



Information for Parents Seeking Youth Scholarships for Jewish Summer Camp or Israel Programs

Sending your child to participate in a Jewish overnight summer camp or Israel program is a wonderful gift for your child that lasts a lifetime – providing a lifetime of beautiful Jewish memories, identity-building experiences, spiritual connections and lasting friendships. Temple Sinai encourages our children and teenagers to participate in these programs. We are also very aware that these programs are expensive, and that many families seek financial assistance for these experiences. Our congregation understands this challenge, and is committed to assisting families as much as possible. Thanks to the vision and commitment of our overall membership, Temple Sinai can provide limited scholarships for children who participate; in addition, we can also direct families to other organizations for further assistance.

If you are seeking a scholarship for Jewish overnight summer camp or Israel:

1. Contact Rabbi Vogel or our executive director Linda Katz, to express your interest in a scholarship from Temple Sinai.

For students attending any Jewish summer overnight camp, our congregation is fortunate to be able to provide scholarships up to \$250 per camper.

(This funding comes from the following scholarship endowment funds held by Temple Sinai: the Kallen Leaders Fund, the Rabbi Frank & Beth Waldorf Fund, the Youth Fund, and the Bernstein-Shoher Fund.)

2. Obtain the necessary forms from the camp or Israel program.

If your child is attending one of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) Camps (i.e., Camp Eisner, Camp Crane Lake or Six-Points Sci-Tech) are able to match the temple's scholarship contribution, and in some cases provide additional scholarship funds once Temple Sinai has made our own scholarship contribution.

To request a scholarship application for a URJ summer camp, please contact eisnercranelake@urj.org or call 201-722-0400. URJ camp scholarship request forms should be submitted to Temple Sinai via Linda Katz.

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3. Utilize the discount certificates already available:
 - In partnership with the URJ, Temple Sinai awards all children a \$200 gift certificate when they enter our Religious School program at Consecration, which can be applied to a URJ Jewish overnight summer camp. If you cannot locate your child's certificate form, please call the temple office.
4. For first-time campers attending any qualifying Jewish overnight summer camp, CJP (Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston) provides a \$1000 scholarship as part of their "One Happy Camper" program. Apply for this scholarship at: <http://www.jewishcamp.org/one-happy-camper>
5. For Israel programs, check with Temple Sinai to see how much your family has saved in the "Passport to Israel" savings program, sponsored by CJP. CJP and Temple Sinai contribute to families' savings accounts in this program if parents have made their annual contributions beginning in 3rd grade. Up to \$2,100 is provided per child, and can be utilized when children enroll in an Israel experience of 3 weeks or longer. For more information, see <http://www.cjp.org/our-work/israel-overseas/israel-teen-travel/the-myra-and-robert-kraft-passport-to-israel>
6. Teens who became Bar/Bat Mitzvah at Temple Sinai received a \$250 gift certificate which can be applied to a "NFTY in Israel" summer tour program (usually 5- or 6-weeks long) or another program sponsored by the Reform movement. (If you cannot find your child's certificate, please contact the temple office.)
7. Should you seek additional scholarship funds for either Jewish overnight camp or Israel programs, please call Rabbi Vogel directly at (617) 277-5888 for a strictly confidential conversation, to determine the best way to identify additional scholarship resources to address your family's needs.

It is our hope that every child in the Temple Sinai community who wishes to participate in a Jewish summer camp or on an Israel program can do so, because we know how valuable these experiences can be to help your child build her/her own rich, vibrant Jewish life.