



2019 Financial Assistance Resources for Families

CAMP HARLAM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (SCHOLARSHIP) PROGRAM –

- The **Camp Harlam Financial Assistance process begins with enrollment at camp** (<http://harlam.urjcamp.org/register/>). Although the registration deposit will be fully refunded in the event that assistance awards are less than what a family has sought, we do need confirmed enrollment before assistance can be considered. To apply for assistance from Camp Harlam, **a family must complete a Financial Assistance application (this will be an online form available in your CampInTouch account by December 1st)**.
 1. Once logged in to your CampInTouch account (setup when you registered), select “Forms/Documents” on your dashboard and choose the Financial Assistance form.
 2. In addition to the main form, we also ask all members of synagogues to access the Synagogue Participation form that is also accessible in the “Forms/Documents” section and provide it to your synagogue. This form should also be used by families requesting synagogue scholarship, but not applying for Financial Assistance through Camp Harlam.
 3. **All NEW applicants (those who *did not* submit a Financial Assistance application for the 2018 camp season) must submit 2018 tax returns by February 28th to learn of an award decision by April 1st.**
 4. **All RETURNING applicants (those who *did* submit a Financial Assistance application for the 2018 camp season) may submit 2017 taxes by December 31st to learn of an award decision by January 31st.**
 5. Financial Assistance applications are due by December 31st (or within 2 weeks of registration for campers enrolled AFTER December 31st) for both **NEW** and **RETURNING** applicants.



FAMILIES SEEKING ASSISTANCE FOR MULTIPLE CHILDREN AT CAMP –

- **Our sibling Discount was increased to \$150/\$250 (second child/each additional child) in 2016.**
- **Through the generosity of the Weidhorn Family Foundation, a \$1,000,000 endowment for scholarship has been established at Camp Harlam. This will allow us to begin awarding special Weidhorn Scholarship Program awards to families with 2, 3, 4 or 5 children at camp.** No special form needs to be completed; families interested in being considered for this program will self-identify through the online Financial Assistance application and acceptance in the Weidhorn Scholarship Program will occur during Camp Harlam’s Scholarship Committee review process. Weidhorn Scholarship Program awards are intended for families with special circumstances that make affording camp for multiple children especially difficult and those families trying to stretch to make camp possible for multiple children earlier or longer than expected. Key program details include:
 1. This is open to all families with more than one child at camp during the 2019 season in need of financial assistance.
 2. This program is meant to offer a similarly-sized gift award as the standard scholarship process, but will be renewed each year for the same or similar amount as long as the fiscal circumstances remain the same and the same number of children attend. This is intended to give families more of a long-term and reliable view of support from camp.
 3. Applicants will need to provide more insight into the specific circumstances that make being a multi-child family at camp difficult this year, and why this has both immediate and longer-term impact on their enrollment at camp. More details are in the application online.
 4. Those not awarded program gifts will automatically be funneled into our standard scholarship process (where multi-child family applications are also welcome).

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT –

- **One Happy Camper:**

One Happy Camper (OHC) is a program run by the Foundation for Jewish Camp that provides non-needs-based incentive grants for children to attend Jewish overnight camp for the first time. **The grant amount is \$1,000 for a child attending Harlam's 3½-week session and \$700 for a child attending Harlam's Introductory Experience** (in the Greater Metro West area, there are reductions in the grant amount if a sibling has ever received the grant). OHC grants are funded through a combination of the FJC and other donors and may only be available in certain Jewish communities in North America (and almost always are limited in quantity.) We are pleased to report that in 2019, Camp Harlam will once again be a donor in partnership with the FJC to fill the geographic gap if a first-time family qualifies for an OHC grant where one is not available.

FAMILIES MUST ENROLL FOR CAMP PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR THE OHC GRANTS. Once we receive notification from the Foundation for Jewish Camp of the OHC approval, the \$1,000 (or smaller grant, as appropriate) will be applied as a credit to your account. Families can apply and learn about eligibility for the OHC grants at onehappycamper.org. **There are a limited number of One Happy Camper Scholarships available so we recommend you applying as early as possible.**

- **Synagogue Scholarships:**

Many synagogues have scholarship programs to help offset the cost of camp tuition for their congregants. We often partner with congregations, particularly for those families that apply for assistance through the Camp Harlam Financial Assistance Program. A Synagogue Participation Form (now available on our website and in your CampInTouch account) is a key part of the Financial Assistance application, but you can also submit a request to your congregation independent from participating in the Camp Harlam Financial Assistance program. When a synagogue notifies us of a scholarship commitment, it will immediately be applied as a credit to your account and lessen your financial responsibility. For all families that are **members of URJ (Reform Movement) synagogues, Camp Harlam works hand-in-hand to help to leverage available funds from camp and the congregations.** Some synagogues have special scholarship funds set aside, while others may consider support on a person-by-person basis.

- **Jewish Federations:**

Many of the Jewish Federations in North America offer needs-based camp scholarships. Please contact your local Federation for information about their programs or click the appropriate links below for information about Federation camp scholarships in your area:

Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia: <https://www.jewishphilly.org/programs-services/jewish-camping/camp-scholarships>

Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley: <http://jewishlehighvalley.org/scholarships>

Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey: <http://jewishheartnj.org/camp-travel>

Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey: <http://jewishsouthjersey.org/agencies-partners/department-of-jewish-education/financial-aid>

Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest: <https://www.onehappycampernj.org/financial-incentives/greater-metrowest-scholarship/>

We are ready to help answer your questions and assist you throughout this process. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at any time, and we welcome you to first contact Cori Miller, at CMiller@URJ.org or 610-668-0423, ext. 1033 to talk through any concerns.