YESHIVA
DERECH CHAIM

CATALOG

2021-2022
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OFFICERS OF YESHIVA DERECH CHAIM

President: Rabbi Moshe Plutchok
President: Rabbi Chaim Rennert
Secretary: Dr. Yehuda Sorscher
Treasurer: Rabbi Avi Geffner

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman of the Board:
Dr. Yehuda Sorscher

Board Members - Executive Committee:
Boruch Eisenreich  Rabbi Moshe Plutchok
Rabbi Avi Geffner  Rabbi Sholom Plutchok
Shamai Goldstein  Rabbi Chaim Rennert
Feive Katz  Rabbi Reuven Rennert
Yisroel Kramer  Eli Schron
Ephraim Landsberg  Rubin Schron
Shimon Levi  Betzalel Shindler
Henoch Messner  Dr. Yehuda Sorscher
Naftali Miller  Nosson Tepper
Harry H. Neuhoff  Zolly Tropper
ADMINISTRATION

Rabbi Moshe Plutchok, Rosh Yeshiva, Chief Financial Officer
Rabbi Sholom Plutchok, Rosh Yeshiva
Rabbi Reuven Rennert, Rosh Yeshiva
Rabbi Chaim Rennert, Rosh Yeshiva

Rabbi Yanky Borchardt, Financial Aid Administrator
Rabbi Avi Geffner, Executive Director
Rabbi Eliyahu Zukierman, Administrator
Rabbi Yaakov Gifter, Director of Development
Rabbi Chaim Rennert, Registrar
Mrs. Chaya Basya Heisler, Bookkeeper

FACULTY

Rabbi Moshe Plutchok, Rosh Yeshiva
Rabbi Sholom Plutchok, Rosh Yeshiva
Rabbi Reuven Rennert, Rosh Yeshiva
Rabbi Chaim Rennert, Rosh Yeshiva

The following list of faculty members appears in alphabetical order:

Rabbi Mordechai Arai
Rabbi Shmuel Zev Berniker
Rabbi Shlomo Brown
Rabbi Akiva Brun
Rabbi Simcha Geller
Rabbi Yishai Grant
Rabbi Yechezkel Gruber

Rabbi Moshe Herskowitz
Rabbi Eliezer Sholom Heisler
Rabbi Shmaya Jonas
Rabbi Shmuel Koenigsberg
Rabbi Moshe Levy
Rabbi Shlomo Nockenofsky
Rabbi Meir Platnick
Rabbi Akiva Plutchok
Rabbi Yaakov Plutchok
Rabbi Menachem Mendel Rennert
Rabbi Shalom Aharon Rennert
Rabbi Avrohom Meir Rosenblum
Rabbi Yehudah Schiff

Rabbi Moshe Wise
Rabbi Yehushua Wise
Rabbi Yitzchok Yarmush
Rabbi Aryeh Leib Zell
STATE AUTHORIZATION AND ACCREDITATION

NY State Disclaimer

Yeshiva Derech Chaim does not offer programs leading to the academic degrees authorized by the New York State Board of Regents. In Yeshiva Derech Chaim’s opinion, its studies, though different in kind, are equivalent in duration, intensity, depth of knowledge, and quality of scholarship to degree programs approved by the Regents. The credits offered by our institution measure a student’s progress toward the rabbinical degree offered by this institution. Under New York State Law, a corporation formed for religious and educational purposes which does not confer academic degrees requiring program registration by the State Education Department requires no State approval or credential in order to exist or to perform its postsecondary education functions. Yeshiva Derech Chaim falls into this category and is therefore not subject to the evaluation of the New York State Board of Regents.

Accreditation

Yeshiva Derech Chaim is accredited by the Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools (AARTS) and is approved to offer a First Talmudic degree, an Advanced Talmudic degree and a Chaver “Fellow” degree. AARTS is located at 11 Broadway Suite 405, New York, NY 10004. Their phone number is (212) 363-1991.

Copies of the NY State Exemption Letter and Letter of Accreditation can be viewed in the office during regular business hours.
INTRODUCTION TO YESHIVA DERECH CHAIM

Yeshiva Derech Chaim is one of the proud successors of the traditional European Yeshivas that have flourished throughout the centuries. It was formed as a modest offshoot of Torah Ore Seminary of Jerusalem, Israel, which was led by the world-renowned scholar and educator, Rabbi Chaim Pinchus Scheinberg ZT"L. Rosh Yeshiva (Dean) of Torah Ore Seminary, Rabbi Scheinberg ZT"L occupied a prominent place in the dissemination of Jewish education throughout the entire world.

Rabbi Scheinberg served for 25 years as a Rosh Yeshiva in the Rabbinical Seminary of America, an offshoot of the first of the great American Yeshivas, Yeshiva Torah Vodaas. In 1961-62, Rabbi Scheinberg founded the Torah Ore Seminary that he later relocated to Israel in 1965. Torah Ore Seminary has become one of the leading rabbinical colleges in Israel and today has an enrollment of approximately 400 students. It includes undergraduate and graduate divisions for higher Talmudical studies. Rabbi Scheinberg was the author of many volumes of commentary on Shulchan Orach and other subjects of Torah and Mussar (Ethics), totaling more than 25 volumes. His method of education, still in place today, is to build Torah scholars through intensive personal involvement of the teacher with each individual student. This method has become the focus and goal of Yeshiva Derech Chaim.

Two of Rabbi Scheinberg's most advanced Talmudic students were Rabbi Yisroel Plutchok and Rabbi Mordechai Rennert. After studying in the advanced Kollel (graduate division) of Torah Ore for approximately 10 years, they returned to the United States in November 1974 with the purpose of establishing a Yeshiva for students of post-high school age. They both felt that despite the large number of schools of higher Jewish learning in the United States, it was of great importance to carry out Rabbi Scheinberg's method of education. In fact, they perceived this need to establish a school patterned after Torah Ore when they were still Kollel fellows in Torah Ore and were studying with many younger American students.

Following a few months of researching various locations and a modest recruitment effort, Yeshiva Derech Chaim opened its doors in rented quarters at 4907 18th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, in April

The name of the school, Yeshiva Derech Chaim, was chosen by the Roshei Yeshiva. It comes from the same verse in Proverbs as the name “Torah Ore”. This verse describes the essential purpose of Jewish life and contains in it both phrases "Torah Ore" (the light of Torah), and “Derech Chaim”, (the path of life), both of which may be acquired through the study of Torah and its practical applications.

Yeshiva Derech Chaim strives to produce a student who aims to reach for the highest level of his personal potential. Great emphasis in the educational process is placed on scholarship, character building, self-discipline, diligence in pursuing educational achievement, and strong commitment to true values and ideals.

Yeshiva Derech Chaim feels that students who are well educated in Torah and Talmud and possess high moral and ethical principles will be great assets to the community at large, preferably as educators and Rabbis, but as professionals and businessmen as well.

COVID-19

Any updates or changes that may arise during the course of the year due to COVID-19 will be communicated to the students. Students should refer to the school’s website, www.ydc.edu for the most updated information.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Yeshiva Derech Chaim offers the following three academic programs: a five year undergraduate program leading to a First Talmudic Degree, a five year graduate program culminating in an Advanced Talmudic Degree, and a five year postgraduate program culminating in a Chaver “Fellow” Degree in Talmudic Scholarship. Admission to graduate programs is open to students who have completed a
recognized undergraduate program in Talmudic studies or its equivalent as determined by the Roshei Yeshiva.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In order to initiate the application process, we encourage qualified students to write to the Yeshiva at:

Yeshiva Derech Chaim
1573 39th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11218
(718) 438-5476

To qualify for admission to the Yeshiva's undergraduate division each candidate must meet one of the following requirements:

1. Have graduated high school and provide evidence of high school graduation
2. Have been homeschooled and provide documentation of homeschooling
3. Meet one of the recognized equivalents. Recognized equivalents include:
   a. GED/TASC/HISET
   b. Successful completion of an associate’s degree program;
   c. Successful completion of at least 60 semester or trimester credit hours or 72 quarter credit hours that does not result in the awarding of an associate’s degree, but that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor’s degree at any institution; or
   d. Enrollment in a bachelor’s degree program where at least 60 semester or trimester credit hours or 72 quarter credit hours have been successfully completed, including credit hours transferred into the bachelor’s degree program.
Yeshiva Derech Chaim does not utilize an Ability to Benefit test for admitting students.

Students must also:

A. Provide references from his previous school.
B. Have an interview with the Roshei Yeshiva.
C. Be tested by a Rebbe of the Yeshiva.
D. Meet the following minimum requirements:

**Talmud:** The ability to independently comprehend basic Talmudic text and the completion of 150 folios of Talmud with the commentary of Rashi.

**Bible:** A completion of the Pentateuch and parts of the Prophets and Hagiographa.

**Language:** The ability to read and write classical Hebrew; a working knowledge of the Aramaic language of the Talmud.

To qualify for admission to the "Chaver Fellow" degree program, in addition to the above qualifications, the student must have received an Advanced Talmudic degree by YDC or a similar degree from another recognized Talmudical school, or equivalent training as determined by the Roshei Yeshiva.

If accepted for enrollment, students will be required to fill out an admission form.

**TRANSFER STUDENTS**

A student wanting to transfer from another institution of higher education to Yeshiva Derech Chaim must:
A) Provide references from his previous school;

B) Have an interview with the Roshei Yeshiva;

C) Have an examination to determine at what level he will enter Yeshiva Derech Chaim;

Credits may be granted, at the discretion of the Yeshiva, for study and courses taken at another postsecondary institution of Talmudic Studies providing the following conditions are met:

- The credits transferred must be based on course work similar in content, style and academic rigor to the one offered at the Yeshiva.
- The student must have achieved a grade that would have enabled him to pass a similar course at the Yeshiva.
- All credits must be properly documented.
- Transfer credits accepted are counted toward both the number of attempted credits and the number of credits earned by the student.

Students may be granted a block of credit for past work, upon examination. These credits are considered pass and not counted in grade average.

To earn a First Talmudic Degree at Yeshiva Derech Chaim, students must fulfill a minimum academic residency requirement of 30 credits earned at Yeshiva Derech Chaim.

Note: Yeshiva Derech Chaim does not have any articulation agreements with regard to whether we will accept credits from other institutions nor with regard to whether other institutions accept our credits. Before enrolling in our institution, please be sure that your attendance at our institution will help you reach your educational goals.

Please be advised that the transferability of credits and acceptance of the degrees earned at Yeshiva Derech Chaim are at the complete discretion of an institution to which a student may seek to transfer.
If the credits or the degrees earned at this institution are not accepted at the institution to which a student seeks to transfer, he may be required to repeat some or all of the coursework at that institution.

**PHYSICAL ACCOMMODATIONS**

Yeshiva Derech Chaim is located at 1573 39th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. The building contains a study hall, offices, classrooms, dining hall and dormitory facilities, all under one roof.

Additional classes are given at 555 Ocean Parkway and 3838 Flatlands Avenue.

Yeshiva Derech Chaim has limited facilities available to accommodate handicapped students. However, every effort is made to provide reasonable assistance to qualified handicapped students. A ramp for wheelchair access is available for use from the entrance on 39th Street.

**LIBRARY**

The library of Yeshiva Derech Chaim is located on the main Bais Hamedrash floor, and the bookshelves are filled to capacity. There is an additional annex of bookcases on the second floor in the Ezras Nashim area. At present, there are approximately 7,500 volumes in the YDC library, and it is constantly growing.

Books of many topics are available with great emphasis placed on the texts that are used concurrently with the Talmudic tractate being studied.

The library is divided neatly according to the following major headings:

1. **Bible** - with all major commentaries. This also includes Medrashic volumes and specialized biblical topics.
2. **Talmud** - There are large numbers of complete sets, so that any student who wishes to use other tractates for references will have no difficulty finding a tractate for his own use.
3. **Early Talmudic Commentators** - All of the major early commentators with some being in multi volumes.
4. **Later Talmudic Commentators** - These include sets of even current commentators.

5. **Codifiers** - Many sets of all major codes including large size editions of the Mishnah Brura.

6. **Halachic Work** - Includes many works of Shailos and Tshuvos.

7. **Ethics** - including volumes of Jewish philosophical thought throughout the ages.

8. A collection of volumes that are adjuncts to intensive Talmudic study.

9. A collection of volumes in a separate section, which are, arranged specifically for the tractate that is the major study for that semester.

10. A section where students bring their own private volumes which are then stored and made accessible for the use of the entire student body.

**TEXTBOOK INFORMATION**

Yeshiva Derech Chaim offers a highly specialized program of study in Talmud and related subjects. All textbooks are readily available for use on open stacks in the study hall and school library. Students who wish to purchase their own copies of the texts studied may purchase them from one of the Judaic bookstores stores in the area.

Many students prefer to have their own Gemara and a Kovetz Miforshim which cost between $25 and $50 each, depending on the volume and publisher. Most texts used in the program are reprints of the Talmud and other classical texts that do not have ISBN numbers.

Below are the addresses of three local Judaica stores:

- **Zundel Berman Books**
  - 4602 17th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11204
  - (718) 871-5316

- **Mishor Publishing**
  - 4014 16th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11218
  - (718) 871-8652

- **Moznaim Publishers**
  - 4304 12th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11219
  - (718) 853-0525
STUDENT LIFE

In-Shabbos

Faculty and students participate in a special Shabbos program in the Yeshiva building approximately every three weeks. During this special time, the atmosphere is permeated with a feeling of camaraderie, enhanced by festive meals, divrei Torah, and singing. This further serves to strengthen the rapport between the faculty members and the students.

Although Yeshiva studies take up the bulk of their time, students are nevertheless encouraged to support the broader community. Should the need arise, they are encouraged to join a minyan in a shiva house, participate in a blood drive, or provide general assistance to the best of their ability.

Counseling

Our Rebbeim are available to the students, at any time, to discuss, guide or even just to listen, regarding any matter that might arise.

Tutoring

The Yeshiva will coordinate tutoring services for any student who requires them.

Health Services

There is a first aid kit on premises for any minor health issue. David Rosenfeld, P.A., an alumnus of the Yeshiva, is available whenever possible upon call. The office staff will also recommend local doctors such as Dr. David Ziemba and Dr. Max Bulmash when needed.
**GRADING POINT SYSTEM**

The grading of academic performance followed at Yeshiva Derech Chaim is based on a combination of criteria. These include a careful evaluation by the faculty of the student’s growth in learning based on first hand interaction with the student, the student's participation and contribution to the Shiur, progress in Chavrusa study, oral exams and overall Hasmoda.

The following letter grades are used at Yeshiva Derech Chaim, even though the grades themselves are only a proxy measure of the student's quality of work:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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The GPA is established by multiplying the grade point equivalent of each course by the number of credits it yields. The products of each course are then added together. The sum is then divided by the total number of credits earned in the semester.

Credit hours with a grade of Incomplete and Withdrawn are not included in the determination of the grade point average, although those hours with a grade of Fail are included.

**Sample GPA Calculation:**

\[
\text{A-} \times 3.7 = 22.2 \\
\text{B+} \times 3.3 = 13.2
\]
1 (credits) $\times$ 2.0 $= 2.0$

A 1 (credits) $\times$ 4.0 $= 4.0$

12 (credits) 41.4

Divided by 12 Credits for the Semester = 3.45 GPA

**TUITION AND FEES**

*For the current schedule of tuition and fees, please refer to the yearly supplement of the catalog.*

**AVAILABILITY OF FULL TIME EMPLOYEE TO ASSIST ENROLLED AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS**

Yeshiva Derech Chaim has designated Rabbi Yanki Borchardt, Financial Aid Administrator, as the full time employee available to assist enrolled and prospective students in obtaining information on financial aid programs available, criteria for eligibility, and procedure for applying for financial aid, cost of attendance, retention rates, completion and transfer rates, institutional security and crime statistics, and all required disclosures and information, as required by 668.42, 668.43, 668.45 and 668.46 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations. He can be reached in the business office during regular business hours, or by calling 718-438-5476 ext. 200.

**FINANCIAL AID**

Yeshiva Derech Chaim utilizes the services of Higher Education Compliance and Management, a financial aid consulting firm with many years of experience in the field. Yeshiva Derech Chaim offers a variety of federal and state financial aid programs to its students. Higher Education Compliance and Management oversees administration of the programs.

Any student who has difficulty in meeting his educational costs at Yeshiva Derech Chaim should make contact Rabbi Yanki Borchardt, Financial Aid Administrator, to learn about the options
available to him. These may include grants, scholarships, work-study programs and deferred payment plans.

The financial aid office, which is open during regular business hours, will make a determination as to the expected amount to be paid by the student and his family, and will evaluate what federal and state aid, if any, may be available to the student.

Financial aid packages that may be offered to students include grants and work-study jobs. The school may also offer financial assistance in the form of institutional scholarships to needy students as long as scholarship funds are available. Eligibility for federal programs is determined by an evaluation of the student’s financial need, based strictly on the formulas developed by the Department of Education.

A student’s financial need is determined by subtracting the contributions expected from the student and his parents from the total cost of education. The total financial aid awarded to a student, usually cannot exceed the student’s need. This process is explained in greater detail below.

In order to qualify for federal financial aid programs, a student must:

- be enrolled in an eligible program;
- be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident of the U.S., or eligible non-citizen;
- utilize all assistance funds for education-related expenses;
- maintain satisfactory progress toward completion of a program of study;
- be a high school graduate or the recognized equivalent;
- sign the certification statement that he does not owe a refund to any Title IV program, and is not in default on any Title IV loan. This certification is located in step seven of the FAFSA.
APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

To apply for financial aid, a prospective student should complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form is available at the financial aid office. Alternatively, the student can submit his application through FAFSA on the Web at www.FAFSA.ed.gov.

Students may be required to supply additional documentation, such as Tax Returns/IRS Tax Transcripts or Verification Worksheets, to verify the information reported on the FAFSA.

Awards are made for one academic year at a time, and are not automatically renewable. Students must reapply each year before the appropriate deadline.

FINANCIAL AID NEED

Title IV federal program eligibility is based on a process called Needs Analysis. The following is a brief explanation of Needs Analysis.

First, a determination is made as to whether the students are independent or dependent on their parents. There are several factors that are taken into account. Students should carefully read the FAFSA and its instructions. Should the students have questions determining their status, the financial aid staff can provide further explanation.

If the student is determined to be dependent on his parents, a parental contribution is assessed. This is the amount that the parents are expected to pay, based on their income and available assets. Allowances are made for expenses such as living allowance based on family size, taxes paid, and the number of children in college.

The students themselves are expected to contribute towards their education, using their earnings, if applicable. The students’ assets (such as savings) are generally considered to be available for the
purpose of their education and are expected to be divided among their years of post-secondary education.

The Parental Contribution, where applicable, is added to the Student Contribution, to yield the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Expenses beyond those listed above may be considered under a process known as Professional Judgment. This process can be initiated by parent or student request after the student’s initial eligibility has been determined. Then, the students and/or parents would submit documentation of unusual expenses, such as tuition paid for siblings or medical expenses. These expenses can be taken into account by the financial aid staff to produce an adjusted EFC.

The student’s budget or cost of education is calculated based on tuition and fees plus a standard allowance for living expenses, which depends on whether the student lives on campus, with his parents, or has other arrangements.

The EFC is then subtracted from the student’s total budget. The result is known as the student’s “need”. This concept of need is the foundation of financial aid. Students who exhibit need and apply on time will probably be awarded aid.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

While applications for Pell Grants may be processed until June 30, 2022, students may be required to submit their application earlier, as the application must be processed while the student is still eligible. Students are urged to submit their applications as early as possible. Late submissions may delay the processing of a student’s application. More important, the funds for some programs are limited and will be distributed with priority given to those students who submit their application in a timely fashion.
Students may be required to update certain types of information that they have entered on their application, i.e. dependency status, household size, and number of family members enrolled in post-secondary education. Any such changes should be discussed with the financial aid office.

FEDERAL AID PROGRAMS

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides grants to undergraduate students. These grants do not have to be repaid. This program is an “entitlement” which means that each eligible student who attends an eligible institution and applies on time may receive a Federal Pell Grant. The maximum grant for a fully eligible student is $6495 per award year, which is 100% of the scheduled award. The amount that each student is eligible for is based on the EFC generated by a federally mandated formula.

Financial aid disbursements in the federal Pell Grant Program are scheduled at the beginning of each semester, provided that all paperwork has been submitted and is complete. A student generally receives half of his scheduled award during the first semester and the second half during the second semester. Students whose paperwork is completed during the second semester may be paid retroactively for the first semester.

With the availability of Year-Round Pell, students can receive Federal Pell Grant funds for up to 150% of their Pell Grant Scheduled Award for an award year. An eligible student may now receive a Federal Pell Grant for the summer semester, even if he received 100% of his scheduled Federal Pell Grant award during the fall and spring semesters. To be eligible for the additional Pell Grant funds, the student must meet all general eligibility requirements to receive financial aid for the payment period and must be enrolled at least half time (six credits) in the payment period.

Students whose paper work is completed during the second or third semester may be paid retroactively for previous semesters in the same academic year.
The amount of Federal Pell Grant funds a student may receive over his lifetime is limited by federal law to 600%. If a student's lifetime eligibility used (LEU) equals 600%, the student may no longer receive Pell Grant funding.

Payments from the Federal Pell Program will either be made by credit to the student’s tuition account or by direct disbursement to the student. Students will be informed of the expected amount of these payments. Students may inspect their tuition records during regular business hours at the business office.

**The Campus-Based Programs** are a group of programs funded under Title IV. The campus-based programs in which the institution participates are:

- FSEOG - Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants
- FWS - Federal Work Study

In these programs, fixed sums are allocated to each school based on its size and other factors. The institution then analyzes the need of all eligible financial aid applicants whose paperwork is completed in a timely manner, and determines an equitable distribution of the funds available in a process known as "packaging." Students who apply after the initial packaging deadlines, (as posted in school), may be too late to receive any funds from these programs.

The Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant is a Campus-Based grant program available to undergraduate students. Awards, when available, can range from $100 to $4,000.

Financial aid disbursements in the FSEOG Program are scheduled at the beginning of each semester, provided that all paperwork has been submitted and is complete. A student generally receives one half of his scheduled award during the first semester and the second half during the second semester. Students who complete their paperwork during the second semester may be paid retroactively for the first semester. However, students should keep in mind the strong likelihood that all FSEOG funds will have been allocated by that time.
Payments from the FSEOG program will be made by credit to the student's tuition account. Generally, the funds are matched 25% non-federal funds to 75% federal funds. However, if in a particular academic year the institution is granted a waiver of the institutional share requirement, the institution may choose not to provide the institutional match. Students will be informed of the expected amounts of these payments, and may inspect their tuition records during regular hours at the business office.

The Federal Work Study Program is an employment program. Funds are allocated to schools as part of the campus-based programs as explained above. Eligible students are offered part-time employment. The financial aid office, in consultation with the faculty, determines if a student is eligible for employment, based on his ability to fulfill his academic responsibilities with the added burden of employment. Employment is also contingent on student qualifications for the positions available.

Federal Work Study disbursements are in the form of payrolls, distributed monthly during the duration of the student's work schedule. The institution pays a percentage of matching funds per federal Work Study funds. The institutional portion may be paid to the student or may be credited to the student's tuition account. Generally, the funds are matched 25% institutional funds to 75% federal funds. However, if in a particular academic year the institution is granted a waiver of the institutional share requirement, the institution may choose not to provide the institutional match.

NY STATE TAP GRANTS – DESCRIPTION

New York’s Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), helps eligible New York residents attending in-state postsecondary institutions pay for tuition. TAP grants are based on the applicant’s and his family’s New York State taxable income.

To apply for a TAP grant, a student must fill out a FAFSA, generally followed by an additional TAP application by June 30, 2022.
To be eligible for an award the student must:

- meet one of the United States citizenship requirements;
- meet New York State residency requirements;
- enroll as a full-time undergraduate student;
- enroll in an approved program of study in an eligible New York State postsecondary institution;
- be matriculated;
- be in good academic standing; have at least a cumulative "C" average after receipt of two annual payments;
- not be in default on any Federal or State made student loan, or fail to comply with any service condition imposed by a State award program, or fail to make a required refund of any award;
- have a minimum tuition liability of at least $200 per academic year ($100 per semester);
- not exceed the income limitations established for the program;
- not be incarcerated;
- have a U.S. high school diploma satisfactory to TAP requirements, the equivalent recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, or a passing score on a federally approved ability-to-benefit test.

The New York State Dream Act enables some students who do not meet the above requirements, to be eligible for TAP Awards.

If you fit one of the descriptions below, you may be eligible.

1. Your permanent home is in NYS and you are or have one of the following:
   A. U-Visa
   B. T-Visa
   C. Temporary protected status, pursuant to the Federal Immigration Act of 1990
   D. Without lawful immigration status (including those with DACA status)
AND you meet one of the following criteria:

a. You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school, and are applying for an award for undergraduate study at a NYS college within *five* years of receiving your NYS high school diploma *OR*

b. You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school, and are applying for an award for graduate study at a NYS college within *ten* years of receiving your NYS high school diploma *OR*

c. You received a NYS high school equivalency diploma, and are applying for an award for undergraduate study at a NYS college within *five* years of receiving your NYS high school equivalency diploma

1. Your permanent home is outside of NYS and you are or have one of the following:
   A. U.S. citizen
   B. Permanent lawful resident
   C. Of a class of refugees paroled by the attorney general under his or her parole authority pertaining to the admission of aliens to the U.S.
   D. U-Visa
   E. T-Visa
   F. Temporary protected status, pursuant to the Federal Immigration Act of 1990
   G. Without lawful immigration status (including those with DACA status)

AND you meet one of the following criteria:

a. You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school, and are applying for an award for undergraduate study at a NYS college within *five* years of receiving your NYS high school diploma *OR*

b. You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school, and are applying for an award for graduate study at a
NYS college within ten years of receiving your NYS high school diploma

OR

c. You received a NYS high school equivalency diploma, and are applying for an award for undergraduate study at a NYS college within five years of receiving your NYS high school equivalency diploma

Students meeting the NYS Dream Act eligibility criteria can apply for TAP by accessing the Dream Act Application online at https://nysdream.applyists.net/Account/LogOn?ReturnUrl=%2f.

The application is simple and straightforward, and all information provided will be used only for determining eligibility for and administering awards. Applicants without lawful immigration status will not be asked for their home address and will not have to upload financial records.

Once you have submitted an application, it is your responsibility to monitor the status of your application and to make sure your application is complete. You will be able to monitor the status of your application online after submitting your application and uploading any required documentation. You will be notified by email when a determination has been made regarding your eligibility, at which point you will be required to accept the award.

The maximum yearly TAP award is $5665. Award amounts are determined by:

- combined family NYS taxable income, Federal, State or local pension income and private pension and annuity income, if applicable;
- level of study;
- academic year in which first payment of TAP or any state award is received;
- type of postsecondary institution and the tuition charge;
- financial independence;
- other family members enrolled in NYS postsecondary education;
- other educational benefits received.
Yeshiva Derech Chaim will disburse any TAP funds due to the student as soon as possible, but not more than 45 days after the institution has credited the award to the student’s account.

Instead of disbursing funds due to the student, the institution may credit them toward a future term if the student authorizes the credit in writing. They may also credit TAP payments toward charges the student has incurred for a future term. That term must already be underway when the school receives the payment, and the balance for that term must exceed the amount deferred for that term based on anticipated receipt of a TAP award. An authorization form, which will remain in effect for the duration of their study, will be made available to students at the time of admission.

STUDENT LOANS

The Federal Direct Loan program offer loans to students, which must be paid back with interest, to help cover their education related expenses. There are two categories of direct loans, subsidized, where the government pays the interest that accrues while the student is in school and unsubsidized, where the student is responsible for the interest that accrues while he is in school. Loans are only given to students who demonstrate willingness to repay. Direct PLUS loans are unsubsidized direct loans which are given to the parents of an eligible student who would like to help pay for the student’s expenses in this manner. Although the school is eligible to participate in the federal loan programs, the school discourages students and parents from taking out loans. The school encourages its students to apply for the federal, state, and institutional financial aid grant programs before considering the option of student loans and makes every effort to assist students with their direct educational needs. Students who are considering taking out loans should contact the financial aid office for a detailed list of eligibility requirements, available loan amounts, and sample repayment schedules.

INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Institutional scholarship funds are available to students who have exhausted all other avenues of assistance and are still unable to meet their cost of attendance.
The family is expected to contribute towards the student’s education, based upon their ability to pay, as determined by formulae explained above. Students who apply for other types of financial aid will automatically be considered for institutional scholarships. Those who do not apply to other programs may contact the financial aid office to apply for institutional scholarships.

While the institution does not guarantee the availability of funds, every effort will be made to offer the student a package of federal, state, and institutional aid that will cover the student’s direct educational expenses.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

*For the current academic calendar, please refer the yearly supplement of the catalog.*

WITHDRAWALS, INSTITUTIONAL REFUND, AND RETURN TO TITLE IV POLICIES

*For the current refund and withdrawal policies, please refer to the yearly supplement of the catalog.*

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

All matriculated students pursuing an approved program at Yeshiva Derech Chaim are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward graduation, which in this institution is defined as being in good academic standing as detailed below.
The SAP standards required for students receiving Title IV federal financial aid are the same for all matriculated students at Yeshiva Derech Chaim satisfactory academic progress at Yeshiva Derech Chaim has two principal components: a qualitative standard and a quantitative standard:

At the end of each semester, each student’s academic file is evaluated to determine if the student is making satisfactory academic progress.

- **Qualitative Standard**

In pursuit of graduation, the student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (the equivalent of a “C” average) or better. Each student is evaluated at the end of each semester and is expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

Semester grade point averages will be calculated according to the following numerical equivalents:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>not included in calculation of GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>not included in calculation of GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The GPA is established by multiplying the grade point equivalent of each course by the number of credits it yields. The products of each course are then added together. The sum is then divided by the total number of credits earned in the semester.

Credit hours with a grade of Incomplete and Withdrawn are not included in the determination of the grade point average. Credit hours with a grade of fail (F) are included in the grade point
average. If a student receives failing grades for all of his courses, the Registrar will determine whether or not the student completed the semester.

- **Quantitative Standard**

  - **Maximum Timeframe**

  Students must make sufficient progress through the academic program to complete the 150 credit program with a maximum attempted credits ceiling of 224 credits, which is 150% of the published length of the program.

  - **Pace of Completion**

  A student must earn 67% of his cumulative attempted credits. Every semester, each student is evaluated to see if he has successfully earned 67% of his cumulative attempted credits. The student’s cumulative earned credits are divided by the student’s cumulative attempted credits to determine if the student is progressing through the 150 credit academic program at a pace sufficient to complete the program within the maximum time frame. If the number of credits earned divided by the number of credits attempted is 67% or greater, he is determined to be making satisfactory progress.

  **WARNING**

  If a student falls below the SAP standards, he will be notified that he is being given a warning period which will last one semester. The student will also be notified that he has the option of appealing his lack of satisfactory academic progress at any point. During the warning period, a designated faculty member may counsel the student and assist the student to improve his performance. The student may be provided with various student services that might include tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or other academic assistance. If, after this warning period
SAP standards are still not met, he will be subject to academic discipline which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution.

**Federal Financial Aid Warning**

For continued eligibility for federal financial aid programs, if a student falls below the satisfactory progress standards, he will be given a period of financial aid warning during which time he maintains federal financial aid eligibility. The warning period will last for one semester. During the federal financial aid warning period, the student will receive the counseling described above. If, after this federal financial aid warning period, satisfactory progress standards are still not met, the student will be notified that he will no longer be eligible for financial aid. The student will also be notified that he has the option of appealing his lack of satisfactory academic progress in order to be granted a probationary period.

**APPEALS PROCESS, MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES**

A student may appeal the institution’s determination that he is not making satisfactory academic progress. Basis for appeal include the death of a relative, an injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances. The student must submit the appeal in writing to the administrative office. In the appeal, the student must describe why he failed to make satisfactory academic progress, and what has changed in his situation that will allow him to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation. The senior faculty member will consider all information provided by the student and will consult with faculty members, as appropriate. If it is determined that the appeal should be accepted, then the senior faculty member will determine whether or not the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements of the institution by the end of a one semester probationary period. If it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after the probationary period, the student will be placed on academic probation as described below. If it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements of the institution by the end of the probationary period with a customized study plan, then the student will be placed on academic probation with a study plan, as described below.
If the appeal is accepted, the student will be granted a semester of academic probation or academic probation with a study plan, as described below. If the appeal is not accepted, the student will be subject to academic discipline, which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution. He will also be ineligible for federal financial aid until he reestablishes eligibility as described below in the section entitled “Reinstatement.” The final decision (denial of appeal, academic probation, or academic probation with a study plan) will be conveyed to the student in writing.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

If it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after the probationary period, the student will be placed on academic probation. The period of academic probation is one semester during which the student has the opportunity to attempt to meet the SAP standards of the institution. The student can request counseling to assist him to improve his performance. In addition, the student may request to be provided with various student services that might include tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or other academic assistance.

ACADEMIC PROBATION WITH A STUDY PLAN

For a student on academic probation with a study plan, a senior faculty member will develop a study plan in conjunction with the student and other faculty, as needed. The study plan will include a customized plan for the SAP standards (as well as other academic provisions to assist the student in meeting those standards) that ensures that the student is able to meet the school’s satisfactory progress standards by a specific time, though an academic plan could take the student all the way through successful program completion.
REEVALUATION AFTER A PROBATIONARY PERIOD

At the end of the probationary period, the student’s satisfactory academic progress will be reevaluated. If the student is now meeting the standard SAP requirements of the institution, or is meeting the SAP standards of his study plan, he will be considered as meeting satisfactory academic progress. If, after the period of probation, the student’s academic performance still fails to meet the academic progress standards of the institution, or the provisions of his study plan, he will be subject to academic discipline which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution, and he will be ineligible to receive Title IV federal financial aid.

REINSTATEMENT FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

A student who became ineligible for federal financial aid because he was not meeting satisfactory academic progress standards, has the opportunity to reestablish eligibility. Eligibility is reestablished by meeting institutional SAP standards. The financial aid office will receive notification of each student’s status at the start of each semester, and the student will be notified that he may once again receive aid from the Title IV programs.

INCOMPLETES

If a student has not completed all required course work for a particular course, he may have additional time (up to six months), at the discretion of the instructor, to complete the work. A grade of incomplete will only be assigned with a documented plan from the instructor detailing course work that must be completed. In the interim, those course grades are marked as incomplete. Courses in which a student receives a grade of incomplete are not included in the GPA as long as the Incomplete remains on the transcript. The courses marked incomplete are included in the student’s number of credits attempted but not credits completed. A grade of incomplete will be replaced with a grade at the conclusion of the period of time given for the work to be completed.
WITHDRAWALS FROM A COURSE

A student who withdraws from a course(s) will have the course recorded as Withdrawn. This grade will not be counted in the student’s GPA. However, the course(s) will be counted towards the student’s number of credits attempted but not completed.

TRANSFER CREDITS AND SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

Transfer credits are not included in the GPA calculation; however, they are counted toward both the number of attempted credits and the number of credits earned by the student.

REPETITIONS

All repeated courses are counted in the number of the student’s attempted credits.

For Title IV awarding purposes, if a student is repeating a course in which he earned a passing grade, for the purpose of grade improvement, it is counted towards the student’s enrollment status for Title IV purposes only the first time the course is retaken. If a student is repeating a course in which he received a failing grade, it is always counted towards the student’s enrollment, regardless of how many times he repeats that course in an attempt to pass.

For TAP grant awarding purposes, repeated courses are only counted towards the student’s enrollment status for TAP grant awarding purposes for the semester in which the repeated course is taken, if the student received a failing grade. All attempts of a course are included in the student’s GPA, including failing grades.

A student repeating a course must remain within the time frame required for satisfactory academic progress standards.
CHANGE OF MAJOR

All credits attempted are included in making a student’s SAP determination, regardless of any subsequent changes in major, if applicable.

ESL/NONCREDIT REMEDIAL COURSES

Yeshiva Derech Chaim does not offer any ESL or non-credit remedial courses.

GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL

Students are expected to keep the hours of Yeshiva Derech Chaim’s course and study schedule, and attend all lectures. They also must complete regular oral exams.

Students who fail to adhere to Yeshiva Derech Chaim’s regulations may be placed on probation. If improvement is not seen, the Roshei Yeshiva will notify the student that he may be dismissed from the school.

Students who are found to violate the institution’s rules of conduct and discipline repeatedly may be dismissed. It should be noted that dismissals in Yeshiva Derech Chaim are extremely rare as every effort is made to admit students with outstanding character and behavior.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is expected at all regularly scheduled classes. Excessive unexcused absences may be grounds for grade reductions, loss of course credit, dismissal, or other disciplinary action
LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Federal Policy

Under certain specialized circumstances, and with approval from the Regional Office of the U.S. Department of Education, a student may be granted an approved leave of absence. In order to be granted a leave of absence a student must follow the procedures outlined below:

The student must request the leave of absence in writing to the Rosh HaYeshiva, Rabbi Plutchok. The request must be signed and dated and must include the reason for which the student is requesting a leave of absence. A leave of absence will not be granted if the reason for the request is not included. The request for a leave of absence will be reviewed by the Rosh HaYeshiva within ten days of submission. If approved, the request will be forwarded to the registrar’s office and will be placed in the student’s academic file. Notification will be sent to the financial aid office.

The student must submit the request for a leave of absence and must receive the approval prior to beginning the leave of absence except in unusual circumstances where it was not possible for the student to make the request prior to the start of the leave of absence, i.e. if the student was in a car accident or other unforeseen emergency/disaster.

A student will only be granted a leave of absence if it can be expected that the student will return from the leave of absence on time. If it appears that the student may not return after the leave of absence, an approval will not be granted. The maximum time for an approved leave of absence is 180 days.

Students on an approved leave of absence will not be considered withdrawn from the institution and no refund calculations will be made for Title IV financial aid received. Students who fail to return to school after an approved leave of absence will be considered withdrawn from the institution as of the date of the start of the leave of absence and refunds will be calculated accordingly.
GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING FOR STATE GRANTS

To maintain eligibility for NY State aid (TAP), a student must be in good academic standing, which includes two elements: pursuit of program and satisfactory academic progress.

Pursuit of program is defined as completing (whether by passing or failing) a specific percentage of the courses taken each semester. The percentage is dependent on the term number (i.e. first semester) in which the student is receiving TAP.

Satisfactory academic progress is defined as accumulating a minimum number of credits and achieving a specified GPA each semester. The requirements are based on the school’s minimum requirements.

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<tr>
<td>Minimum credits that student must have earned</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>51</td>
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<td>81</td>
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<td>111</td>
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<td>Satisfactory Academic Progress:</td>
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<td>With a GPA of at least</td>
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Good academic standing is assessed each term. There is no financial aid warning period for New York State aid programs (TAP). Students who do not meet good academic standing standards lose their eligibility for state aid except as provided below.

There is a one-time good academic standing waiver that the school may issue if it determines that it is in the student’s best interest. There is a C average waiver for students who fail to meet the required GPA average. The C average waiver is handled on a case-by-case basis and a request for the waiver, which includes supporting documentation, must be provided. Reasons for a waiver being granted may include death of a relative, personal illness or injury, or another extenuating circumstance.

Students who became ineligible for NY State aid because they were not meeting the good academic standing standards can reestablish eligibility by making up academic deficiencies during terms while not receiving a TAP award, being readmitted after not being enrolled for one calendar year, transferring to another TAP eligible institution, or being granted a waiver.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. (An “eligible student” under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution at any age.)

These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day Yeshiva Derech Chaim receives a request for access. A student should submit to the registrar, dean, head of the academic department, or other appropriate official, a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the school official to whom
the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to ask the school to amend a record should write the school official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. The written request should also specify the purpose of the disclosure and the parties to whom the disclosure may be made. The request must be signed and dated.

If the school decides not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student’s right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

Yeshiva Derech Chaim discloses education records without a student’s prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official typically includes a person employed by the school in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own
employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the school.

The school also discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Yeshiva Derech Chaim to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

   Family Policy Compliance Office
   U.S. Department of Education
   400 Maryland Avenue, SW
   Washington, DC 20202

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students’ education records, without consent of the student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the student, § 99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to record the disclosure. Eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A postsecondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining prior written consent of the student —

- To other school officials, including teachers, within Yeshiva Derech Chaim whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(I) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
• To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student’s enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))

• To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U. S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university’s State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of § 99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)

• In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))

• To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§ 99.31(a)(6))

• To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))

• To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8))

• To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, to proceed with or defend against the legal action. (§ 99.31(a)(9))

• To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10))

• The information the school has designated as “directory information” under § 99.37. (§ 99.31(a)(11)): name, student status, marital status, spouse's name, telephone number, address, date of birth, place of birth, dates of attendance, degrees granted, dates degrees
granted, names of prior institutions attended, chavrusas, chaburas, roommates, photos, dormitory building/room numbers, seat information, parents' and parents in-law's names, addresses, occupations, congregations, and similar background information.

Note: Students have the right to restrict the sharing of directory information. Students who wish to make such a request must contact the registrar's office, and submit the request in writing within 90 days from the beginning of the semester. Once a student requests that the school not disclose directory information, this hold on sharing directory information will remain in place until revoked by the student in writing. Requests cannot be put into effect retroactively.

- To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of § 99.39. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding. (§ 99.31(a)(13))
- To the general public, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of § 99.39, if the school determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the school’s rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him or her. (§ 99.31(a)(14))
- To parents of a student regarding the student’s violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the school, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the school determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21. (§99.31(a)(15))
COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Internal Complaint Procedure

Any student who has a complaint should submit it in writing to the Deans. The complaint will be investigated, and the student will be informed in writing within 30 days of the resolution of his complaint. No person directly involved in the complaint issue will make the final determination of the complaint.

AARTS Complaint Procedure

Complaints can be filed with the office of the Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools at 11 Broadway, Suite 405, New York, NY 10004.

NY State Complaint Policy

A student also has the right to file a complaint with the State of New York Education Department using the policy below.

For all types of complaints concerning colleges and universities in New York State, the first course of action must be to try to resolve the complaint directly with the administration of the college or university involved. The Office of College and University Evaluation will not review a complaint until all grievance procedures at the institution have been followed and all avenues of appeal exhausted and documentation provided that such procedures have been exhausted. Please note: Every New York State college and university is required to establish, publish, and enforce explicit policies related to redress of grievances.

Please do not send a complaint to the Office of College and University Evaluation until you have read all of the information below. This will assure that you are sending your complaint to the appropriate agency/office.
The Office of College and University Evaluation handles only those complaints that concern educational programs or practices of degree-granting institutions subject to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, with the exceptions noted below.

- The Office does not handle anonymous complaints.
- The Office does not intervene in matters concerning an individual’s grades or examination results, as these are the prerogative of the college’s faculty.
- The Office does not handle complaints concerning actions that occurred more than five years ago.
- The Office does not intervene in matters that are or have been in litigation.

Complaints concerning programs in fields leading to professional licensure (e.g., nursing) should be directed to:

Office of the Professions  
Professional Education Program Review  
Education Building, 2 West  
Albany, NY 12234

A complaint against a college in the State University system should be sent to:

State University of New York  
Central Administration  
State University Plaza  
Albany, NY 12246

A complaint against a college in the City University system should be sent to:

City University of New York  
Office of the General Counsel  
205 East 42nd Street, 11th Floor  
New York, NY 10017
**Civil rights**: a complaint involving discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex, including sexual harassment, should be filed with the U.S. Office for Civil Rights:

Office for Civil Rights (OCR) – Enforcement Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
32 Old Slip, 26th Floor  
New York, NY 10005 – 2500  
Telephone: 646-428-3900  
FAX: 646-428-3843  
TDD: 877-521-2172  
Email: [OCR.NewYork@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.NewYork@ed.gov)

Or with:

**NYS Division of Human Rights**  
[https://dhr.ny.gov/complaint](https://dhr.ny.gov/complaint)

A complaint of **consumer fraud** on the part of the institution should be directed to the Office of the New York State Attorney General, Justice Building, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223.

For a complaint about **state student financial aid matters**, contact the Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) Customer Communications Center at 1-888-NYS-HESC.

Complainants should be aware that the Office of College and University Evaluation does not conduct a judicial investigation and has no legal authority to require a college or university to comply with a complainant’s request.
If your complaint does not fall into one of the exceptions noted above, a complaint form can be accessed at http://www.highered.nysed.gov/ocue/spr/documents/complaintform-accessible.pdf.

Further information regarding filing a complaint with the New York State can be found at http://www.highered.nysed.gov/ocue/spr/COMPLAINTFORMINFO.html.

**PLACEMENT DISCLAIMER**

Yeshiva Derech Chaim is an academic institution and does not provide vocational training nor guarantee employment or placement to students who complete its programs.

**STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Qualified men of the Orthodox Jewish faith are admitted to Yeshiva Derech Chaim without regard to age, race, color, national origin or physical handicap. Yeshiva Derech Chaim is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Americans with Disability Act of 1992.

Beyond equal access, opportunity, and accommodation, Yeshiva Derech Chaim is committed to the understanding, sensitivity, patience, encouragement, and support that are so vital to guaranteeing to all qualified students, the same educational experience and environment as well as the equal opportunity to learn and study at the institution.

Yeshiva Derech Chaim does not have a program for students with intellectual disabilities. Yeshiva Derech Chaim provides reasonable academic accommodations for students with intellectual disabilities.
While present facilities are not fully accessible to the handicapped student, every effort will be made to accommodate any handicapped student who is admitted to Yeshiva Derech Chaim. A ramp for wheelchair access is available for use from the 39th Street entrance.
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Degree Requirements

Yeshiva Derech Chaim offers an undergraduate-level program of study comprised of 150 credits leading to the First Talmudic Degree. There is only one major available, Talmud. The following is a course map broken down by level and semester:

Introductory Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Talmud Iyun</td>
<td>7 credits</td>
<td>7 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talmud Bekiyus</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Codes/Halacha</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics and Philosophy/ Mussar</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub Total: 15 credits 15 credits
Total: 15 credits 30 credits

Beginning Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>6 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Codes/Halacha</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics and Philosophy/ Mussar</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Sub Total: 15 credits 15 credits
Total: 45 credits 60 credits
### Intermediate Level

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Spring Semester</th>
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<td>6 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Codes/Halacha</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics and Philosophy/ Mussar</td>
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<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub Total: 15 credits  
Total: 75 credits

### Advanced Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Talmud Iyun</td>
<td>7 credits</td>
<td>7 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talmud Bekiyus</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Codes/Halacha</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics and Philosophy/ Mussar</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub Total: 15 credits  
Total: 105 credits

### Independent Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics and Philosophy/ Mussar</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub Total: 15 credits  
Total: 135 credits

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50
DESCRIPTION OF UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The core of the academic program consists of the study of Talmud, comprising the bulk of the student's day. The study is divided between Iyun, intensive, in-depth analysis of each portion of text, with the study of earlier (tenth through fifteenth centuries) and later (sixteenth century through contemporary) commentaries, and Bekius, literally fluency, a more broad-ranging study designed to familiarize the student with large areas of Talmud, to which he may return at some time in the future. Generally, one tractate will be studied per year. As there are a total of 63 tractates, completion of the entire body of Talmudic text during the period of undergraduate study is obviously impossible. Tractates are therefore rotated, so that an undergraduate will study five major tractates (or, occasionally, two minor ones as a substitute for one major). His companion entering the school two or three years later will generally complete a different cycle of five tractates. Indeed, the study of the entire Talmud at a fairly superficial level of one folio page per day (with no allowance for vacations) would demand over seven years.

It is thus understandable that more important than the material covered is the development of skills which will enable the student to continue on to graduate studies (as many of our graduates do), and to prepare him for the independent pursuit of knowledge, in later life. Important study skills developed include the ability to analyze texts, facility in library research and literature search, the interrelation of different areas of knowledge, and the application of general principles to unfamiliar areas.

In the area of logic and reasoning, students master the analysis of statements, learn to check for internal consistency in a system of ideas, practice problem solving skills, and develop the ability to formulate hypothesis, to isolate, define and clarify difficult concepts and contents, to penetrate to the crux of an issue, and to develop inquisitive skills.

It is important to note that the Talmud encompasses a wide ranging, almost encyclopedic treatment of a variety of subjects, including History, Philosophy, Sociology, Jurisprudence, Psychology, Economics, Law, Biology, Education, Politics, and Survey of Jewish Literature. The Talmudic scholars and the Early Commentaries who followed them did not dabble in these areas on an amateur level. They had extensive contact with the most advanced scholars of their time, in medicine, philosophy, etc., many of
them being renowned doctors and philosophers in their own right. The Talmudic discussions of these various disciplines, therefore, are on a highly sophisticated level and require the student to acquire a deep knowledge and understanding of these diverse disciplines.

Other departments enhance the central Talmudic theme. While Talmudic study is generally on a theoretical level, Jewish Legal Codes of Law are studied on practical matters, with the essential codes pertaining to daily life being studied during the first five year program. Graduate study may cover these codes as well as others on a much deeper level.

The study of Ethics is central to the development of the Jewish scholar. Practical application of self analysis and self evaluation is stressed, with an eye toward the development of self regulation, motivation, and maturation of character, creativity, and persistence.

The Department of Bible covers the written sources from which the Oral Law, the Talmud, is derived. This study is cyclical, reviewing the same basic text with involvement with and concern for others, as well as the growth of self-confidence.

An explanation of the Graduate Division will follow in a later section.

EXPLANATION OF THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Undergraduate Courses

The course code designations may be understood using the following system:

- **The letter** preceding the course number indicates the semester of study: A = Fall semester and B= Spring semester
- **The first digit** refers to the department of study: Talmud (1); Legal Codes (2); Ethics (4); and Bible (5).
- **The second digit** refers to the year of undergraduate or graduate study.
• The third digit generally indicates whether a course is intensive, survey or semi-intensive.

• In the Talmud courses the fourth and fifth digit (and sixth when applicable), refer to the tractate being studied as listed below.

Talmudic study, in addition to the programs in other departments, has been described as proceeding in a "spiral" approach. Thus, the same texts may be studied by students in different years, each according to the depth of understanding and skills which he has attained. Generally, credit cannot be received more than once for the same material covered in different academic years. Exceptions may be made as, for instance, where a student may have studied the Tractate Pesachim, receiving credit for A and B 111(01), and may study the subject matter again as a graduate student, receiving credit for A and B 161(01). This is based on the fact that his graduate study will be at a far deeper level.

The letters GP after a course listing denote that the student is making good progress in his studies but has opted to take the course with the same Rebbe, even as he advances to the next level. This designation does not refer to a repeated course.

**FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERINGS**

Students enrolled at Yeshiva Derech Chaim generally take the maximum number of courses offered each term at their grade level and progress toward their degrees in the time frame outlined in the sample curriculum. Courses are offered with enough frequency to enable students to complete the course requirements and graduate within the expected time frames.

**TEXTBOOKS AND REQUIRED MATERIALS**

All required texts can be found in the library and are available at all times for student use. However, students may acquire personal copies if they wish. No other materials are required.
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1. Talmud

As noted the Department of Talmud provides the core of the academic Program. Most of the school generally studies the same tractate, to facilitate sharing of ideas between students at various levels, with each year proceeding at the depth appropriate for its level and developing the skills to progress to the next level.

Talmud is traditionally studied with a Chavrusa, a study partner. Under the Chavrusa system, students study in pairs so that they may proceed at their own pace, engage in discussion and review together all aspects of the subject under scrutiny. They amend, elaborate on, and crystallize each other's conclusions. Talmudic lectures are given on many levels.

Course numbers refer to department, year, and type of study, the fourth and fifth digits which will be noted on the student's academic record refers to the tractate being studied in the particular semester, according to the codes which follow.

The specific tractate to be studied is assigned before the beginning of each term. The following summaries are provided as a way of identifying the subject matter of Talmudic tractates for the convenience of those who may be unfamiliar with Talmudic Studies. It should be understood, however, that these brief descriptions hardly reflect the depth and complexity of the subjects treated in these tractates.

(00) Shabbos
Restrictions related to proscribed work efforts and their source, in depth study of all regulations regarding the Sabbath, including extension to problems that emanate from change in society and technological advances.
(01) **Pesachim**
Laws of Passover; leaven, the Seder, and Passover offering, concepts of ownership and relinquishment of rights, responsibilities for removal of leaven as related to status, tenant, landlord, head of household and watchmen.

(02) **Kesubos**
The marriage contract; obligations and commitments incurred therein, specifically in relation to financial considerations and promises made prior to marriage. Family structure; the atatys, role and rights of women in society.

(03) **Yevomos**
Study of Levirate marriage and Chlitza, consanguinity. General anthropological structure of Jewish society, permitted marriage partners, etc. Privileges and obligations of Kohanim. Procedures involved in ascertaining death of an individual; the Agunah.

(04) **Kidushin**
Procedures whereby women become betrothed and related regulations and obligations. Comparative study of modes of acquisition employed elsewhere. Marriage by proxy and conditional betrothal.

(05) **Gittin**
Traditional divorce with primary emphasis on the "Get" (divorce document); technical aspects regulating its legality. Review of legal documents and methods of establishing authenticity of signatures on such documents; related regulations.

(06) **Baba Kama**
Talmudic Civil Law, Part I. Compensation for injury or loss, redress and liability through injury or misappropriation, damages by the defendant, personally or by any chattels or agencies. Misappropriation also reviewed in its broad sense, whether through violence or theft.
(07) **Baba Metzia**
Talmudic Civil Law, Part II. Dealing primarily with claims related to joint transactions, from finding lost articles to wage agreements. Consideration relating to trade and industry, usury, labor conditions and responsibilities, deposits and tenancy, interest.

(08) **Baba Basra**
Talmudic Civil Law, Part III. Claims of right of way, claims and rights of partners, neighbors, purchasers, vendors and heirs, legal forms of acquisitions of partners; sellers liability for value of his wares and deeds on terms of protecting consumer. Deeds and legal documents relating to business also treated.

(09) **Chullin**
A study of animals and birds considered suitable for consumption and detailed analysis of diseases and injuries rendering them unfit for food. Principle dietary laws. Methodology of slaughter of animals; students become thoroughly familiar with anatomy and physiology of the cow.

(10) **Sukkah**
Laws of the Festival of Succos, or Booths. The construction requirements in order to fulfill the Mitzvah of Sukkah. The four symbolic species that one must take on Sukkos: the Lulov, Esrog, Hadassim and Aravos.

(11) **Beitza**
Laws of prohibited activities on Holidays, differing from the Sabbath. The laws of Muktzah, or objects that may not to be handled on Shabbos and Yom Tov.

(12) **Rosh Hashana**
Laws of the New Year, the Shofar. Sanctification of new months.
13) **Sanhedrin**
Judicial process, the judicial Assembly and conduct of monetary and capitol cases. Examination of witnesses, the rebellious son, types of capital punishment for various transgressions; stoning, burning, choking and sword.

14) **Makos**
Judicial corporal punishment and transgressions resulting therein. Contradictory witnesses, cities of refuge for involuntary manslaughter.

15) **Megillah**
Laws of Purim, the Reading of the Book of Esther and other obligations of the Holiday, charitable donations sending of gifts of comestibles.

16) **Nedarim**
Laws of object-related vows and resultant obligations, annulment of vows, jurisdiction of parent and spouse over person making a vow.

17) **Berachos**
Laws of blessings which include prayer, Krias Shema, and various Agadic teachings.

18) **Shavuos**
Laws of personal vows, oaths before the court, the status of a single witness, partial admittance of responsibility, shomrim (those responsible for guarding another's property). A ritually unclean person who entered the Temple unlawfully, the increasing and decreasing sacrifice.

19) **Other Tractates**

20) **Moed Kattan**
Laws of what is permitted and what is prohibited to do on the intermediate days of Sukkos and Pesach. The laws and practices related to mourning.
(21) **Eiruvin**

The complex laws and Rabbinic regulations pertaining to carrying on Shabbos from one domain to another.

**TALMUD COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

The following course descriptions are intended to explain the progression of skill levels and abilities expected of the student in his course of study.

**A 111##. Introductory Talmud Iyun**

7 credits

First introductory course is in-depth study of Talmud. Students are guided in making the transition from their high school training and studies to independent study preparation of the tractate through daily lectures for 7-1/4 hours per week. The tractate is studied with commentaries of Rashi and Tosfos. The daily lecture reviews the texts and provides insights into the text. The students develop skills in reading and understanding Hebrew and Aramic language texts and in analyzing the texts. Students spend 15 hours per week in preparation and review. Approximately 10 folio pages covered per semester.

*No Prerequisites.*

**B 111##. Introductory Talmud Iyun**

7 credits

First introductory course is in-depth study of Talmud. Students are guided in making the transition from their high school training and studies to independent study preparation of the tractate through daily lectures for 7-1/4 hours per week. The tractate is studied with commentaries of Rashi and Tosfos. The daily lecture reviews the texts and provides insights into the text. The students develop skills in reading and understanding Hebrew and Aramic language texts and in analyzing the texts. Students spend 15 hours per week in preparation and review. Approximately 10 folio pages covered per semester.

*Prerequisite: A 111##. Introductory Talmud Iyun*
A 112## Introductory Talmud Bekius  6 Credits
First Bekius course. Students are assisted in approaching the tractate with an eye towards developing their breadth of scope with 6-1/2 hours of lecture time and 7-3/4 hours independent review. Student covers approximately 25 blatt including other areas of the tractate.
No Prerequisites.

B 112## Introductory Talmud Bekius  6 Credits
First Bekius course. Students are assisted in approaching the tractate with an eye towards developing their breadth of scope with 6-1/2 hours of lecture time and 7-3/4 hours independent review. Student covers approximately 25 blatt including other areas of the tractate.
Prerequisite: A 112## Introductory Talmud Bekius

A 121## Beginning Talmud Iyun  7 credits
Students continue to study the Talmudic text with Rashi and Tosfos at a more advanced level of analysis. The tractate is dealt with in depth with emphasis on developing sophisticated textual and analytical skills. The daily lecture reviews the texts and provides deeper insights and additional commentaries. Students review the lectures in their chavrusa study groups under the supervision of their Rebbi. Students continue to develop their reasoning abilities in preparation and review of the texts. Lecture time is 7-1/4 hours and independent review time is 15 hours.
Prerequisite: B 111##. Introductory Talmud Iyun

B 121## Beginning Talmud Iyun  7 credits
Students continue to study the Talmudic text with Rashi and Tosfos at a more advanced level of analysis. The tractate is dealt with in depth with emphasis on developing sophisticated textual and analytical skills. The daily lecture reviews the texts and provides deeper insights and additional commentaries. Students review the lectures in their chavrusa study groups under the supervision of their Rebbi. Students continue to develop their reasoning abilities in preparation and review of the texts. Lecture time is 7-1/4 hours and independent review time is 15 hours.
Prerequisite: A 121## Beginning Talmud Iyun
A 122## Beginning Talmud Bekius 6 credits
As in the first Bekius course, students are assisted but at a more rapid pace. Students cover approximately 30-35 folio pages per semester. The lecture time is 6-1/2 hours and there are 7-3/4 hours of independent review.

Prerequisite: B 112## Introductory Talmud Bekius

B 122## Beginning Talmud Bekius 6 credits
As in the first Bekius course, students are assisted but at a more rapid pace. Students cover approximately 30-35 folio pages per semester. The lecture time is 6-1/2 hours and there are 7-3/4 hours of independent review.

Prerequisite: A 122## Beginning Talmud Bekius

A 131## Intermediate Talmud Iyun 7 credits
The student and Rebbe now put emphasis on developing the characteristics of the serious Talmud scholar. Students are encouraged to prepare the texts for the forthcoming lecture and explore additional commentaries. Daily lectures are given to review the text and provide additional analysis. Students review lectures with their chavrusa partners and prepare for the next lecture. These students develop more advanced skills in analysis of the text, language ability, reasoning, posing questions and library research. Lectures for 6-1/4 hours, 16 hours independent study.

Prerequisite: B 121## Beginning Talmud Iyun

B 131## Intermediate Talmud Iyun 7 credits
The student and Rebbe now put emphasis on developing the characteristics of the serious Talmud scholar. Students are encouraged to prepare the texts for the forthcoming lecture and explore additional commentaries. Daily lectures are given to review the text and provide additional analysis. Students review lectures with their chavrusa partners and prepare for the next lecture. These students develop more advanced skills in analysis of the text, language ability, reasoning, posing questions and library research. Lectures for 6-1/4 hours, 16 hours independent study.

Prerequisite: A 131## Intermediate Talmud Iyun
A 132## Intermediate Talmud Bekius 6 credits
At this point the student pursues his Bekius studies at an advanced pace covering between 35-50 blatt with a deeper understanding of the text. The lecture time is 6-1/2 hours and there are 7-3/4 hours of independent review. Lecture time though can be substituted by independent study.
Prerequisite: B 122## Beginning Talmud Bekius

B 132## Intermediate Talmud Bekius 6 credits
At this point the student pursues his Bekius studies at an advanced pace covering between 35-50 blatt with a deeper understanding of the text. The lecture time is 6-1/2 hours and there are 7-3/4 hours of independent review. Lecture time though can be substituted by independent study.
Prerequisite: A 132## Intermediate Talmud Bekius

A 141## Advanced Talmud Iyun 7 credits
The students now attend a more advanced daily lecture and are required to review and research additional commentaries, Rishonim and Acharonim. They are encouraged to demonstrate their mastery of Tosfos and other early commentaries since at this point the student is fairly well adept in learning the above on his own. The student continues to master skills in language usage, library research, reasoning and problem solving. He also learns to analyze the internal consistency of arguments. Lecture time is 6-1/4 hours and chavrusa time is 16 hours.
Prerequisite: B 131## Intermediate Talmud Iyun

B 141## Advanced Talmud Iyun 7 credits
The students now attend a more advanced daily lecture and are required to review and research additional commentaries, Rishonim and Acharonim. They are encouraged to demonstrate their mastery of Tosfos and other early commentaries since at this point the student is fairly well adept in learning the above on his own. The student continues to master skills in language usage, library research, reasoning and problem solving. He also learns to analyze the internal consistency of arguments. Lecture time is 6-1/4 hours and chavrusa time is 16 hours.
Prerequisite: A 141## Advanced Talmud Iyun
A 142## Advanced Talmud Bekius  

6 credits

Lectures are given although the student is able to cover the material on his own. The purpose for this is to help the student advance at a more rapid pace and allow him a deeper and clearer understanding (through the lecture) at the same time. Over two semesters, generally the tractate is completed, depending upon length and difficulty of the tractate. Lecture time is 6-1/2 hours and independent review time is 7-3/4 hours. Lecture time can be substituted by independent study.

Prerequisite: B 132## Intermediate Talmud Bekius

B 142## Advanced Talmud Bekius  

6 credits

Lectures are given although the student is able to cover the material on his own. The purpose for this is to help the student advance at a more rapid pace and allow him a deeper and clearer understanding (through the lecture) at the same time. Over two semesters, generally the tractate is completed, depending upon length and difficulty of the tractate. Lecture time is 6-1/2 hours and independent review time is 7-3/4 hours. Lecture time can be substituted by independent study.

Prerequisite: A 142## Advanced Talmud Bekius

A 151## Independent Talmud Iyun  

7 credits

Lecture time and independent study (and review) time are as in 141##A and B; however at this point the student is adept in the commentaries and is encouraged to contribute his own understanding and views in explaining the Talmud and its commentaries. The lecture is therefore on a more informal basis at times with questions and answers by the students themselves greatly encouraged. At this level the student develops advanced skills in reasoning depending on intellectual position, posing questions within an established framework and interpretation of legal texts. He also continues to master library skills in information research and identifying primary courses. The lecture time is 6-1/4 hours and chavrusa time is 16 hours.

Prerequisite: B 141## Advanced Talmud Iyun
B 151## Independent Talmud Iyun 7 credits

Lecture time and independent study (and review) time are as in 141##A and B; however at this point the student is adept in the commentaries and is encouraged to contribute his own understanding and views in explaining the Talmud and its commentaries. The lecture is therefore on a more informal basis at times with questions and answers by the students themselves greatly encouraged. At this level the student develops advanced skills in reasoning depending on intellectual position, posing questions within an established framework and interpretation of legal texts. He also continues to master library skills in information research and identifying primary courses. The lecture time is 6-1/4 hours and chavrusa time is 16 hours.

Prerequisite: A 151## Independent Talmud Iyun

A 152## Independent Talmud Bekius 6 credits

At this point the student maintains his own pace in the tractate (both in amount covered and in depth). The tractate is generally completed in two semesters (as in 142##A and B) and sometimes other smaller tractates are covered as well. Lecture time and independent study are also as in A and B 142##. There are Rabbeim in the Bais Hamedrash to monitor the student and assist him in difficult passages. This level of study often borders on semi-intensive which is an excellent preparation for the graduate level. In many cases the student gives part of his time to assist weaker students.

Prerequisite: B 142## Advanced Talmud Bekius

B 152## Independent Talmud Bekius 6 credits

At this point the student maintains his own pace in the tractate (both in amount covered and in depth). The tractate is generally completed in two semesters (as in 142##A and B) and sometimes other smaller tractates are covered as well. Lecture time and independent study are also as in A and B 142##. There are Rabbeim in the Bais Hamedrash to monitor the student and assist him in difficult passages. This level of study often borders on semi-intensive which is an excellent preparation for the graduate level. In many cases the student gives part of his time to assist weaker students.

Prerequisite: A 152## Independent Talmud Bekius
Yeshiva Derech Chaim offers a six credit Talmud Semi-intensive course. The focus of the Talmud Semi-intensive course is to apply some of the same skills learned in the Talmud Iyan courses. In this sense the Talmud Semi-intensive course is complementary in nature to the Iyun courses.

2. Halacha

HALACHA COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The Shulchan Oruch, Orach Chaim
This section of the Shulchan Aruch, or Code of Jewish Law, covers the laws and practices that are required on a day-to-day basis, including daily prayer and blessings, the Shabbos, or Jewish Sabbath, Yomim Tovim, or the Jewish festivals, etc. In the school’s curriculum it has been divided into various sections. The initial study of Halacha is on a basic level. Later in the academic program, it is studied in more depth with additional commentaries. Students have a choice of attending a lecture and/or studying with a chavrusa in the study hall. The lecture is given five times a week for a total of 3-3/4 hours, plus study in the study hall 2-1/4 hours totaling 6 hours. Alternatively, students may choose to study with a Chavrusa for all six hours.

The following are selections of the Orach Chaim volumes of Shulchan Aruch that may be studied in the Halacha courses:

1. The laws concerning one’s rising in the morning, morning blessings, and the recitation of the Shema prayer. Orach Chaim, Sec. 1-7, 46-88.
2. The laws and practices of Tzitzis and Tefilin, or phylacteries. Orach Chaim, Sec. 8-31, 37-45.
3. The writings contained in the Tefilin and how they may be corrected if written in error. Orach Chaim, Sec. 32-36.
4. The morning Tefilahs, or prayers. Orach Chaim, Sec. 89-127.
5. The blessings of the Kohanim. Laws pertaining to end of the daily Tefilahs. Krias HaTorah, or the reading of the weekly portion of the Torah. Orach Chaim, Sec. 128-149.

6. The appropriate conduct in a synagogue. Orach Chaim, Sec. 150-165.

7. The Halachic practices before eating bread, and proper conduct during the meal. The Mitzvah of washing one’s hands before eating bread. Orach Chaim, Sec. 166-180.


A major component of the Shulchan Aruch treats the complex laws of Shabbos observance. The following courses include a broad selection of these laws. Needless to say, this is at best an introduction to a very difficult area of Jewish law.

10. Preparations for the Shabbos I. Orach Chaim, Sec. 242-266.

11. Preparation for Shabbos B; Laws pertaining to the beginning of Shabbos; reading of the Torah on Shabbos, other laws not pertaining to Melachos of Shabbos; reading of the Haftorah; Sec.267-300

12. Avos Melochos A Section 301-303

13. Avos Melochos B Section 304-307, 313-316

14. Avos Melochos C Section 317-322

15. Avos Melochos D Section 334-339
16. Avos Melochos E Section 340-344

17. Muktzah; Sec. 308-312

18. Specific laws pertaining to the Sabbath; giving birth, circumcision on Shabbos, borrowing and acquiring objects; Sec. 323-327, 329-333

19. Medicine and healing on Shabbos; Sec. 328

20. Carrying from different reshuyos (ownerships on Shabbos; Sec. 345-365)

21. Making the Eruv; Sec. 366-395

22. Techumim and Rosh Chodesh; Sec. 396-428

The laws of the holiday cover all the laws of the various Jewish Holidays. The different sections are broken up as follows and can generally be covered in one semester:

23. Laws of Passover A--checking for Chometz; Laws of Chometz Sec. 429-450

24. Laws of Passover B--kashering vessels; making of matzos; Sec.451-467

25. Laws of Passover C--the Seder; tefilla on Passover and Shavuos; the Omer days; Sec. 468-494

26. Laws of Yom Tov; Sec. 495-529

27. Laws of Chol Hamoed;Sec. 530-548

28. Laws of the fast days; Sec. 549-603
29. Laws of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur; Sec. 604-624

30. Laws of Succoth; the four species; Sec. 625-669

31. Laws of Chanukah and Purim; Sec. 670-697

Course Listings – Legal Codes

A 211 Legal Codes 1

*No Prerequisites.*

B 211 Legal Codes 1

*Prerequisite: A 211 Legal Codes 1*

A 221 Legal Codes 2

*Prerequisite: B 211 Legal Codes 1*

B 221 Legal Codes 2

*Prerequisite: A 221 Legal Codes 2*

A 231 Legal Codes 3

*Prerequisite: B 221 Legal Codes 2*

B 231 Legal Codes 3

*Prerequisite: A 231 Legal Codes 3*

A 241 Legal Codes 4

*Prerequisite: B 231 Legal Codes 3*
B 241 Legal Codes 4

*Prerequisite: A 241 Legal Codes 4*

A 251 Legal Codes 5

*Prerequisite: B 241 Legal Codes 4*

B 251 Legal Codes 5

*Prerequisite: A 251 Legal Codes 5*

3. **Ethics**

The Department of Ethics and Philosophy trains students in the basic tenets of Jewish faith and thought, as well as developing their abilities of self-analysis and character improvement. Students have a choice of a class lecture or studying in the study hall for two hours weekly. A weekly mussar lecture by the Rosh Yeshiva makes a total of 3 hours a week.

**Course Listings - Ethics**

A 411 Ethics 1

*No Prerequisites.*

B 411 Ethics 1

*Prerequisite: A 411 Ethics 1*

A 421 Ethics 2

*Prerequisite: B 411 Ethics 1*

B 421 Ethics 2

*Prerequisite: A 421 Ethics 2*
A 431 Ethics 3
*Prerequisite: B 421 Ethics 2*

B 431 Ethics 3
*Prerequisite: A 431 Ethics 3*

A 441 Ethics 4
*Prerequisite: B 431 Ethics 3*

B 441 Ethics 4
*Prerequisite: A 441 Ethics 4*

A 451 Ethics 5
*Prerequisite: B 441 Ethics 4*

B 451 Ethics 5
*Prerequisite: A 451 Ethics 5*

4. **Bible**

While the bulk of a student's time is devoted to the Talmud, familiarity with the Bible, the Written Law which is its source, is also crucial. A student is expected to have a basic general knowledge of the Biblical texts, which he will continually review in greater depth each year using the many commentaries. Students devote their own time to covering the Weekly portion with the basic commentary, Rashi (Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchoki b. Troyes, France, 1040, d. 1105). The entire Bible is divided into 54 portions, of which a few are combined and read jointly.
### SAMPLE CURRICULUM FOR FIRST TALMUDIC DEGREE

<table>
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<tr>
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**GRADUATE DIVISION**

1. **Advanced Talmudic Degree Program.** This is a five year program (150 credits) leading to an Advanced Talmudic Degree. Rabbi Moshe Plutchok is the supervisor of this program.

The graduates of this program are expected to be competent Talmudic scholars with refined personalities.

This program also gives the graduate students the opportunity to study with undergraduate students, giving them valuable experience in teaching as well as counseling. Yeshiva Derech Chaim uses this program as an overall training center for future educators on the secondary and post-secondary level.

2. **Rabbinic Ordination Program**

This certificate program is open to any student who has completed four years of satisfactory Talmudic achievement and selected students who have completed 3 years of satisfactory Talmudic achievement. This program offers special training in applied Jewish law (Halacha). The curriculum consists of certain portions of Legal codes known as Orach Chaim and or Yoreh Deah. It is based on studies in the Shulchan Oruch or tractates in the Gemara with outcomes leading to applied Jewish law (Halacha). The Rabbinic Ordination Certificate is based on the subjects in Jewish Legal Codes of Law.
There are two options for this program.

Option 1:
A Chaburah Type Program. Supervised and run by Rabbi Moshe Plutchok. The students of this "chaburah", (group) pair off to be chavrusa partners and study the specific legal codes of law in Orach Chaim or Yoreh Deah that have been chosen to be studied that semester. Then they all meet together daily as a group for an hour to an hour and a half to speak over and debate the codes and commentaries which they studied together with their Chavrusah partners. A Shiur is given by Rabbi Moshe Plutchok.

Option 2:
Chavrusa Type Program. Supervised by Rabbi Moshe Plutchok. The students pair off to be study partners to study specific legal codes of law in Orach Chaim or Yoreh Deah that they selected to study that semester with the approval of Rabbi Moshe Plutchok or Rabbi C. Rennert.

In option 2 the study partners do not meet together with a group as in option 1 to debate the codes and commentaries but instead delve into the material with each other and others in the Bais Medrash (study hall).

A Certificate of Rabbinic Ordination will be issued to the candidate upon completion of the Ordination Program. This program is offered selectively. Students who seek to enroll in this program should meet with the Rosh Yeshiva. There is a minimum of 24 credits needed in legal codes of law in order to earn a Rabbinic Ordination Certificate. These credits can be added to other credits earned in the Yeshiva Derech Chaim programs to total 150 credits for the attainment of the First Talmudic, Advanced Talmudic or Chaver Fellow Degree.

3. Chaver Fellow Degree Program. Students completing the Advanced Talmudic Program are eligible for admission to a more advanced program.
The program encompasses highly sophisticated research and study in greater depth than the regular graduate programs, wherein the student develops as an accomplished scholar in his own right. Five years of successful study in this program, i.e. completion of 150 credits of study, chosen in consultation with the student's academic advisor, leads to a "Chaver-Fellow" Degree in Talmudic Scholarship" so named according to the traditional title given to highly accomplished Talmudic scholars.

Course listings follow the numbering system in effect for other courses, and listings of specific offerings are available by request from the registrar.

After demonstrating considerable proficiency in analyzing the complexities of the texts, as well as the ability to decipher the nuances of the Sugyos, graduate students spend the bulk of their time on independent research. Study is geared toward the refinement of the graduate student's abilities in the various areas, and preparation for a career in one of the related Judaic studies fields, such as teaching in Post secondary Jewish Schools, the Pulpit, or as a Posek (judge in Halacha). For the Chaver Fellow Degree, 150 credits are required.

**GRADUATE COURSE LISTINGS**

The following courses are open to all graduate students. Course numbers refer to department (first digit), year of study (second digit) and type of study (third digit), as indicated below:

Talmud:
1. Intensive
2. Survey
3. Semi-intensive

Shulchan Oruch:
2. Intensive
3. Survey

While the graduate courses for years 1-5 follow the undergraduate numbering system, using the second digit of a four digit course number to indicate the year in school, courses beyond the ninth year will be designated by placing a two-digit number in the second digit, enclosed in bracket. For example, a course in year nine might be 1925, while in tenth year it would be 1(10)25. The fourth and fifth will
indicate the subject of study A161(01), would indicate an intensive course taken on the first year of graduate study. The tractate covered is Pesachim.

1. **Talmud**

For a concentration in Talmudic Studies which includes Gemara or Shulchan Oruch, 120 credits in this department will be required for graduation. The course listings of the various tractates follow the same numbering system as the Undergraduate Division. The course listing for Talmud in the graduate division is designated as "Graduate Talmud" or "Graduate Shulchan Oruch".

Clarification: Shulchan Oruch which is 7 credits or 5 credits is studied from the Shulchan Oruch and its commentaries, whereas, Legal Codes which is 1 credit is either just Mishna Brura or an abridged volume which is more condensed. The same is true in all 3 degree programs of YDC.

**TEXT LISTINGS – TALMUD**

**(00) Shabbos**

Restrictions related to proscribed work efforts and their source, in depth study of all regulations regarding the Sabbath, including extension to problems that emanate from change in society and technological advances.

**(01) Pesachim**

Laws of Passover; leaven, the Seder, and Passover offering, concepts of ownership and relinquishment of rights, responsibilities for removal of leaven as related to status, tenant, landlord, head of household and watchmen.

**(02) Kesubos**

The marriage contract; obligations and commitments incurred therein, specifically in relation to financial considerations and promises made prior to marriage. Family structure; the atatys, role and rights of women in society.
(03) **Yevomos**
Study of Levirate marriage and Chlitza, consanguinity. General anthropological structure of Jewish society, permitted marriage partners, etc. Privileges and obligations of Kohanim. Procedures involved in ascertaining death of an individual; the Agunah.

(04) **Kidushin**
Procedures whereby women become betrothed and related regulations and obligations. Comparative study of modes of acquisition employed elsewhere. Marriage by proxy and conditional betrothal.

(05) **Gittin**
Traditional divorce with primary emphasis on the "Get" (divorce document); technical aspects regulating its legality. Review of legal documents and methods of establishing authenticity of signatures on such documents; related regulations.

(06) **Baba Kama**
Talmudic Civil Law, Part I. Compensation for injury or loss, redress and liability through injury or misappropriation, damages by the defendant, personally or by any chattels or agencies. Misappropriation also reviewed in its broad sense, whether through violence or theft.

(07) **Baba Metzia**
Talmudic Civil Law, Part II. Dealing primarily with claims related to joint transactions, from finding lost articles to wage agreements. Consideration relating to trade and industry, usury, labor conditions and responsibilities, deposits and tenancy, interest.

(08) **Baba Basra**
Talmudic Civil Law, Part III. Claims of right of way, claims and rights of partners, neighbors, purchasers, vendors and heirs, legal forms of acquisitions of partners; sellers liability for value of his wares and deeds on terms of protecting consumer. Deeds and legal documents relating to business also treated.
(09) **Chullin**
A study of animals and birds considered suitable for consumption and detailed analysis of diseases and injuries rendering them unfit for food. Principle dietary laws. Methodology of slaughter of animals; students become thoroughly familiar with anatomy and physiology of the cow.

(10) **Sukkah**
Laws of the Festival of Succos, or Booths. The construction requirements in order to fulfill the Mitzvah of Sukkah. The four symbolic species that one must take on Sukkos: the Lulov, Esrog, Hadassim and Aravos.

(11) **Beitza**
Laws of prohibited activities on Holidays, differing from the Sabbath. The laws of Muktzah, or objects that may not to be handled on Shabbos and Yom Tov.

(12) **Rosh Hashana**
Laws of the New Year, the Shofar. Sanctification of new months.

(13) **Sanhedrin**
Judicial process, the judicial Assembly and conduct of monetary and capitol cases. Examination of witnesses, the rebellious son, types of capital punishment for various transgressions; stoning, burning, choking and sword.

(14) **Makos**
Judicial corporal punishment and transgressions resulting therein. Contradictory witnesses, cities of refuge for involuntary manslaughter.

(15) **Megillah**
Laws of Purim, the Reading of the Book of Esther and other obligations of the Holiday, charitable donations sending of gifts of comestibles.
(16) **Nedarim**
Laws of object-related vows and resultant obligations, annulment of vows, jurisdiction of parent and spouse over person making a vow.

(17) **Berachos**
Laws of blessings which include prayer, Krias Shema, and various Agadic teachings.

(18) **Shavuos**
Laws of personal vows, oaths before the court, the status of a single witness, partial admittance of responsibility, shomrim (those responsible for guarding another’s property). A ritually unclean person who entered the Temple unlawfully, the increasing and decreasing sacrifice.

(19) **Other Tractates**

(20) **Moed Kattan**
Laws of what is permitted and what is prohibited to do on the intermediate days of Sukkos and Pesach. The laws and practices related to mourning.

(21) **Eiruvin**
The complex laws and Rabbinic regulations pertaining to carrying on Shabbos from one domain to another.
GRADUATE TALMUD COURSE LISTINGS

A&B 161##  Graduate Talmud Iyun 1A&B  7 credits
A&B 171##  Graduate Talmud Iyun 2A&B  7 credits
A&B 181##  Graduate Talmud Iyun 3A&B  7 credits
A&B 191##  Graduate Talmud Iyun 4A&B  7 credits
A&B 1(10)1## Graduate Talmud Iyun 5A&B  7 credits

A&B 162##  Graduate Talmud Bekiyus 1A&B  5 credits
A&B 172##  Graduate Talmud Bekiyus 2A&B  5 credits
A&B 182##  Graduate Talmud Bekiyus 3A&B  5 credits
A&B 192##  Graduate Talmud Bekiyus 4A&B  5 credits
A&B 1(10)2## Graduate Talmud Bekiyus 5A&B  5 credits

GRADUATE SHULCHAN ORUCH TEXT LISTINGS

The Shulchan Oruch, Orach Chaim

This section of the Code of Jewish Law covers the daily, Sabbathical and holiday requirements for the Jewish people. In the school’s curriculum it has been divided into various sections. Both younger and more advanced students study these sections. The initial study is on a basic level. Later on in the academic program it is studied in more depth with additional commentaries. Students have a choice of attending a lecture and/or studying with a chavrusa in the study hall. The lecture is given five times a week for a total of 3-3/4 hours, plus study in the study hall 2-1/4 hours totaling 6 hours. Alternatively, students may choose to study with a Chavrusa for all six hours.

The following are the various sections of Orach Chaim that can be covered in one or two semesters:

Laws pertaining to:

(01) Rising in the morning; blessings of the morning; Shema; Orach Chaim Sec. 1-7, 46-88
The laws of the Sabbath cover all the intricate laws that must be observed on the Sabbath. The different sections can be broken up into approximately 13 sections, of which one or more sections can be covered per semester.

Laws pertaining to:

(10) Preparation for Shabbos A; Sec. 242-266
(11) Preparation for Shabbos B; Laws pertaining to the beginning of Shabbos; reading of the Torah on Shabbos, other laws not pertaining to Melachos of Shabbos; reading of the Haftorah; Sec. 267-300
(12) Avos Melochos A Section 301-303
(13) Avos Melochos B Section 304-307, 313-316
(14) Avos Melochos C Section 317-322
(15) Avos Melochos D Section 334-339
(16) Avos Melochos E Section 340-344
(17) Muktzah; Sec. 308-312
(18) Specific laws pertaining to the Sabbath; giving birth, circumcision on Shabbos, borrowing and acquiring objects; Sec. 323-327, 329-333
(19) Medicine and healing on Shabbos; Sec. 328
(20) Carrying from different reshuyos (ownerships on Shabbos; Sec. 345-365
The laws of the holiday cover all the laws of the various Jewish Holidays. The different sections are broken up as follows and can generally be covered in one semester:

(23) Laws of Passover A -- checking for Chometz; Laws of Chometz Sec. 429-450
(24) Laws of Passover B -- kashering vessels; making of matzos; Sec.451-467
(25) Laws of Passover C -- the Seder; tefilla on Passover and Shavuos; the Omer days; Sec. 468-494
(26) Laws of Yom Tov; Sec. 495-529
(27) Laws of Chol Hamoeid;Sec. 530-548
(28) Laws of the fast days; Sec. 549-603
(29) Laws of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur; Sec. 604-624
(30) Laws of Succoth; the four species; Sec. 625-669
(31) Laws of Chanukah and Purim; Sec. 670-697
(32) Other laws.
(33) Kitzur Hilchos Shabbos
(34) Other Halacha Seforim
(55) Ben Ish Chai. By R. Yosef Chaim

**The Shulchan Aruch - Yoreh Deah**

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1. Shach
2. Taz
3. Biyur Hagra
4. Pischei Teshuva
5. Nekudas Hakesef
6. Bais Hillel
7. Yad Avraham
8. Tzvi Latzadik
9. Pri Hagadim
10. Chavas Daas
11. Machtzis Hakesef
12. Magen Avraham
13. Beer Haitaiv
14. Machtzis Hashekel

GRADUATE SHULCHAN ORUCH COURSE LISTINGS

A&B 262## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Iyun 1A&B 7 credits
A&B 272## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Iyun 2A&B 7 credits
A&B 282## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Iyun 3A&B 7 credits
A&B 292## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Iyun 4A&B 7 credits
A&B 2(10)2## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Iyun 5A&B 7 credits
A&B 263## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Bekiyus 1A&B 5 credits
A&B 273## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Bekiyus 2A&B 5 credits
A&B 283## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Bekiyus 3A&B 5 credits
A&B 293## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Bekiyus 4A&B 5 credits
A&B 2(10)3## Graduate Shulchan Oruch Bekiyus 5A&B 5 credits
2. **Legal Codes**
Study on the graduate level will emphasize practical application of legal reasoning to questions which may arise. The course listings of the various sections of Shulchan Oruch, Orach Chaim or other parts of Shulchan Orach follow the same numbering system as the Undergraduate Division. Required credits for graduation is 20 credits.

4. **Ethics**
The text and course listings follow the same numbering system as the Ethics Department of the Undergraduate Division. Required credits for graduation is 10 credits.

5. **Bible**
The course listings of the various commentaries follow the same numbering system as the Undergraduate Division. There is no minimum requirement of Bible credits for graduation. Credits from Bible courses may replace credits in Legal Codes or Ethics.

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**SAMPLE CURRICULUM FOR CHAVER FELLOW DEGREE**

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**Fourth Semester**

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### Fifth Semester

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### Sixth Semester

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### Seventh Semester

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### Eighth Semester

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**Ninth Semester**

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**Tenth Semester**

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<td>B5(15)1</td>
<td>Post Graduate Bible 5B</td>
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YESHIVA DERECH CHAIM
1573 39th Street
Brooklyn, New York
718-438-5476

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From Upper Manhattan:
Take the FDR drive or West Side Highway southbound to Hugh Carey Tunnel (Brooklyn Battery Tunnel), to Prospect Expressway, to Ocean Parkway. On Ocean Parkway, turn right at Cortelyou Road. Continue 6 blocks & turn left onto Dahill Road. Drive one block until 16th Avenue. The Yeshiva is located on the corner of 16th Avenue & 39th Street.
From JFK:
Take the Belt Parkway West to Ocean Parkway. At Ocean Parkway turn right and continue until Ditmas Avenue. Turn left onto Ditmas Avenue, continue on for 6 blocks and then turn right at Dahill Road. Drive 1 block until 16th Avenue. The Yeshiva is located on the corner of 16th Avenue & 39th Street.