

PASSPORT TO ISRAEL PROGRAM

Invest in Your Child's Jewish Future with a Trip to Israel



Congregation B'nai Tikvah
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The goal of the Congregation B'nai Tikvah Passport to Israel Program [PIP] is to help students enrolled in B'nai Tikvah Religious School have an Israel experience as part of their Jewish education.

PIP provides a way for families to deposit money annually that can be used along with matching funds to pay for an educational program in Israel for their children. These funds are intended to cover a portion of the cost. Consequently, the amount of money deposited in PIP may not be enough to cover the cost of the entire trip.



ELIGIBILITY Any student attending B'nai Tikvah Religious School [Kindergarten through Chai School] or any child of a B'nai Tikvah congregant who attends a Hebrew Day/High School [for example, Solomon Schechter] is eligible to register. To remain eligible, students must continue to be enrolled in and successfully complete B'nai Tikvah Religious/Chai School or a Hebrew Day/High School.

REGISTRATION FEE Eligible students enroll in PIP when their families pay a non-refundable \$25.00 registration fee.

CONTRIBUTIONS The family of each participant should deposit a contribution of approximately \$100 into the student's account by June 1 for each fiscal year [7/1 to 6/30] the student is enrolled in PIP. Students joining the program after the first year can make retroactive payments.

MATCHING FUNDS For all eligible students who meet the requirements and are enrolled in PIP, Congregation B'nai Tikvah will match funds contributed by the participant's family up to \$600. B'nai Tikvah's matching funds remain available from the summer immediately following completion of junior year of secular high school through the end of the summer two years hence. For example, if the student completes junior year in June 1999, matching funds remain available until August 31, 2001.

The PIP Committee will make every effort to help the family secure additional matching funds from organizations such as the Jewish Federation of Middlesex County.

FUNDS DISTRIBUTION After a student has successfully completed B'nai Tikvah Religious/Chai School or a Hebrew Day/High School, the money that is in the student's account can be applied toward the cost of an Approved Israel Program [see below]. The student must request in writing that B'nai Tikvah forward the funds to the program for which he/she has been accepted at least sixty (60) days before payment is due. With this letter, the student must also include written notification of acceptance from the Israel Program. B'nai Tikvah will mail the available funds directly to the Israel Program and send a copy of the letter to the student.

DISCONTINUATION OF PARTICIPATION If the student leaves PIP and enrolls in another synagogue with a PIP, the accumulated family contribution plus interest can be transferred to the receiving synagogue upon written request of the family.

A participating family may withdraw from PIP at any time on 60 days written notice to B'nai Tikvah's PIP Administrator. If the family withdraws, the child's account is closed and their contributions and accrued interest are sent to the family; however, they forfeit any rights to matching funds from B'nai Tikvah.

ADMINISTRATION The PIP Committee administers the program. It will prepare registration forms, formulate rules and regulations for PIP, register students, open accounts for each participant, define "successful completion" of Hebrew High School, appoint a PIP administrator, and disburse funds as outlined in FUNDS DISTRIBUTION.

APPROVED ISRAEL PROGRAMS Information about approved Israel Programs is available by calling United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism at 908-925-3114.

UNUSED FUNDS Unused contributions made by participating students will be returned to them with a written request from the family, or they may be donated to PIP. Only those funds contributed by the family and accumulated interest will be refunded.

CANCELLATION OF PIP If the program is terminated, each participant will be notified in writing and money contributed by the family plus interest will be returned to the family within 60 days.

LIABILITY Neither Congregation B'nai Tikvah, its Employees, Officers, Trustees, nor Committee Members shall be liable for any action taken with respect to PIP or its assets. Furthermore, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, its Employees, Officers, Trustees, or Committee Members are not responsible for activities related to the Approved Israel Trip selected by the family nor for any activities immediately before, during, or after the Trip.

RULES AND POLICIES All rules and policies formulated with regard to PIP are an integral part of the program. The PIP committee, chaired by B'nai Tikvah's Vice President of School & Youth or designee, will review PIP annually and revise this booklet, as needed. If revised, the updated version will be distributed to participants and their families.

QUESTIONS? Contact the Vice President of School & Youth or the PIP Administrator.

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