Israel Scholarships

UJA-Federation of New York's Israel Experience Center believes that Israel experiences are one of the best ways to strengthen Jewish identity and create deeper connections to the global Jewish community. We aim to make Israel experiences available and accessible to all teens and young adults in New York City, Westchester, and Long Island. Scholarships provided by the Israel Experience Center help teens and young adults afford life-changing Israel adventures. We encourage New York teens and young adults to experience all that Israel has to offer.

Who is eligible for scholarships?

> Permanent residents of New York City and Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester counties.
> **For teen programs:** High school students in 10th through 12th grades interested in a teen travel program approved by UJA-Federation. Israel programs for teens require a four-week minimum. Teen applicants are eligible for merit scholarships and need-based financial assistance opportunities. **For young adult programs:** Individuals between the ages of 18 and 30 interested in a young adult travel program approved by UJA-Federation. Israel programs for young adults require a two-week minimum. Young adult applicants are eligible for need-based financial assistance only.

What are the 2017-2018 deadlines?

Providers and nominating agencies must submit their applicants to the Israel Experience Center by the following seasonal deadlines.

> **December 1, 2017** – Winter 2017 program applicants (need-based applicants only)
> **January 26, 2018** – Spring and Summer 2018 program applicants (need-based applicants only)
> **April 20, 2018** – Summer 2018 program applicants (need-based and merit applicants)

We cannot accept late submissions.

How will I know if I received a scholarship?

UJA-Federation's Jewish Life Department will review all applicant information and confirm eligibility with the Israel program providers.

If approved for a scholarship, you will receive e-mail correspondence of confirmation from your selected program informing you of the scholarship assistance level provided by UJA-Federation. Scholarship checks will be sent by UJA-Federation directly to the program providers, who will be responsible for allocating the scholarships to the applicants.

What are additional scholarship sources available to me?

Applicants should apply to any scholarship funds that are available through their Israel program provider. Please contact your provider directly to learn about additional opportunities, including those available through other New York agencies and institutions.

The children of current employees of UJA-Federation of New York may also apply for a limited number of **employee incentive grants.** UJA-Federation employees: please e-mail israelctr@ujafedny.org for more information.

What about gap year programs and long-term Israel experiences?

UJA-Federation of New York is unable to provide financial assistance for gap year and long-term programs in Israel, such as university programs, post-high school gap year programs, and yeshivot/seminary learning programs. If you have questions about financial assistance scholarships for these young adult programs, please contact your Israel program provider directly. Also, we encourage you to contact MASA Israel, who provides scholarships and connections to short and long term Israel programs for Jewish young adults.

What if I have questions?

If you have questions about need-based financial assistance scholarships for teens and young adults, please contact your Israel program provider. If you have questions about merit awards for teens only, please contact your New York synagogue or local Jewish Community Center.

Interested in Taglit-Birthright Israel?

Taglit-Birthright Israel trips are for college students and young adults ages 18 to 27 who have not previously participated in a peer-led Israel experience. Learn more about applying for a trip through Taglit-Birthright Israel and about UJA-Federation's Zankel Taglit-Birthright Israel trips for young adults.