

Lemsky Endowment Fund Grant Eligibility and Guidelines Teen Israel Experience/Next Stop Israel for Young Adults

Memphis Jewish Federation's Lemsky Endowment Fund was established through the generosity of the late Abe Lemsky z'l. The mission of the fund is to encourage the development of programs which build bridges between the Memphis Jewish community and Israel. The fund supports a variety of programs and activities that further this mission, including subsidies for teens (Teen Israel Experience) and young adults (Next Stop Israel for Young Adults) to participate in summer or semester programs, gap year programs, or post-college internships in Israel.

Teen Israel Experience

Teen Israel Experience applicants must:

- I. Be a rising high school junior or senior who identifies as Jewish, lives in the greater Memphis metropolitan area with Memphis as a permanent address, and has not previously received a Teen Israel Experience grant.
- II. Be registered for a recognized summer program or high school semester program in Israel whose duration is a minimum of three weeks.*
- III. Submit the online application located at <https://www.jcpmemphis.org/lemsky-endowment-fund>.
- IV. Complete and document 15 hours of community service during the academic year immediately preceding the Israel program. Service hours must be done through the auspices of a Jewish organization.
- V. Attend an MJF orientation session. Two choices of dates will be scheduled. If both session dates conflict with the Israel program itself, an alternative assignment will be offered. Parents must also attend a separate parent orientation session.
- VI. Commit to writing an essay about his or her experience in Israel and submitting a photo from the trip, to be published in the Hebrew Watchman and Jewish Community Partners' blog, jcpconnect.org.

Effective July 1, 2017, the maximum grant amount for Teen Israel Experience is \$3000 (formerly \$2500). If the total program cost exceeds \$3000, applicant must first pay his or her portion of the cost and then submit an invoice to Memphis Jewish Federation

reflecting an outstanding balance of \$3000. Grant funds may be used for program tuition only, not airfare. Memphis Jewish Federation will pay the program directly.

Additional grant funding is available for Summer 2019 for teens interested in the NFTY L'Dor V'Dor program. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the first 10 teens who register for NFTY L'Dor v'Dor are eligible for an additional grant of \$2000 toward the program cost, for a total maximum grant of \$5000.

Next Stop Israel for Young Adults

Next Stop Israel for Young Adults applicants must:

- I. Be a high school graduate age 18-32 who identifies as Jewish, lives in the greater Memphis metropolitan area with Memphis as a permanent address, and has not previously received a Next Stop Israel for Young Adults grant (formerly known as Post High School/College Israel Subsidy). Students attending undergraduate or graduate school in the greater Memphis metropolitan area who have never lived in Memphis except for the duration of their studies are ineligible for the grant.
- II. Be registered for a recognized program in Israel whose duration is a minimum of three weeks.
- III. Submit the online application located at <https://www.jcpmemphis.org/lemsky-endowment-fund>.
- IV. Commit to submitting a photo and caption from his or her Israel program, to be used by MJF for marketing purposes.

Effective July 1, 2017, the maximum grant amount for Next Stop Israel for Young Adults is \$4000 (formerly \$3500). For individuals who have previously received a Teen Israel Experience grant, the maximum grant amount for Next Stop Israel for Young Adults is \$1000. Applicant must pay a deposit to the program and then submit an invoice to Memphis Jewish Federation. Grant funds may be used for program tuition only, not airfare. Memphis Jewish Federation will pay the program directly.

Additional Needs-Based Funding

Limited additional needs-based funding is available for both teen and young adult program participants. Needs-based grants are strictly confidential. To submit an application, please visit www.jcpmemphis.org/lemsky-endowment-fund. For questions regarding needs-based funding, contact Tim Wheat at twheat@jcpmemphis.org.

For general questions about Israel program grants, contact Gila Golder at ggolder@jcpmemphis.org.

**BBYO March of the Living is the only exception to this rule. Teens participating in March of the Living are eligible to receive a Teen Israel Experience grant.*