

2020 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)**
- Once logged in to your CampInTouch account (setup when you registered), select “Forms/Documents” on your dashboard and choose the Financial Assistance form.
- In addition to the main form, we also ask all members of synagogues to access and present the Synagogue Participation Form that is accessible in the “Forms/Documents” section to your synagogue.
- **All NEW applicants (those who *did not* submit a Financial Assistance application for the 2019 camp season) must submit 2019 tax returns by February 28th to learn of an award decision by April 1st.**
- **All RETURNING applicants (those who *did* submit a Financial Assistance application for the 2019 camp season) may submit 2018 taxes by December 31st to learn of an award decision by January 31st.**
- 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 and families with multiple children will be considered for this program 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. Open to all families with more than one child at camp during the 2020 season.
 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 financial circumstances remain the same and the same number of children attend camp. This is intended to give families more of a long-term and reliable view of support from camp.
 3. Applicants should provide 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.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT

One Happy Camper:

One Happy Camper (OHC) is a program run by the Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC) 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. We are pleased to report that in 2020, Camp Harlam will once again be a donor in partnership with the FJC to fill the geographic gap where an OHC grant is not available. **FAMILIES MUST ENROLL FOR CAMP PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR THE OHC GRANTS.** Once we receive notification from the FJC on 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 often limited numbers of OHC grants 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 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 and Other Resources:

Many 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 more info on selected programs:

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/departments-of-jewish-education/financial-aid>

Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest

<https://www.onehappycampernj.org/financial-incentives/greater-metrowest-scholarship/>

Jewish Federation of Reading

<https://readingjewishcommunity.org/home/camp>

Jewish Community Alliance of Lancaster

<https://www.jcalancaster.org/jcal.html>

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.