

The Financial Challenge for our Students

HUC-JIR is committed to expanding its student body while maintaining the highest academic standards. Financial obstacles, however, can prevent many from embarking upon a life of service to the Jewish people.

It is not unusual for our students to accumulate \$70-80,000 in debt during their years of training. Often, this debt is compounded by the additional burden of undergraduate loans; second career students, many of whom have children, can face even greater financial obligations. After graduation, a student's accumulated debt can affect career choices and force many to defer their true calling.

For students enrolled in the Israel Rabbinic program, the need is even more dramatic. In addition to scholarships, these students must receive tuition assistance for their studies at other universities as well as stipends for living expenses – incentives which are essential if we are to build a strong Progressive Movement in Israel.

Our goal therefore is to provide scholarships and stipends for every worthy student who approaches us with strong academic promise, but limited financial resources.



Today, over 80 percent of our students qualify for and receive scholarship assistance and/or financial aid. To award full tuition scholarships to these students over the course of their professional education, HUC-JIR would need to raise \$5.5 million each year or to build a scholarship endowment of close to \$110 million. To award scholarships to 100 percent of our students would require \$7 million annually or an endowment of \$140 million.

We believe that our ability to provide significant resources to students in need has a crucial impact on both the quality and numbers of students entering those professions which address the needs of our growing Reform community.

Having to rely on student loans to support myself, the generosity of the Mayerson Scholarship has been a tremendous help to me. It has not only relieved some of the pressure of my loans, but it has also enabled me to focus on my rabbinical studies without struggling to make ends meet. I am truly appreciative of the support the scholarship provides.

Shana Goldstein,
Cincinnati '04,
a recipient of the
Manuel D. and
Rhoda Mayerson
Foundation
Scholarship



How You Can Help

We are seeking *your* support to provide endowment, multi-year, and/or annual scholarship assistance to students who are enrolled in rabbinical, cantorial, education, Jewish communal service, and graduate programs.

Endow a Student: \$250,000 to endow a full tuition scholarship
\$500,000 to fully support an Israel Rabbinical Program student

Building our endowment, particularly in the area of scholarships, is vital to the future of HUC-JIR. Your gift of **\$250,000** will provide tuition for one student enrolled in our rabbinical, cantorial, education, communal service or graduate programs. Your gift of **\$500,000** will fully support an Israel Rabbinical Program student. The gift may be paid over a period of three to five years. The scholarship will be named in perpetuity with your name, in honor or memory of a loved one, or in any way you so designate.

Invest in a Student

You may choose to make a multi-year gift to invest in a student during his/her course of study at HUC-JIR. During the period of the gift, the student will bear a scholarship in your family name or the name you so designate. For example:

A GIFT OF \$100,000 : \$25,000 PER YEAR FOR FOUR YEARS = named scholarship for an Israel Rabbinical Program student

\$62,500: \$12,500 PER YEAR FOR FIVE YEARS = named scholarship for a rabbinical or cantorial student's five years of study

\$60,000: \$30,000 PER YEAR FOR TWO YEARS AND TWO SUMMERS = named scholarship for a Jewish communal service student's joint degree program with University of Southern California (social work, public administration, etc.)

\$37,500: \$12,500 PER YEAR FOR THREE YEARS = named scholarship for an education student's three years of study

\$30,000 = named scholarship for a Jewish communal service student's study over one academic year and two summers



Annual Gift for Scholarships

Your gift of **\$12,500** will provide tuition support for a student in the rabbinical, cantorial, education, communal service, or graduate program for one year. Other annual gift opportunities for scholarships, internships, and stipends include:

\$25,000 = full support for an Israel Rabbinical Program student

\$15,000 = a scholarship for a rabbinical, cantorial, or education student's Year-in-Israel study and summer ulpan

\$10,000 = a scholarship for an education student's certificate program in Adult, Family, Informal, or Day School Education

\$3,000 = a scholarship to the annual two-week Israel seminar required for Jewish communal service students

Your investment will result in a lifelong relationship with the scholarship recipient and a meaningful contribution to the Jewish community.

You will be a vital part of a student's years at HUC-JIR:

- you will be introduced to the student upon his/her acceptance to HUC-JIR
- you will be kept up-to-date as to his/her progress
- your student will keep in personal contact and can arrange to visit your congregation on an annual basis to participate in Shabbat services, religious school teaching, and/or other community events

By helping a student to receive a world class education and to join the ranks of distinguished Jewish professionals in North America, Israel, and the diaspora, you will also be prominently recognized in HUC-JIR's annual "Honor Roll of Donors," as well as in all publications and other communications which highlight the program.

Growing up in Russia, I couldn't dream of becoming a cantor. When I came to the United States with my family as a



refugee, I went to a course at Jewish Vocational Services for immigrants making career choices; everyone else was going to be a programmer, but when I said I wanted to be a cantor, that got everyone's attention! They helped me file the application forms for schools and financial aid. Getting accepted to HUC-JIR right away – during my first year in this country – was one of the greatest thrills of my life! I will never forget the letter I received saying that I would be getting a scholarship. Here I was – a new immigrant, overburdened with debt. This scholarship made the path so much easier than it would have been otherwise.

Cantor Larisa Averbakh, School of Sacred Music '02, a recipient of a Leo and Julia Forchheimer Foundation Scholarship



A great Jewish educator once taught me that it is not the answers we find but the questions we ask that help us grow and learn. At HUC-JIR I have found a place that values questions, encourages me to challenge myself and my ideas, and promotes continuous learning and growing. My teachers and classmates have provided a caring environment in order to study the great Jewish texts in history and to envision a bright Jewish future. I am thankful for the scholarships that have provided me with the opportunity to participate in this dialogue – searching for the answers and questions in Jewish Education.

Deborah Bock, Joint Masters in Jewish Education and Jewish Communal Service '03, recipient of the Marcia Burnam Scholarship and the Rabbi Harold Schulweis Scholarship

Graduate programs compete for students with scholarship money and it is unlikely that I would have been able to attend HUC-JIR if I had not received the generous Millstone Fellowship. Upon completing my Ph.D. from the School of Graduate Studies I intend to return to Romania to teach Hebrew language, Aramaic, and Judaism in the Bible Department at Emanuel University of Oradea. Being at HUC-JIR and studying the Old Testament and Rabbinic Literature with Jewish scholars has been very important for placing Christianity in its original context, something that few institutions are able to do.

Aurelian Botica, Cincinnati Ph.D. candidate from Romania, recipient of the Isadore and Goldie Millstone Fellowship



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We invite you to invest in a student at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Please contact:

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