

BELFER TEEN FELLOWSHIP



MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TEEN ISRAEL PROGRAMS

The Israel Experience Center provides merit scholarships to teens looking to travel to Israel this summer on an immersive Jewish experience. Our goal is to award teens who display leadership potential and a strong commitment to community.

If you're a New York-area high school student who's planning to join an accredited, immersive Jewish experience in Israel this summer, we encourage you to apply! A limited number of scholarships of at least \$1,000 are available.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS?

- High school students
- Permanent residents in UJA-Federation's catchment area: New York City, Westchester, or Long Island
- Prospective participants in an accredited teen Israel program (see below for a list of accredited programs)
- Teens who have never received a merit scholarship from UJA

ARE THERE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP?

- **Community Service Project:** Merit award recipients are expected to complete a community service project following their Israel summer experience. These projects can be developed with a synagogue, day school, or nonprofit organization in New York City, Westchester, or Long Island.
- **Share Your Experience:** Students are required to share their experience by writing a one-page essay upon completion of their program. Scholarship recipients are also required to post two images from their trip to social media upon their return with the hashtag #UJABelferFellow. Essays and images should be mailed to israelctr@ujafedny.org.

WHAT'S THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

- Teens complete an application that includes three short essay questions. Click [here](#) for the application.
- All applicants must be recommended by a rabbi, teacher, JCC staff, or other Jewish nonprofit professional to be considered for a scholarship. Recommendation letters should be emailed by the recommender directly to ISRAELCTR@UJAFEDNY.ORG with the teen's **first and last name** in the subject line.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF I RECEIVE A SCHOLARSHIP?

- A scholarship committee at UJA will make the final decisions on the awarding of merit scholarships. These decisions will be shared with teens by the beginning of May via email. Scholarship awards are made directly to the program provider.

WHICH PROGRAMS ARE ACCREDITED?

[Alexander Muss: High School in Israel](#)
[BBYO: Israel Journey PLUS and Trek Israel PLUS](#)
[Bnei Akiva: Mach Hach B'aretz](#)
[Camp Morasha: SULAM](#)
[Camp Yavneh: Na'aleh Summer in Israel](#)
[Chabad of Canarsie: Camp YTT](#)
[Colel Chabad: Young Shluchim Summer Program](#)
[Eli and Bessie Cohen Camps: Dor L'Dor Habonim Dror North America: MBI \(Machaneh Bonim Israel\)](#)
[Friends of Israel Scouts, Inc. – Tzofim: Chetz V'Keshet iLead Experience](#)
[Kol Hanearim](#)
[NCSY: GIVE, Israel ID, Kollel, Michlelet](#)
[NFTY in Israel](#)
[NJY Camps: TAC Israel](#)
[Ramah Israel: Ramah Israel Seminar, TRY](#)
[The Koby Mandell Foundation: Camp Koby Summer in Israel Experience](#)
[USY: Israel Pilgrimage and Israel Pilgrimage Ltakayn Olam](#)
[Yad B'Yad Yachad Israel Experience](#)

If you have any questions regarding merit scholarships, please contact the Israel Experience Center at ISRAELCTR@UJAFEDNY.ORG.

Other programs may be eligible for accreditation. Please reach out directly to ISRAELCTR@UJAFEDNY.ORG to see if your program is eligible.

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