

Please Note: All holidays begin at sundown the night before and end at nightfall of the final day of observance.

✡ During the Sabbath and Jewish holy days, work and other forms of activity are prohibited. Therefore, Jewish individuals may be absent from school, work, and organization activities.

✡ No person should be penalized for his/her religious observances or beliefs. We appreciate your attention to these dates. For many Jews, work, school attendance, and other activities are prohibited during holy days but not during minor festivals.

For more information: (518) 783-7800	HOLY DAY NAME	DESCRIPTION	2023-2024 (5784)	2024-2025 (5785)	2025-2026 (5786)	
HIGH HOLY DAYS Holiest days of the year	Rosh Hashanah 2 days	This two-day observance is the first of the High Holy Days, marking the beginning of the New Year and a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal. Extended synagogue services are held and, traditionally, work is restricted. Please avoid scheduling back-to-school nights or special events the evening before or on these days. Almost all Jewish students and teachers will be absent.	Night of Fri, Sept 15 – Sun, Sept 17	Night of Wed, Oct 2 – Fri, Oct 4	Night of Mon, Sept 22 – Wed, Sept 24	
	Yom Kippur 1 day	This most holy day is marked by fasting and prayer. Traditionally, work is restricted. Please avoid scheduling back-to-school nights or special events the evening before or on this day. Almost all Jewish students and teachers will be absent.	Night of Sun, Sept 24 – Mon, Sept 25	Night of Fri, Oct 11 – Sat, Oct 12	Night of Wed, Oct 1 – Thurs, Oct 2	
HOLY DAYS	Sukkot	Sukkot commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land. This is a seven-day festival with work restrictions on the first two days of the observance. Some Jewish teachers and students may be absent.	Night of Fri, Sept 29 – Fri, Oct 6	Night of Wed, Oct 16 – Wed, Oct 23	Night of Mon, Oct 6 – Mon, Oct 13	
	Shemini Atzeret	Shemini Atzeret is the eighth day of the Sukkot Festival. Simchat Torah celebrates the conclusion of the annual cycle of the reading of the Torah (the first five books of the Hebrew Bible) and the beginning of the new cycle. Traditionally, work is restricted. Some Jewish teachers and students may be absent on both days.	Night of Fri, Oct 6 – Sat, Oct 7	Night of Wed, Oct 23 – Thurs, Oct 24	Night of Mon, Oct 13 – Tues, Oct 14	
	Simchat Torah		Night of Sat, Oct 7 – Sun, Oct 8	Night of Thurs, Oct 24 – Fri, Oct 25	Night of Tues, Oct 14 – Wed, Oct 15	
MINOR FESTIVALS	Hanukkah	This is an eight-day festival of religious freedom commemorating the victory of the Maccabees and the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem. No restrictions on work or school.	1 st candle - Dec 7 – 8 th candle - Dec 14	1 st candle - Dec 25 – 8 th candle - Jan 1	1 st candle - Dec 14 – 8 th candle - Dec 22	
	Purim	Purim celebrates the salvation of the Jews of ancient Persia, through the help of Queen Esther, from a plot to destroy them. Purim begins the evening before the date listed. Please avoid scheduling special events on these evenings.	2023 Tues, Mar 7	2024 Sun, Mar 24	2025 Fri, Mar 14	2026 Tues, Mar 3
HOLY DAYS	Passover	Passover celebrates Israel’s deliverance from Egyptian bondage. On the evening before and on the first evening of Passover, Seders—ritual family dinners—are held in the home. This is an eight-day observance with work restrictions on the first two and last two days. Some Jewish teachers and students may be absent.	Night of Wed, Apr 5 – Thurs, Apr 13	Night of Mon, Apr 22 – Tues, Apr 30	Night of Sat, Apr 12 – Sun, Apr 20	Night of Wed, Apr 1 – Thurs, Apr 9
	Shavuot	Shavuot celebrates the receiving of the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai. Traditionally, work is restricted on both days. Please avoid scheduling final exams or special events on these days. Some Jewish teachers and students may be absent.	Night of Thurs, May 25 – Sat, May 27	Night of Tues, June 11 – Thurs, June 13	Night of Sun, June 1 – Tues, June 3	Night of Thurs, May 21 – Sat, May 23
COMMEMORATIVE DAYS (No restrictions on work or school)	Yom Hashoah	Holocaust Remembrance Day	Apr 18 Tues	May 6 Mon	Apr 24 Thurs	Apr 14 Tues
	Yom Hazikaron	Israel’s Memorial Day	Apr 25 Tues	May 13 Mon	Apr 30 Wed	Apr 21 Tues
	Yom Ha’atzmaut	Israel’s Independence Day	Apr 26 Wed	May 14 Tues	May 1 Thurs	Apr 22 Wed

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**A guide to planning and scheduling for schools, government,
agencies, and employers.**



Jewish Holy Days and Festivals

2023-2026

The **Community Relations** department of Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York presents this calendar in an effort to avoid scheduling conflicts and increase sensitivity in our pluralistic society. We hope it will provide guidance when scheduling dates for community events, open houses, special programs, teacher conferences, examinations, registration, assemblies, athletic events, and graduation.

There is a wide range of observances and practices within Judaism, just as within other religious communities. Some families observe more of the holy days than other families, and students should not be compared or contrasted with other Jewish students or teachers who choose to do more or less. For example, Rosh Hashanah may be observed for one or two days. Most Jewish students will observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.



Jewish Federation
of Northeastern New York

Community Relations

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