



# Yeshivat Ashreinu

## Rules & Guidelines for Students

### 2024 - 2025

Updated 4/28/24

Dear Students of Yeshivat Ashreinu 2024-2025 and Parents,

The following Student Guide has been compiled for you as a source of information as you prepare for your upcoming Yeshivat Ashreinu experience and for ongoing reference throughout the year. **Please read this Student Guide thoroughly**, as it contains important and detailed information necessary to ensure that you come equipped with the proper knowledge, motivation and attitude necessary for a meaningful and successful year at Ashreinu.

We have an exceptional program planned for you, one that will bring our Torah to life in ways you have yet to encounter, one that will enable you to internalize the satisfaction of giving of yourself to others, and one that will show you the many varied places and faces of Eretz Yisrael!

Students and Parents, after reviewing the Rules and Guidelines **please make sure to sign your Tuition Agreement** that states that you have reviewed and understand the Rules and Guidelines.

As always, we are available to answer any questions and discuss any topic as we approach the start of the 2024-2025 year at Yeshivat Ashreinu. Please don't hesitate to contact us.

We wish you and your families a safe, healthy and fun-filled summer!

Rabbi Gotch Yudin,  
Rosh HaYeshiva

**YESHIVAT ASHREINU**

Rabbi Gotch Yudin: [ravyudin@ashreinu.org.il](mailto:ravyudin@ashreinu.org.il) 201 645 1508

Rabbi Mike Sohn: [rabbisohn@ashreinu.org.il](mailto:rabbisohn@ashreinu.org.il) 201 645 1554

(Not after 2pm EST - phones ring in Israel)

**Campus address:** Nachal Poleg 15, Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

**US mailing address:** Yeshivat Ashreinu, 400 Warwick Ave, Teaneck NJ 07666

## **Prior to Your Arrival**

### **Tuition & Financial Arrangements**

Tuition for the 2024-2025 academic year is \$28,500 plus a \$2,500 registration fee.

The recommended standard tuition payment plan is as follows:

\$2,500 - Registration Fee

\$5,700 due April 15th, 2024

\$5,700 due June 15th, 2024

\$5,700 due August 15th, 2024

\$5,700 due October 15th, 2024

\$5,700 due December 15th, 2024

**Each student will receive a Tuition Agreement from our office that needs to be signed by both parents and student. We will not admit students to the dormitory who have not financially cleared their executed tuition agreement with our office by the beginning of the academic year.**

Tuition can be paid via credit card, Chase QuickPay/Zelle, or post-dated checks. We do not accept American Express cards. Regardless of which payment method you choose, we require that full credit card details be kept on file for each student. If you default on a payment we reserve the right to charge your card.

For any inquiries regarding tuition, or to set an individualized payment plan, please contact our Executive Director, Rabbi Mike Sohn, at [rabbisohn@ashreinu.org.il](mailto:rabbisohn@ashreinu.org.il).

All checks must be submitted before your first scheduled payment and post dated accordingly. Credit cards will be charged on the date stipulated in your Tuition Agreement. If a student is not from the US, payment must be made in US dollars with a credit card or a US dollar transfer to our American or Israel bank account.

If paying tuition with checks, please make them payable to "Yeshivat Ashreinu." Checks should be sent to the following address:

Yeshivat Ashreinu  
400 Warwick Ave.  
Teaneck, NJ 07666

**If a student's payments are not up to date, as per their Tuition Agreement, the student will be considered marked "absent" from his classes which will be reflected on his end of year transcript. Additionally, his participation in Yeshiva programming may be restricted.**

## Scholarships

We realize that tuition is expensive and the year in Israel is a major undertaking. At Ashreinu, our scholarship fund is limited due to the nature of our individualized and specialized program. However, we do offer flexibility in paying off the year through payment plans that alleviates some of the financial pressure. We do our best to work with you to ensure that financial constraints will not get in the way of your son having a life changing year at Ashreinu.

In addition to a needs based Ashreinu Scholarship, there are also many other opportunities for scholarships from other organizations and programs. Please email [rabbisohn@ashreinu.org.il](mailto:rabbisohn@ashreinu.org.il) to request the "Ashreinu Scholarship Application" form as well as the "Potential Scholarships Opportunities" document.

## Group Flight

Our Group Flight will be organized through Emes Travel, a trusted provider of worldwide travel. **The group flight will be on EIAI flight LY2 - It will be departing from JFK on Tuesday afternoon, September 10th at 5:30PM and will be landing in Tel Aviv on Wednesday afternoon, September 11th at 11:00AM.** For more information and to reserve a ticket, click the following link: <https://groups.emestravel.com/ashreinu24>.

## Passports & Visas

Legally in order to enter Israel, your passport must be valid for at least six months after the date of arrival in Israel. However, in order to get a student visa, which every student needs, the student's passport must be valid for 6 months past their return date (ie: December, 2025.) The Yeshiva will be able to apply for the student visas after the students arrive in Israel. For us to do this you must send us a clear copy of his Birth Certificate before the start of the year.

If your son is under 18 on the date he arrives in Israel, you must provide a notarized letter giving Ashreinu permission to apply for his visa.

Students who have a parent or parents with Israeli citizenship are not eligible for a student visa. According to Israeli law, you must secure an Israeli passport for your son. All of this must be taken care of prior to arrival at your local Israeli Consulate in advance. Students with Israeli citizenship **MUST** obtain their army deferral prior to arriving in Israel.

## Medical Care

**American Israel Medi-Plan Inc. (AIM)** is the **mandatory provider of medical care for Yeshivat Ashreinu**. Please make sure to complete your enrollment with AIM prior to your arrival in Israel at the following link - <http://www.aim.co.il>.

AIM insurance coverage is mandatory because an AIM doctor visits the Yeshiva two times a week, as needed, for any issues that may arise. They also have an English speaking office and a network of English speaking doctors and specialists that are here to assist you 24/7. One uninsured visit to an Israeli doctor can cost more than a year of insurance through AIM! In case of illness, students should seek the guidance of our Av Bayit or Rabbi Pfeiffer so that the necessary arrangements can be made for medical care. The Yeshiva will work with AIM to schedule any relevant doctor's appointments and tests.

Please inform the Yeshiva of any pre-existing medical conditions so that the Yeshiva can adequately prepare for its students' well-being. All information will be held in strictest confidence. Please be advised that we cannot prepare for, care for, or take responsibility for any conditions about which we have not been notified. If your child has major food allergies, we will do our best to accommodate, but please take this into account as they may need extra spending money to supplement their meals.

Additionally, if the student is currently taking prescription drugs please make sure you are able to come to Israel with a year's supply (extra medicine can be stored in the Yeshiva safe) or have a way of sending him refills throughout the year, as needed. We do not recommend mailing medications to Israel.

If this is not possible, you can check with our local English speaking pharmacist, Arthur of Arthur's Natural Pharmacy, to make sure your medication is available in Israel. His whatsapp number is +972-54-564-0988. A proper paper prescription is required from your doctor and then the AIM doctor can write an Israeli prescription.

**Full immunization records are required prior to arrival.** These records are required not only for medical insurance but also for other voluntary programs the students may enroll in during the year. AIM provides flu shots at the Yeshiva for a fee before the flu season.

### **Cell Phones**

TalknSave is the recommended cell phone provider for Yeshivat Ashreinu. You may browse their website at: <https://www.talknsave.net/>

Feel free to contact TalknSave with any questions at info@talknsave.net or at 1-866-825-5672 (toll-free from USA/Canada). You can also contact our account manager directly (eitang@talknsave.net) for any specific questions you may have. TalknSave's rates for cell phone rental and usage have been significantly reduced, and adjusted to reflect the competitive nature of the market. We are aware of the numerous cheaper choices available, but we do recommend subscribing to TalknSave. TalknSave has English speaking customer service, which has proven to be extremely helpful for students in the past.

Because safety and security are our highest priority, students are required to carry their cell phones with an Israeli sim card and number with them at all times so that when necessary we can easily communicate via group messages or calls. Regardless of which provider is chosen, every student must have the ability to receive and send whatsapp messages and have a local number on their phone.

Phone use is not permitted in the Beit Midrash or during class time.

### **Yeshiva University Program**

Yeshivat Ashreinu is a member of the Yeshiva University S. Daniel Abraham Israel Program. Ashreinu students accepted to a Yeshiva University Bachelor Degree Program and enrolled in the YU Israel Program are considered YU undergraduate students and are able to obtain college credits from their time as Ashreinu as well as are eligible for all applicable state and federal financial aid programs. Please apply at <https://www.yu.edu/israel-program>

### **Touro University Israel Option**

Yeshivat Ashreinu is also a member of the Touro University Israel Option Program. Students admitted to a branch of Touro University who participate in the Israel Option Program may complete one year of their bachelor studies at Touro through the Israel Option Program at Ashreinu. For more information about admissions as well as federal and state financial aid, click here: <http://las.touro.edu/admissions--aid/>

### **MASA**

Yeshivat Ashreinu is an affiliated MASA Israel program. MASA, a joint project of the State of Israel and the Jewish Agency, provides support to educational programs in Israel that work with students from abroad. It is mandatory to apply to MASA. Additionally, MASA offers needs based scholarships. To check your eligibility for MASA scholarships, depending on your financial situation, visit <https://www.masaisrael.org/funding/grants-scholarships/>.

Students applying for an Ashreinu scholarship must complete the financial aid forms for a MASA scholarship as well. If the MASA scholarship process is not completed the Ashreinu scholarship is void. Completed MASA applications must be submitted prior to the first day of the academic year.

### **Individual Photo**

If the student did not upload a recent photo of himself with their application, please do so immediately via the Yeshiva Application website or send a picture to [michaela@ashreinu.org.il](mailto:michaela@ashreinu.org.il). The photograph should be one that closely reflects what you look like now, so we can identify you easily upon arrival.

# **Student Life On & Off Campus**

## **Roommate Requests**

Yeshivat Ashreinu dormitory rooms house 4-6 students per room. To promote camaraderie between all Ashreinu students, we will aim to set up each room so that every student is placed with one student whom he has requested, while the other students will be from a different school or neighborhood. Dorm rooms can be rearranged throughout the year at the sole discretion of the Yeshiva administration.

**Please make sure to submit your roommate request forms (which can be found on our website) no later than June 1, 2024.**

## **Dormitory**

Our campus Av and Em Bayit, as well as our madrichim, live on our campus adjacent to our dormitories and together are sources of support, companionship and practical help for our students. All students are expected to help maintain a respectful atmosphere in the dormitory – both towards their fellow students and staff members, as well as toward Yeshiva property.

Pictures or material inappropriate for a yeshiva may not be displayed in dorm rooms.

Speakers, TV screens, projectors, monitors, video game consoles, video game controllers and other large electronic items are not permitted in the dormitory. Cell phones, personal laptops and small personal electronic items are permitted.

After 11:00PM, there is no loud noise allowed, including no playing music out loud. Respecting our neighbors, neighborhood and each other is of utmost importance!

Common areas, bathrooms and garbage are cleaned and cleared routinely by our cleaning staff. Students are responsible to keep their own rooms clean and neat. Cooking is not allowed in the dorm rooms. Every room has a dorm size fridge which the students must keep clean.

Intentional damage or destructive behavior to our building or property will not be tolerated. Additionally, it is of the utmost importance that every student respects our neighbors and neighborhood, and as such must maintain quiet and calm behavior in our building and around the neighborhood **at all times**. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary actions or expulsion from the program.

## **Packages**

Letters and packages can be sent to our Campus address - Nachal Poleg 15, Ramat Beit Shemesh. However, Israel mail can be unreliable at times, as well as many parents/students have had issues with import taxes on numerous items including

medication. Therefore, it is always best to send packages by hand with people traveling to Israel. The Yeshiva is not responsible for following up on packages.

### **Security / Room Deposit**

We require each student to submit a **\$180 security deposit** by credit card before the start of the program. This deposit will be refunded at the end of the year, assuming no damage to Yeshiva property has occurred beyond normal wear and tear and no incidental expenses specific to the student were incurred.

### **Seforim / Books**

We require a **one-time payment of \$50 for seforim/books** that each student will need for the year. The Yeshiva will buy books for each student based on his individual shiur placements and personal needs. The books will be for the student to use throughout the year and to keep at the end of the year.

### **Behavior Expectations**

Drinking alcohol, smoking, gambling, clubbing, and other forms of disruptive behavior are prohibited. Drug use of any kind is prohibited and grounds for immediate dismissal from Yeshiva at the discretion of the administration. To maintain the integrity of the Yeshiva's environment, any student may be subject to a drug test, at his expense, without notice. Students who are dismissed from Ashreinu, for any reason, will still be obligated to pay the full year's standard tuition and lose their scholarships from (including but not limited to): Ashreinu, NCSY and MASA.

### **Travel Policy**

Students are not permitted to travel abroad during the academic year, except during the Pesach break. In the case of a simcha in the immediate family, parents must advise the Yeshiva administration, and students must coordinate their travel plans with a member of the Yeshiva administration in advance. If a student is receiving an Ashreinu Needs Based Scholarship, he is not allowed to travel overseas except for emergencies, Pesach and to participate in Ashreinu's optional trip to Poland.

### **Curfew**

All students must be on campus by 12:45 AM from Motzei Shabbat through Wednesday nights, and 1:15 AM on Thursday night. The madrichim take attendance at curfew to ensure that all students are safely back on campus. Failure to abide by Ashreinu's curfew can result in disciplinary actions. Ashreinu cannot take responsibility for any incidents occurring during an unauthorized activity.

### **Laundry**

Washing machines and dryers, owned and maintained by an outside company, are conveniently located on campus for student use. This past year, the cost was 10 shekel per load for the washing machine and 10 shekel per load for the dryer. You



can pay in shekel cash (coins) or by credit card via a convenient app that the washing machine company created.

### **Security of Belongings**

We urge students to keep their belongings locked in their closets. In addition, the Yeshiva has a safe for storage of passports and other valuables. The Yeshiva does not take responsibility for any lost or stolen items.

### **Parental Visits**

Parents are encouraged to visit the Yeshiva during the academic year. Whenever possible, please plan your visits to coincide with the Yeshiva's scheduled breaks, in order to maintain the integrity of our schedule. If this proves difficult, we request that you consult with the Yeshiva administration. Please limit the time your son spends away from the Yeshiva to Tuesdays, Fridays, Shabbat, plus one other day during a week. **Parental visitation forms can be found on our website.** (Parental vacations to Israel for scholarship students may jeopardize the students' Ashreinu scholarship unless there are extenuating circumstances.)

When inviting out large groups of students – as is fairly common when parents visit although not necessary - we respectfully ask that these events take place on Tuesday evenings, Friday mornings, Motzei Shabbat, or after night seder so as not to interfere with the Yeshiva's schedule.

### **Shabbat**

There are three different types of Shabbatot at Ashreinu. An In-Shabbat, an Optional-In-Shabbat and a Free-Shabbat. Students are expected to attend all Yeshiva In-Shabbatot as well as Shabbatonim. On Optional-In-Shabbatot, students can decide to stay in yeshiva or spend Shabbat elsewhere. On Free-Shabbatot, the dorms are closed and students can decide between spending Shabbat with family, Rebbeim and friends. We believe that the students' year in Israel will be enhanced greatly by spending time with different families and communities in Israel. Prior to Free-Shabbatot or if leaving on an Optional-In-Shabbat, students will be required to tell us the name and phone number of their Shabbat hosts so we may reach them in case of emergency. Students are expected to represent their families and our Yeshiva with the highest middot and participation in all shabbat activities and meals both when on campus and visiting family, friends, Rebbeim and other off campus hosts. **Students are not allowed to stay in airbnb's, empty apartments, hotels or anywhere else on shabbat that does not have adult supervision.**

### **Chesed Internships**

The Chesed Internship program is an integral part of the Ashreinu experience. Students will be prepared for their internship both as part of the general orientation they receive at the start of the academic year, as well as via internship-specific

orientations. Students will be commuting to and from their specific internships via private transportation, paid for by the Yeshiva or public transportation, reimbursed for by the Yeshiva.

Students are expected to participate in all chessed activities, and will meet regularly with our Chessed Coordinator to discuss their experiences.

### **Magan David Adom (“MADA”)**

MADA is a choice under our chessed program. This program is a tremendous time commitment for the participants. In order to offer this program the participating students are required to pay **an additional \$1,500** to MADA to cover the costs of the 8 day course at a hotel in Jerusalem, MADA gear and MADA insurance. If the student does not complete the course or fails the exam, the costs are unfortunately still incurred.

### **Tiyulim and Trips**

Tiyulim are an integral part of Ashreinu’s educational program. It is our belief that there is no better way to appreciate the beauty of the Land of Israel than by hiking, riding, climbing and swimming through our glorious Country - from Mount Hermon at the northern tip of Israel to the Eilat Mountains in the south.

Students are expected to participate in all tiyulim. Prior to each outing, the students will be briefed with instructions specific to each trip. On all outings, students must remember that Israel’s climate is hotter and often drier, and the sun is stronger than what they are accustomed to. Therefore, they must comply with the basic rules of adequate hydration, proper attire and gear (including a water knapsack), and sun protection as set forth by the staff.

### **Transportation within Israel**

Bus travel is recommended and convenient. The Ashreinu campus is located in close proximity to local and inter-city bus lines. Taxi travel with licensed and registered taxi companies is another option. It is preferable to order a taxi by phone or via the Gett Taxi app. The administration will provide the students with the phone numbers of local, reputable dispatchers.

It is prohibited to get into a taxi that does not have Israeli license plates. Additionally, hitchhiking is absolutely prohibited. The safety and security of each student at Ashreinu is our prime concern.

### **Dress Code**

In order to create a respectful environment for learning in the Beit Midrash and classrooms, students are required to wear shirts with a collar (polo shirts are fine), long “school” pants (no sweats), and shoes or sneakers (no flip-flops). On Shabbat, it

is expected that students will wear a dress shirt and slacks. Piercings are not allowed.

### **Daily Schedule**

Students are required to participate in our full educational program, including all classes, teffilot, chesed internships, and trips.

**Failure to adhere to any of the above “Student Life on Campus” protocols will jeopardize a student’s academic standing (transferrable credits) and may be grounds for dismissal.**

### **Refund Policies - Voluntary Withdrawal from the Program**

**The \$2,500 registration fee is a non-refundable deposit. If a student withdraws before the beginning of the year, he still owes the full \$2,500 non-refundable deposit.**

**If one withdraws within the first three weeks after the beginning of the school year, the full \$2,500 registration fee and 50% of the first semester tuition (\$7,125) is owed.**

**If one withdraws from Oct. 1 - November 1st, the full \$2,500 registration fee and 100% of the first semester tuition (\$14,250) is owed.**

**If one withdraws from November 2nd - December 15th, the full \$2,500 registration, 100% of the first semester tuition and 50% for the second semester (\$21,375) is owed.**

**If one withdraws from December 16th and beyond, the full \$2,500 registration fee and 100% for both semesters (\$28,500) is owed.**

Please note that there are no refunds for students who join Ashreinu after December 16th.

Ashreinu scholarships are assessed towards the second semester. Any student who leaves early for any reason forfeits his Ashreinu scholarship in full and may not receive partial payments from other scholarship sources depending on the source.

### **Dismissal from the Program**

If a student is expelled, 100% of the full standard yearly tuition of \$31,000 is due to the Yeshiva. All Ashreinu scholarships, and many scholarships from outside sources (including Masa, Oorah and NCSY) are null and void.

# Packing List

## **Kodesh Articles**

Tefillin, Talit (if applicable), 2 pairs of Tzizit, 3 Kippot

## **Seforim**

Machzorim (For Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur with English translation)

## **Electrical Appliances**

Shaver

Phone charger

Note: You will need converter's to make your electrical appliances compatible with Israeli outlets. Use of foreign appliances and converter's is at your own risk

## **Bed and Bath**

2 sets of sheets & pillowcases

1 good pillow

1 blanket

1 sleeping bag

4 bath towels

2 hand towels

Note: To save space in your luggage, many of the above items as well as other useful accessories may be ordered from Blanket Express at <http://www.blanketexpressplus.com>. Blanket Express has served our students for many years and comes highly recommended.

## **Clothing**

3 dress shirts; 3 dress pants

5 pairs of "school" pants

10 collared/polo shirts (collared shirts are part of the Beit Midrash dress code)

8 t-shirts

4 sweaters

2 hooded sweatshirts

2 pairs of sweatpants

4 pairs of shorts

2 bathing suits

1 light jacket

1 winter jacket

1 raincoat

14 pairs of underwear

10 pairs of undershirts

14 pairs of socks (dress and white)

2 belts

## **Shoes**

1 pair of casual shoes/sneakers

1 pair of slippers/sandals

1 pair dress shoes

## **Tiyulim**

1 Knapsack (30 liter minimum)

1 pair hiking shoes

1 pair closed water shoes (which are comfortable and strong enough to hike with – not Crocs)

1 water bladder/hydration pack (2 liter - like a camelbak)

2 baseball caps

## **Miscellaneous**

Sports equipment (for football, basketball, softball etc.)

2 laundry bags; 1 sock bag

A bunch of notebooks, pens and pencils

Lock for closet

Cold weather gear - if you are planning on traveling to Poland

Portable umbrella

## **Toiletries**

Hairbrush

Shampoo/Conditioner

Soap

Toothbrush/Toothpaste

Sunscreen

Deodorant

Extra pair of contact lens/glasses

Prescriptions (**written prescription from the doctor in addition to the actual medication**) and/or over-the-counter medications used regularly by the student.