



PRESIDENT
Joel Baker

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
Steven Schimmel

April 2026

Dear Friends,

The Allocations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts is pleased to announce that we are accepting applications for fiscal period Oct.1, 2026 - Sept 30, 2027.

The goal of the allocation process is to maximize the impact of JFCM resources on the quality of Jewish life in Central Massachusetts, and around the world through national and international partners by: building a more cohesive and collaborative community; strengthening community through outreach, engagement and support; developing strong and sufficient leadership and membership for the community; and building financial resources.

JFCM invites Jewish institutions, synagogues, and Jewish community groups to apply for program grants in these priority areas.

Program funding requests will be considered based on the criteria outlined on the included Program Funding Guidelines form. We encourage you to think creatively and consider new initiatives that you believe will meet the criteria.

Please note:

Contact information for your current membership will be requested by JFCM for all Central MA allocation recipient organizations.

Current or final operating budget and completed or in-progress evaluation are required for previously funded programs.

For newly applying organizations we need a tax-exempt status letter (or for organizations that previously applied if one has been updated recently- please include it).

We may request further documentation related to Section E, [and elsewhere] on Program Funding Guidelines form.

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To maximize the dollars available for allocation, we encourage you to ensure that executive & Rabbinical leadership, and members of your board of directors, contribute to the annual campaign, and we ask that you urge your staff and general membership to do the same. Our goal is to have 100% executive & Rabbinical leadership and board participation in the annual campaign. Organizations with 100% executive & Rabbinical leadership and board giving will receive a special incentive grant. Donations can be made online by clicking onto www.jewishcentralmass.org.

Please send your completed applications to Lisa Thurlow (lthurlow@jfcmm.org) at the Federation office by 2:00 pm on **Wednesday, May 20, 2026**. This will give ample time for the committee to review all materials in advance of the Federation board meeting in June at which time the Federation governing board will approve the allocations for 2026-2027.

If you would like an opportunity to meet with the Allocations Committee prior to the submission deadline to discuss any issues, concerns, new agency directions, etc. we would be happy to do that. Please contact Lisa Thurlow lthurlow@jfcmm.org to schedule a meeting.

Reminder: For any previously funded request: we will need both the budget and evaluation of that program. The budget should be a detailed accounting with a breakdown of revenue and expenses of the final costs for a completed program or a snapshot for in-progress programs. For the evaluation, use the evaluation table from question 6 of the Application form to do a snapshot for in-progress programs or final for completed programs. Both budget and evaluation will need to be submitted with your application. Contact information for your current membership will be requested by JFCM for all Central MA allocation recipient organizations.

Please feel free to call us with any issues relating to filling out the forms or any questions about the process. We look forward to working with you in achieving our common goals of strengthening and enhancing Jewish life.

Sincerely,



Steven Schimmel
Executive Director