



Jewish Educational Services

An agency of The Associated

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1. CFIE, Community Fund for Israel Experiences, is a program for families seeking financial assistance for their child to travel to Israel. This scholarship is meant to assist families who have a financial need (e.g., household income under \$300,000, multiple children in day school, high medical bills). Please take this into consideration when applying.

2. Jewish Educational Services (JES) is proud to administer the Community Fund For Israel Experiences (CFIE) on behalf of THE ASSOCIATED: Jewish Federation of Baltimore.

3. Any Jewish teen in grades 9-12, or first year post high school, living in Baltimore City or Baltimore County OR a student participating in a class trip of a Jewish school located in Baltimore City or County.

4. Student must plan to travel to Israel on an educationally validated program (no family trips) that begins during the 2024 calendar year.

5. Fill out an application, even if you are only considering a trip. We do not consider applications past the deadline. If you do not end up attending, please let us know as soon as possible, so that your potential scholarship can be awarded to another student.

6. Apply anyway! Answer the question "I have Applied to the Following Israel Experience" with your first choice program. All funds will be sent directly to the school or program after you have started the program. If you are awarded a scholarship you will be asked to submit the Federal Employer ID# for the school, the correct mailing address and a copy of the letter of acceptance. If your program choice has changed since you submitted your application, you can let us know then.

7. Up to \$500 for class trips and single semester; Up to \$500 for summer programs; Up to \$1,500 for gap year programs. Gap year applicants can also apply for a merit scholarship of up to an additional \$500. Students have a lifetime cap of \$2,500.

8. Applications for Summer, Semester, and Gap Year programs will open on February 12, 2024. The deadline for these applications is Monday, March 11, 2024.

9. Priority will be given to those who have never been on an organized trip to Israel, after which they will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until the budget is met.

10. Applicants are no longer required to submit any financial or tax information. The application is now a first-come, first-serve process.

11. Each student will need to complete an application and attend at least one Israel Education Seminar.

12. The Israel Education Seminar is a meeting where you will learn about more about Israel and getting the student ready for their trip. There will be multiple offerings with different topics that you can choose from. Seminars will take place in the Spring and Summer and there will be options for single-gender or coed, as well as virtual or in-person. Receipt of the scholarship is contingent on attending at least one Israel Education Seminar.

13. All recipients of the Gap Year scholarship are eligible to apply for a Merit Scholarship.

14. In addition to the main application, applicants for the Merit Scholarship will require a form which includes an essay and a letter of recommendation. The essay will need to be at least 500 words and written in 12pt Times New Roman font, 1.5 spacing and you will upload it to your application. In addition to the essay, you will need to provide a letter of recommendation. This should come from someone unrelated to you, such as a teacher, rabbi, or youth group leader, who can speak to your character. Applications will be reviewed by a merit scholarship committee, and you will be notified if you are chosen for the award.

15. For more information or assistance, please contact Jewish Agency Senior Israeli Shlichah, Maian Rahvaltschi at mrahvaltschi@jesbaltimore.org or 410-735-5041.