JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER ORANGE COUNTY

THE JESSICA AND JACK N. BLINKOFF YOUTH TO ISRAEL
SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

The Jessica and Jack N. Blinkoff Endowment Fund was established in 1987 by Mrs. Jessica Blinkoff in memory of her late husband and in recognition of his lifetime commitment to Israel. Mrs. Blinkoff decided that a meaningful way to perpetuate this commitment was to create a permanent endowment that would provide scholarship money for young people needing financial assistance to participate in travel programs to Israel. Since its inception, the Jessica and Jack N. Blinkoff Endowment Fund provided scholarships to dozens of Orange County youth.

Mrs. Blinkoff believed that an Israel experience is an important part of young people's overall Jewish education, and one that will help our young people build a strong and meaningful Jewish life. Since 1998, the endowment fund has recognized one special teen each year by awarding one full scholarship for a summer program in Israel.

The Jessica and Jack N. Blinkoff Scholarship will be awarded to one applicant on the basis of financial need and merit. The scholarship will cover 100% of the cost, excluding spending money, of a summer program for the scholarship recipient.

***How do I apply for the Jessica and Jack N. Blinkoff Scholarship?***

You must complete the Youth to Israel scholarship application and fulfill all the requirements as described in that application. In addition to that application, the applicant and his/her parents or guardians must provide the following information:

1. **Three written references, one each from the following three categories:**
* Congregational Rabbi, or Hebrew school or day school principal
* Teacher or advisor from an extra curricular or community program of which you are currently involved-this need not necessarily be a Jewish activity.
* A recommendation of your choosing.

None of the recommendations may be written by a relative. The recommendations should speak to your personal and Jewish growth and development over the last few years, your character and integrity and why you would best represent Orange County and the Jewish Federation as a Blinkoff Scholarship recipient.

The applicant is reminded that this scholarship will be awarded based not only on financial need but also on merit. The Youth to Israel Committee will determine merit based on the following criteria: the quality and scope of your community service project, your motivations for going to Israel (as evaluated in your essay and interview) your past and present involvement in the Jewish community.

All other scholarship applicants are still eligible to receive financial aid through the Youth to Israel scholarship program. Applications from the Jessica and Jack N. Blinkoff endowment will automatically be considered for Youth to Israel Scholarships unless otherwise requested by the applicant.

If you would like to be considered for the Jessica and Jack N. Blinkoff Scholarship, please sign below and return with your Youth to Israel application, three references, and financial information.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_