NISHMAT'S MIRIAM GLAUBACH CENTER'S U.S. YOATZOT HALACHA FELLOWS PROGRAM



NISHMAT'S
MIRIAM GLAUBACH CENTER

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OUR MISSION AND VISION



Nishmat is seeking six dedicated women with extensive Torah scholarship, deep religious commitment, and leadership skills to fill the eighth Yoatzot Halacha class in the United States.

Nishmat's Miriam Glaubach Center's U.S. Yoatzot Halacha Fellows Program provides talented women based outside of Israel with the opportunity to become Yoatzot Halacha and serve communities in the Diaspora.

Education and certification as a Nishmat Yoetzet Halacha provides you with a distinct opportunity to build and support women's commitment to Jewish observance, and to increase women's comfort with asking questions about the most intimate aspects of reproductive health and halacha. Our program strives to create a uniquely supportive and stimulating environment, committed to enhancing the quality of life for observant Jewish women.

Our certified Yoatzot Halacha are equipped to answer and counsel women on the intimate and often difficult questions which arise for women observing Taharat Hamishpacha, and they are prepared to participate in halachic dialogue with rabbanim at the highest level.

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

- Fellows must enter the program with the extensive Torah scholarship and stamina necessary for the rigor of over 1,000 hours of Beit Midrash study over three summers and two years, as well as serious time spent each week beyond the official hours in order to master the demanding course of study and to excel on written exams for each unit.
- The learning is guided by a sho'el u'meishiv who is present in the Beit Midrash at each meeting, and by maggidei shiur who help our fellows develop a deep analysis of the topics, as well as a mastery of the application of the Halacha by modern day poskim.
- In addition to Torah study, fellows attend lectures by professional experts from the fields of obstetrics and gynecology, fertility, psychology and psychiatry.
- As students in YH/US, fellows develop their leadership skills with workshops on conflict management, leadership styles, negotiation training, presentation skills, fundraising, and public relations and media training.
- Students take written mastery assessments on both the Halachic and supplementary medical and mental health material. The course of study culminates with a comprehensive oral examination, followed by a mandatory supervision program. Full certification as a Yoetzet Halacha occurs only after completion of the supervision program.
- Yoatzot Halacha are expected to participate in continuing education in order to stay on the cutting edge of their dynamic work.



PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS





Given the prominent and public role Yoatzot Halacha fill within the Orthodox Jewish community, fellows must possess innate leadership abilities, paired with a deep sense of yir'at shamayim. They are highly esteemed role models for women and girls who seek an authentic, traditional form of women's Torah leadership. Fellows demonstrate their desire to develop camaraderie with their colleagues and to work together in spreading the influence of, and access to, Yoatzot Halacha throughout Jewish communities. They show a desire to give back to the community which has enabled them to gain this unique information and skill set.

PROGRAM DETAILS

REMOTE STUDY

MGC anticipates running a remote learning program so that applicants can apply from all over the U.S. and Canada. Alternatively, if all accepted applicants live in reasonable physical proximity, learning may take place in person.

MGC will also accept applicants from Europe who are fluent in English, as well as students from the Southern Hemisphere.

If the program runs remotely, students will gather in person for full day, intensive seminars four to six times during the academic year. MGC will choose the location for these seminars, based on where our fellows live. It is the fellow's responsibility to attend these seminars, even if travel is necessary.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

Fellows are expected to be present for chavruta learning and classes in the Beit Midrash and to take all written exams on time. Nishmat strongly discourages accepting speaking engagements during the two years of the fellowship, given the demanding nature of the program. Additionally, it is ideal to cut down on other professional responsibilities if financially possible, and to minimize kallah teaching during this time. Upon completion of the entire curriculum, fellows engage in comprehensive chazara and prepare for summative oral examinations with prominent Rabbanim. Our sho'el u'meishiv and program director are there to support each fellow in reaching these goals.

STIPEND

American Fellows will receive a yearly stipend.



PROGRAM DETAILS

TENTATIVE PROGRAM DATES AND LOCATIONS (IN EASTERN TIME)

June 30 – July 14, 2027 & July 3 – July 14, 2028
Seminar in Teaneck, NJ. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Summer 2028: Fridays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

July 15 – August 11, 2027 & July 17 – August 11, 2028
Continued study, either in Teaneck or remotely, utilizing our videoconferencing technology to be part of our virtual Beit Midrash. Fellows are expected to be in the Beit Midrash or Virtual Beit Midrash, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. During Summer 2028, students will also study on Fridays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

September 7, 2027 – June 22, 2028 & September 5, 2028 – June 21, 2029
12 hours of learning a week, as stipulated in our School Year Schedule.

School Year Schedule (all times are ET)
Sunday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
8 other fixed hours throughout the week TBD with input from accepted students.

June 25, 2029 – August 23, 2029
Chazara for Oral Examinations. Precise schedule and location(s) TBD.
Week of August 20th or 27th: oral examinations.

September 2029 – June 2030
Supervision

In addition to the fixed hours for learning and shiurim, fellows are expected to be available one evening per month throughout the school year and one evening per week throughout the summer for Supplementary Lectures. Calendar of dates will be shared in advance.

Note: As the learning hours are still tentative, please do not hesitate to reach out if you are a serious candidate, but anticipate conflicts with the current schedule .

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Application Deadline: January 15, 2027.

Application includes a written examination and a potential oral examination, if deemed necessary.

For applicants who qualify for an interview, interviews with program staff will be held in New York in February 2027.

We hope you will apply to be a part of this exclusive cadre of women, dedicated to strengthening Jewish marriages and deepening people's commitment to living inspired, engaged Torah lives.

For more information, please contact Yoetzet Halacha Dena Block, Co-Director of MGC, at dena@afnishmat.org.

To apply, click here.