Jewish Federation of Reading
Student Camp and Education Awards

Throughout the years, Jewish Federation of Reading has provided monetary awards to children who attended Jewish summer camp and to support students studying abroad in Israel or participating in a number of Jewish sponsored high school education programs in Israel. Several years ago, a committee was formed to help put into place a structure for the award offerings.

The Federation is proud to offer Jewish children/students, who are residents of our Berks County Jewish community, monetary awards to help support their participation in programs that nurture Jewish identity, leadership and connections with their culture, history and Israel.

Working together with our families and thanks to your campaign support, our Jewish community can help its children grow and discover a deep-seated and profound sense of what it means to them to be Jewish, while learning about themselves and the world.

If you have questions pertaining to your child/children’s eligibility for any of the offerings below, please do not hesitate to contact Brian Chartock at the Federation office at 610-921-0624.

Are you interested in helping send a camper to Jewish camp or support a student as they pursue academic study and explore their Jewish culture abroad? Please contact Laurie Waxler, Development Director at 610-921-0624.

Note: Jewish Federation of Reading is not representative of, nor does it support, any one movement of Judaism. Jewish Federation of Reading, Inc. reserves the right to discontinue one or more of these programs or limit the number and/or value of any or all of the awards at any time without prior notification to applicants.
Jewish Summer Camp Award – up to $250
Children who attend a Jewish Summer Camp may apply for an award up to $250 toward the cost of camp tuition. Applications are due no later than March 31, for the following summer. Campers will be asked to submit a photo and paragraph describing their experience to submit to our Shalom publication.

Leadership Training Award – up to $150
High school students that enroll in leadership training programs through Jewish youth movements such as BBYO (B’nai B’rith Youth Organization) or USY (United Synagogue Youth) may apply for an award up to $150 toward the cost of registration and travel. One award per student per year. Requests must be made no less than 60 days prior to the start of the training program. Please contact Brian Chartock at the Federation office at 610-921-0624 to apply.

High School Israel Experience Award – up to $250
High school students who participate in programs such as Ramah in Israel or NFTY in Israel that are designed to provide students with a meaningful and exciting Israel experience may apply for an award up to $250 toward the cost of registration and travel. Recipients will be asked to provide a current photo and write a brief article for inclusion in the Shalom newspaper (experience photos welcomed) upon your return. Deadline for application – February 15 for the following summer. Please contact Brian Chartock at the Federation office at 610-921-0624 to apply.

College and Post Graduate Study in Israel Award – up to $500
College and post-graduate students enrolled in academic study programs in Israel or who wish to pursue internship opportunities in Israel are invited to apply for awards to accredited colleges/universities up to $500. Due to the uniqueness of many internship opportunities, requests will be evaluated on an individual basis. When possible, recipients will be asked to join a Federation function (board meeting/event) and talk about their experience. Deadline for applications – 60 days prior to the start of the program. Summer programs and internships, deadline for application - May 15 for the following summer. Please contact Brian Chartock at the Federation office at 610-921-0624 to apply.

Lakin Preschool Education Award
Ages 2-Pre-Kindergarten (need-sensitive)
Jewish Federation of Reading offers a Jewish sponsored preschool, Lakin Early Education Center (JCC Preschool), located in the Education Wing of Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom in Wyomissing. Preschool offerings include programs for children 2 years through pre- Kindergarten. Need-sensitive awards are available for families through Jewish Family Service. Funding requests should be received 30 days prior to the start of the academic year. Please call Carole Robinson, Director, 610-921-0624 to apply.

- updated February, 2023 -