

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PITTSBURGH
i-connect COMMUNITY
ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

GUIDELINES

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR UJF i-connect SCHOLARSHIPS

- Permanent resident of Pittsburgh and areas served by the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh. Students attending out of state colleges are eligible if permanent residence is in the areas mentioned above. All correspondence is handled through the Pittsburgh mailing address.
- Student must be entering 9th grade or above, **unless the Israel trip is an essential component of a school curriculum.**
- Priority consideration is given to first time visitors.
- Repeat applications, up to a maximum of two trips, are considered if the purpose is to upgrade to an approved program (e.g., summer program to semester in Israel to work on a post-graduate or research program.)
- Consideration for special student programs subject to approval of the Committee.
- Minimum stay in Israel of three weeks, **unless approved by the Committee.**
- Sponsorship must be by an organization offering supervision, travel and/or study. Commitment to complete the program is required. **Scholarship is NOT available for family trips.**
- College, high school, summer work-study program or Kibbutz Ulpan programs are appropriate.
- University students applying for MASA scholarships will be considered for UJF i-connect Israel Scholarships, based on availability of funds.
- Scholarship amounts will vary depending on the length of a trip.**
Day School Trips: \$1000
21 day & over 3 weeks: \$1500

APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCEDURE

- Completed application form with photo and signature of parent/guardian.
- Signed letter of recommendation from Rabbi, youth worker, teacher, etc.
- Brochure or description of program must be provided as well as the **cost of the program.**
- Copy of letter of acceptance to program. **Scholarships will be paid directly to the trip provider.**
- Personal interview with the i-connect Scholarship Committee. At least one parent or guardian must be available to participate in the interview. Interviews will be scheduled between March 1 and June 15. Out of town students should indicate on the application form when they will be available for an interview.

- Applicants should be prepared to answer questions concerning why they want to visit Israel and why they believe the community should provide support.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR NEED SCHOLARSHIP

- Completion of all merit scholarship requirements.
- Completed need scholarship application.
- Personal interview with a staff member is required.

NOTES:

- < Jewish Federation need scholarship awards fund up to a maximum amount of \$1,000.
- < Payment of approved scholarships will be made to sponsoring organizations.
- < All completed applications will be reviewed by the i-connect Scholarship Committee.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 30, 2011

**PROGRAM FUNDS AVAILABLE ON A
FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.**