



**The Mission:**  
*Get Youth to Israel*

**The Problem:**  
*Money*

**The Solution:**  
*You, your synagogue  
and the JFCM work  
together to save for  
the trip!*

### Passport to Israel

is a special incentive savings plan in partnership with your synagogue and the Jewish Federation of Central Mass (JFCM). You and your synagogue combine to contribute a total of \$200 per year. Check with your synagogue for their specific policy.

The JFCM will contribute \$100 for each year the family makes a contribution to the program, paid directly to the trip sponsor at the time of the trip.



### Q & A

**Q: Who is eligible?**

**A:** Any child in grades 3 – 7 enrolled in a program of formal Jewish education whose family is a member of a participating congregation.

**Q: How much are the yearly contributions?**

**A:** The yearly per-child contribution will be:

- \$200 jointly from the family and the congregation
- \$100 from the Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts paid at the time of the Israel trip.



**Q: Can I contribute more than the joint contribution?**

**A:** Yes, you may contribute up to \$500 per year.

**Q: Am I eligible for a new signup bonus?**

**A:** Yes, Federation will provide a \$100 signup bonus.

**Q: What kind of trips will qualify for Passport funds?**

**A:** Most organized youth peer group Israel trips will qualify. Well known organizations such as BBYO, Young Judea, NFTY and USY are common sponsors but trips are not limited to these groups. Longer term post high school and college programs are also eligible. The Passport to Israel committee reserves the right to make final decisions. Private or family trips do not qualify.

**Q: Do I have to keep any records?**

**A:** No. Congregations will keep track of their families' participation and collect and acknowledge your yearly contributions and accumulated funds. The JFCM retains custody of the funds and keeps individual participant account balances. There are no taxes on the interest or growth of the money.

**Q: What if my family leaves the congregation or my child leaves the school or decides not to go on an Israel trip?**

**A:** You and the congregation will receive a full refund of all contributed funds. Interest will remain in a communal Passport fund.

**Q: Are there any specific education and/or service requirements?**

**A:** 1. Student must fulfill the Congregation's religious school requirement.  
2. During the academic year preceding the trip to Israel, the student must complete a community service project of a minimum of 10 hours (at a congregation or Federation beneficiary agency)  
3. Students are strongly encouraged to share their Israel experience, upon their return, with their peers and at programs in the community.



*Parents must be members in good standing at their Synagogues and contribute to the Federation's Annual Community Campaign. Federation Funds to support this program come from the Annual Campaign.*