



Important Information About Teen Israel Scholarships

- Scholarships are for teen experiences only. Gap-year experiences are not eligible for scholarship funding through this program.
- The Federation does not award retroactive scholarships.
- Scholarship recipients are required to complete volunteer service at the Federation after the conclusion of their Israel program (see application for details).
- Scholarship recipients must write one blog post and send at least five pictures for every three weeks of their program.

To be eligible for a Teen Israel Scholarship, you must:

- Be a permanent resident of Washington State.
- Participate in an Israel program that starts from the summer after ninth grade through high school graduation.
- Select an Israel program that is an educational youth/peer program (adventure travel, community service, volunteer work, study).
- Seek additional sources of scholarship funding from your synagogue (if you are affiliated) and your Israel program/sponsoring organization.
- Families must be in good standing with the Federation.

Funding Your Israel Experience

Few experiences are as transformative and fulfilling as a teen's first trip to Israel. Travel to Israel, however, is expensive, and we recommend advance planning to finance the trip. Here are some ideas:

- Start saving now! Plan to pay for at least half the cost of an Israel program. To help raise funds, open a special Israel savings account and put in a few hundred dollars each year, since a summer program can cost \$7,000 or more. Ask your child to put a portion of their birthday or bar/bat mitzvah money into this account each year.
- Plan realistically. Choose a program within your financial reach. Federation scholarships average between \$1,000 and \$3,000 and may go slightly higher in exceptional circumstances.
- Apply for a scholarship from the Federation. Please ask only for what you truly need in order to make your trip to Israel possible. This helps us to bring as many teens to Israel as we can.

FYI: Gap-Year Experiences

Young people interested in a gap-year experience can seek funding through MASA, a project of the Jewish Agency for Israel. MASA gives grants to every post-high school student who participates in an approved, long-term program in Israel for the first time! [Find out more.](#)