.)*

C. PLEASE STATE THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF THE GRANT YOU ARE REQUESTING TO HELP MEET THE EXPENSES OF THE PROGRAM. \$ _____

IV. ACTIVITIES

A. PLEASE DESCRIBE BRIEFLY YOUR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE. *(Attach an additional sheet if necessary.)*

B. PLEASE DESCRIBE BRIEFLY YOUR JEWISH EDUCATION AND ACTIVITIES IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY. *(Attach an additional sheet if necessary.)*

**ISRAEL GRANTS
ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID REQUEST FORM**

I. PLEASE STATE THE DOLLAR AMOUNT YOU HOPE TO RECEIVE IN ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID TO MEET THE EXPENSES OF THE PROGRAM. \$ _____

II. *FINANCIAL NEED WITHIN THE FAMILY UNIT IS CONSIDERED IN AWARDING GRANTS. PLEASE EXPLAIN IN DETAIL THOSE FINANCIAL CONDITIONS WHICH YOU FEEL SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. (*Attach an additional sheet if necessary. All information is held in complete confidence.)*)

III.*DOES THE FAMILY RECEIVE CHILD SUPPORT? YES _____ NO _____ IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS AND AMOUNTS.

IV. *PLEASE SUPPLY FINANCIAL DATA FROM YOUR MOST RECENT TAX RETURN (FORM 1040).

A. ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME - FAMILY \$ _____

B. TAXABLE INCOME - FAMILY \$ _____

C. TOTAL FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES PAID - FAMILY \$ _____

D. TOTAL ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS - FAMILY \$ _____

(Attach the first two (2) pages of your most recent Form 1040.)

**JEWISH COMMUNITY FEDERATION
TEEN ISRAEL GRANT
LIABILITY RELEASE**

The Jewish Community Federation has made available to the child of the undersigned parent(s) a cash grant for use during _____ to help defray the cost of attending an approved recognized Israel experience. By accepting such grant, the undersigned parent(s), for themselves, their child and their respective heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, acknowledge and agree that the Jewish Community Federation, its agents and employees, shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage to the person or property of them or their child that may occur in connection with, or arising out of, the trip to Israel, and further agree not to assert any claim of any nature against the Jewish Community Federation or its agents and employee arising therefrom.

STUDENT'S NAME *(Please print)*

(SEAL)
SIGNATURE OF FATHER/GUARDIAN*

(SEAL)
SIGNATURE OF MOTHER/GUARDIAN*

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS
____ DAY OF _____, 20 ____

NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES _____

**If guardian, please attach guardianship documentation.*

RECOMMENDATIONS

FORWARD THE ATTACHED RECOMMENDATION FORM TO A PERSON WHO CAN ATTEST TO YOUR PERSONAL CHARACTER. RECOMMENDATIONS MAY INCLUDE RABBIS, YOUTH ADVISORS, TEACHERS, ETC. (*Attach an additional sheet if necessary.*)

ALL INFORMATION STATED ABOVE IS, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, ACCURATE AND COMPLETE.

DATE

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

CHECKLIST

HAVE YOU DONE THE FOLLOWING:

_____ FULLY COMPLETED THE APPLICATION FORM?

_____ SIGNED THE APPLICATION FORM (*must be signed by parent or guardian and applicant*)?

_____ ENCLOSED THE FIRST TWO (2) PAGES OF THE MOST RECENT FORM 1040 (*for participants requesting additional financial aid*)?

_____ SIGNED THE LIABILITY RELEASE?

_____ SENT RECOMMENDATION FORM TO APPROPRIATE PERSON?

CONFIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATION FORM

APPLICANT'S NAME _____ DATE _____

NAME OF PROGRAM _____

DEAR _____
(Name of Person Providing Recommendation)

THE ABOVE-NAMED APPLICANT FOR A JEWISH COMMUNITY FEDERATION ISRAEL GRANT'S PROGRAM HAS PROVIDED YOUR NAME AS ONE WHO IS ABLE TO ATTEST TO HIS/HER PERSONAL CHARACTER AND/OR ABILITIES. PLEASE REPLY DIRECTLY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT THE ADDRESS BELOW BY DECEMBER 15. ALL INFORMATION SUPPLIED WILL BE HELD IN STRICT CONFIDENCE. *(Attach an additional sheet if necessary.)*

SIGNED _____

TYPE OR PRINT NAME _____

TITLE *(if relevant)* _____

ADDRESS _____

MAIL TO:

Executive Director
Jewish Community Federation
P.O. Box 8947
Chattanooga, TN 37414