

Questions and Answers about Ohav Shalom Scholarships

What's the purpose of these scholarships?

Scholarships were established to encourage young people to participate in an intensive Jewish summer program, a Jewish camp program, or a trip to Israel. Typically, USY-on-Wheels, trips to Poland and Israel, USY Encampment, and other Jewish camp experiences have been funded.

Will scholarships from the various named Scholarship funds be available for trips to Israel?

Ohav is fortunate to have named scholarships that offer funding for Jewish enrichment in Israel. We encourage families to consider the many opportunities for young people to spend the summer in Israel. The families who generously established these named scholarships are delighted to support the summer in Israel experience.

Who is eligible for a scholarship?

Any child of an Ohav Shalom full member in good standing as of December 2026, is eligible to apply.

Why should parents encourage their children to apply for an Ohav general scholarship?

The scholarships exist to help young people access meaningful Jewish experiences that will bring them closer to Judaism. While the scholarship is not intended to pay for the entire Jewish enrichment experience, we want our youth to know that supporting them is extremely important to the congregation.

Where does Ohav obtain money for the general scholarships?

Funds for these scholarships are generally provided by Mens' Club, Rabbi Dan's Discretionary Funds, the Minyan Fund, and donations from congregants.

What's the difference between a "named" scholarship and a general scholarship?

The named scholarships were established by congregants and are subject to specific requirements and approval by the funders. They are generally awarded to High School students who exhibit outstanding qualities such as leadership, personal merit, Judaic study, and service to the congregation, USY and/or the Jewish community. Financial need may also be considered. Some funds are limited to students in a specific grade. An essay demonstrating the above qualities, **written by the student**, must accompany the completed application. If students are applying for a named scholarship, the Scholarship Committee can assist in matching him/her with the best scholarship to support the specific summer experience.

General scholarship applicants only need to complete the application to be considered for funding.

Where can application be found?

Applications are available on the Ohav website. In addition you can obtain a copy from the synagogue office or Sheila Lobel.

What is the deadline for submission?

March 26, 2027

How should an application be submitted?

An electronic submission is preferred. Either re-type and email the application, or print, complete, scan, and send via email. A separate essay, written by the student, must accompany the general application if he/she is applying for a named scholarship. Applications must be sent to Sheila Lobel or dropped off in the temple office by March 26, 2027

Once I apply for a scholarship, what happens next?

The Scholarship Committee will meet in April to review applications and families will be notified in early May.

Can I apply for a Scholarship if I received one last year?

Absolutely!

Are there other community scholarships available?

The United Jewish Federation of N.E. New York has scholarships available that are need based. If you apply for one of these scholarships, it will not affect your application for an Ohav scholarship. To apply for a Federation scholarship, contact www.jewishfedny.org or call the Federation office for details and assistance.

Further questions or assistance?

Contact Sheila (scholarships@ohavshalom.com) or the Ohav office (489-4706).