Gift of Israel

Participation Agreement

This document is an agreement between _____
(Parent or Grandparent of Child)

on behalf of _____, and the Jewish Community
(Name of Child)

Federation of Greater Rochester, to participate in the Gift of Israel Program to provide financial resources enabling

_____ to participate in an Israel
(Name of Child)

experience program as part of her/his Jewish education.

The Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester agrees to:

1. Contribute $150.00 dollars for each year of **active family participation through the end of 10th grade** (Active participation requires a yearly minimum deposit of $150.00 dollars through the child's 10th year in school)
2. Please note, the Gift of Israel program is not a matching program. The Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester's contribution **will not exceed $150.00 dollars per active year.**

Participation requirements

1. The Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of the child live(s) in the greater Rochester area.

2. The child must be Jewish and enrolled in grade 3-6 at the time of program entry.

3. The Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of the child must make an annual contribution by May 1st of a minimum of $150.00 to the child's personal savings account at Signature Bank.

4. Families are encouraged to request support from friends and family in using the Israel savings option as a vehicle when honoring their children.

5. The funds must be used for an approved Israel program.

6. Participants are encouraged to meet with Josh Boress, the Coordinator of Teen Education and Israel Trips in order to find the most appropriate program for the child.

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7. The Federation reserves the right to discontinue the Gift of Israel program, and will notify participating families should this occur. If Gift of Israel is discontinued, the funds contributed by the family will be returned.

I have read the Gift of Israel information packet and the above guidelines and agree to these provisions. I am joining the Federation's efforts to increase the number of young people able to have a teen Israel experience as part of their Jewish education.

_____	Date	_____
Parent/Guardian		Dennis Kessler, President Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester
_____	Date	_____
Parent/Guardian		Lawrence W. Fine, Executive Director Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester
_____	Date	_____
Child		Josh Boress, Coordinator Gift of Israel Program Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester

By May 1, 2007, please return this agreement, with the Participant Account Application and initial deposit (minimum of $150.00) payable to "Jewish Community Federation FBO *Your Child's Name*" to:

Gift of Israel Program
Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester
441 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14607

If you have any questions, please contact Josh Boress: JBoress@jewishrochester.org
461-0490 x249.

Gift of Israel FAQ's
Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Gift of Israel program?

The Gift of Israel program is an Israel savings program. It allows families with children in 3rd-6th grade an opportunity, to set aside a fixed amount every year for their child to participate in a future program in Israel.

What is the family's requirement for the Gift of Israel program?

The parent or guardian is required to live in the Rochester area, and to make a minimum annual contribution of $150.00 dollars a year.

How will the Jewish Community Federation contribute to my child's Gift of Israel account?

For every year of active participation the Jewish Community Federation will contribute $150.00 dollars to your child's Gift of Israel account.

What is considered "active participation" in the Gift of Israel program?

For your child's account to be considered "active" the family must make the minimum contribution of $150.00 dollars each year by May 1st. You must contribute each year through 10th grade. Any contributions after 10th grade are optional.

Who coordinates the Gift of Israel program?

Nationally, the Gift of Israel is administered by birthright israel, an international organization which promotes Israel experiences for young people. Locally, the Gift of Israel program is coordinated by Josh Boress, Coordinator of Teen Education and Israel Trips, at the Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester.

How do I use funds from my Gift of Israel account?

Using funds is easy. Once you have chosen an **approved Israel program**, families must send a letter or tuition statement confirming the Gift of Israel enrollee's participation. Please give Jewish Education Services at least 60 days notice prior to date of payment to **approved Israel programs** to process your account. An "approved Israel program" includes all programs that: include an educational component; are organized by a non-profit, education or religious institution. Participating families are encouraged to meet with Josh Boress to choose an Israel experience that best suites your child.

Can my child use funds from their Gift of Israel account after they graduate from high school?

Yes, you may use funds from your Gift of Israel account until your child is 21 years old.

What happens if my family moves?

If your family moves away, there is a possibility to transfer your funds to a similar program in a new location. If there is no similar program, you may continue to deposit funds into your child's account, but Federation funds will only be added for the time prior to your move

What happens if we wish to exit from the Gift of Israel program?

You may withdraw the funds from your child's account and exit the program if you wish. Upon withdrawal, all rights to Federation funds are forfeited.

How can I enroll my child in the Gift of Israel program and start saving for Israel?

Enrolling is easy! All you need to do is fill out and sign the Participant Agreement Form, Participant Account Application along with your first contribution (at least $150.00 dollars), made payable to:

Gift of Israel Program
Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester
441 East Avenue
Rochester, NY
14607

For questions or more information please contact Josh Boress, Coordinator of Teen Education and Israel Trips Jboress@Jewishrochester.org or 461-0490 x249