



What is this program?

The Mandel Myers Fellowship is a unique program designed to encourage Jewish Cleveland's college students to work at Jewish overnight camp and develop into future Jewish leaders. This is a program of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and operates in partnership with Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland. This Fellowship is generously funded by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation and the David and Inez Myers Foundation. This program has two important components:

1. Learning workshops that are filled with a rich curriculum centered around applied professional and leadership development, Jewish learning explorations, and intentional networking opportunities to connect the experience of working as overnight camp counselor to career skills.
2. A college scholarship of up to \$5,500 or \$4,500 to offer future Jewish leaders a meaningful opportunity that may have previously been too financially burdensome or unaffordable.

What are the dates of the program?

The program application will be available December 29, 2025, and will close April 1, 2026. Attendance is required at three professional development workshops.

Workshop dates:

- Sunday, April 19, 2026, from 4:00-5:30PM on zoom
- Thursday, May 28, 2026, from 4:00-7:00PM at the Jewish Federation of Cleveland
- Tuesday, August 11, 2026, from 10:00AM – 1:00PM at the Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Who is this program for?

This program is for students who meet the following criteria:

1. Identify as Jewish
2. Reside in the greater Cleveland, Ohio area OR is a U.S. Resident with a signed employment contract with Camp Wise, a program of the Mandel Jewish Community Center OR is enrolled in a university or college affiliated with Cleveland Hillel or Hillel at Kent State University
3. Have a signed contract with a Jewish overnight summer camp in North America (U.S. or Canada) that is on the approved camp list below
4. Are enrolled full-time in an in-person, accredited university for Fall 2026 seeking a bachelor's or master's degree (Full-time undergraduate course load is typically 12 credit hours and for graduate students is typically 9 hours depending on the program.)

What is the scholarship amount?

First-time counselors are eligible for up to \$4,500.

Returning counselors are eligible for up to \$5,500.

To receive the full scholarship amount, participants must complete a full summer at camp (at least 8 weeks), attend all required learning workshops, and complete all required activities/projects.

Is this a needs-based scholarship?

No, this scholarship is an investment in all rising Jewish Cleveland leaders who make a commitment to being a camp counselor at an eligible camp regardless of financial situation. If you meet the criteria above, you are eligible for this scholarship.

What if my camp only offers half summer employment?

For camps that only offer half summer employment, a prorated scholarship will be awarded.

What if I am only able to work a partial summer at camp?

If you are only able to work a partial summer, please contact your camp to discuss the opportunity and a decision on acceptance into this program will be made on a case-by-case basis.

What if I am enrolled in a gap year program following my summer at camp?

For students enrolled in a gap year program, you are eligible to defer your scholarship for one year until the start of the following school year. Please contact Jessica Rosenblitt jrosenblitt@jfsa-cleveland.org for more information on this option.

When will the scholarship funds be sent?

The scholarship is split into two parts. The first half will be sent to the school in August and the second half will be sent to the school in December. Each student will be responsible for reaching out to their school's financial aid office to confirm that the Mandel Myers Fellowship Scholarship will not negatively impact any financial aid from the school or another outside source.

Do I have to complete my summer at camp to receive the scholarship?

Yes! This fellowship requires that students complete their full contract with their camp to develop all relevant skills and fulfill their commitment to camp.

Do I have to attend all learning workshops?

Yes! The learning workshops will build on each other to create a full fellowship experience. Attendance at all three learning workshops is required to receive the full scholarship. Please make every effort to attend the sessions in person, as the experience is most meaningful. Fellows who need accommodations due to absences must communicate with program coordinator, Carly H. Dunno at cdunno@jewishcleveland.org, ahead of workshop dates.

Which camps are participating in the program*?

All Habonim Camps
All Ramah Camps
All URJ Camps
All Young Judea Camps
Beber Camp
Camp Havaya
Camp Livingston
Camp Seneca Lake
Camp Stone
Camp Wise
Emma Kaufmann Camp

*Other [Foundation for Jewish Camp](#) network camps with intentional Jewish education curriculum that are not on the list above may be eligible for review.

What university campuses are affiliated with Cleveland Hillel or Hillel at Kent State University that qualify for this program?

Baldwin Wallace University
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland Institute of Art
Cleveland Institute of Music
Cleveland State University
Hiram College
John Carroll University
Kent State University
NEOMED
Oberlin College and Conservatory
Ursuline College

I have more questions, who do I ask?

For questions regarding general information about the Mandel Myers Fellowship Program, please contact Carly H. Dunno at cdunno@jewishcleveland.org. For questions regarding the application and scholarship logistics, please contact Jessica Rosenblitt jrosenblitt@jfsa-cleveland.org.

Link to apply

[Mandel Myers Fellowship Application](#)