

Dear Applicant,

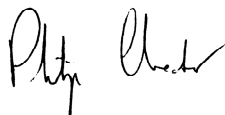
MASA represents the unique potential to bring an unprecedented number of Australian youth to Israel on long term programs. The Australian Jewish community is extremely privileged to have access to such a scholarship fund.

We understand that you are interested in applying for a MASA scholarship. This year there has been a change in MASA policy which has seen the introduction of a universal gift of \$US1000 to every applicant regardless of financial standing. In addition for those with genuine financial need MASA offers a means-tested scholarship based on your income from all sources offering a maximum of \$US10,000. This is not an unlimited fund and the underlying idea is to provide assistance to people who otherwise could not afford to go.

If you genuinely fall in the lower income brackets then we are eager for you to receive the financial support to which you are eligible. The MASA scholarship seeks to alleviate the financial obstacles associated with a long-term Israel Program and we welcome all eligible applications. Indeed, MASA is underpinned by the Israeli government and the Jewish Agency for Israel in keeping with their commitment to bring Jewish youth to Israel on long-term programs.

If you do not come within the designated financial parameters, having regard to your income from all sources including trusts, companies and all other entities, then please do not apply for the means tested scholarship, although you will still receive the universal \$US1000 gift.

As the official MASA representative in Australia we have a responsibility to do our best to preserve the integrity of the means-tested process and accordingly we may where necessary obtain for MASA information to help it determine individual applications.



Philip Chester  
President



Representing the Zionist Aims of Australian Jewry



Dear Applicant,

As the address for Israel programmes from Australia, we are very excited to be helping you on your journey to Israel.

MASA offers two main avenues for acquiring a MASA scholarship. We have compiled the information below in order to guide you in completing the right MASA application with the relevant supporting documentation.

1. MASA offers a universal grant of US\$1000 to all eligible MASA-approved program applicants.
2. Additionally, MASA continues to provide means-tested scholarships of up to US\$10,000 for a year program (up to US\$5,000 for a semester program), of which you will be guaranteed at least US\$1,000.

Your eligibility to apply for the means-tested scholarship is dependent on the average per person income (APPI) in your home. The APPI is calculated by adding up all the income received in your home and dividing it by the number of people living in your home. The below information will assist you in determining your APPI.

For the purposes of the MASA scholarship, income is defined as follows:

1. If you are financially independent\*, your taxable income.
2. If you are not financially independent, your taxable income and the taxable income of all the people living in your home.

To determine which additional documentation you need to provide, please complete the following table with your gross annual income:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Father / Guardian 1   |  |
| Mother / Guardian 2   |  |
| Applicant   |  |
| Other dependants living at home (siblings, grandparents etc.) |  |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>   |  |

What is the total number of people living in your home: \_\_\_\_\_

Calculate the average per person income in your home as follows:

Total income (according to the above table) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ AUD

Divided by

Total number of dependents living at home \_\_\_\_\_ people

**Average per Person income equals:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ AUD**

| <b>SITUATION</b> | <b>AVERAGE PER PERSON INCOME</b> | <b>RELEVANT MASA APPLICATION</b>                            |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| A                | Below US\$40,000                 | You are eligible to apply for the means-tested scholarship. |
| B                | Above US\$40,001                 | Please only apply for the US\$1000 universal grant.         |

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*Please note that the average per person income in Australian dollars will be converted to US dollars by MASA on the day the forms are processed at MASA. For the purpose of this application we have used a standard rate so should the exchange rate move your eligibility may change.*

**How to Apply:**

To apply for either MASA scholarship you must first register online. You will find the forms at: [www.masaisrael.org](http://www.masaisrael.org)

Please follow the prompts in order to complete the forms.

Once submitted, you will receive an email from MASA with your form attached.

You must print out this attachment and sign the last page.

This form, signed, along with all relevant documentation (as outlined below) must be submitted to our office (as detailed below).

Once an allocation has been assigned, MASA will notify you directly.

**Documentation Required:**

- For the means-tested scholarship-
- >> Appendix 1 - Privacy Statement (to be found below)
- >> Additional documentation

**Additional Documentation:**

When applying for the means-tested scholarship, your application must be accompanied by copies of your latest individual tax returns. It is vital you include the page that details the TOTAL INCOME OR LOSS. Please ensure to delete the tax file numbers from all documentation.

In addition, if you receive any centrelink payments, please also include proof of these.

**\* Financial Independence**

In order to qualify as an independent applicant for a MASA needs-based scholarship, MASA requires the following 3 official documents to be supplied in addition to a complete Application Form:

- a) The applicant's proof of income for 12 months prior to the start of the Israel program
- b) Appendix 2- A notarised letter stating that the applicant does not receive financial assistance from his/her parents/guardians (to be found below)
- c) A copy of a rental agreement for 12 months prior to the start of the Israel program as proof of independent living.

The official final date for acceptance of applications for MASA scholarships is 60 days before the start of the Israel program.

For all MASA programs except youth movement Shnat programs, please send completed MASA forms to:

**Israel Programs  
Zionist Federation of Australia  
306 Hawthorn Rd  
Caulfield South, 3162**

For youth movement Shnat programs, please send your completed MASA forms directly to your movement.

If you have any questions regarding the forms, eligibility or more, please do not hesitate to contact your youth movement representative or us at:

[israelprograms@zfa.com.au](mailto:israelprograms@zfa.com.au)

**t: 03 9272 5644**

**f: 03 9272 5640**

[www.zfa.com.au](http://www.zfa.com.au)

If you have any website challenges, please contact Masainfo at

[Masainfo@jafi.org](mailto:Masainfo@jafi.org)



APPENDIX 1

**PRIVACY STATEMENT**

- 1 In this Privacy Statement (“**Statement**”), “personal information” and “sensitive information” have the same meaning as in the *Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)*.
- 2 By signing this Statement, the persons named below (“**Signatories**”) authorise and consent to the Zionist Federation of Australia Israel Programs Pty Ltd (trading as “Israel Central”), collecting, using and disclosing the personal information (including sensitive information) of the Signatories for the purposes outlined in the MASA Scholarship Application Form.
- 3 The Signatories consent to the disclosure of the said personal information (including sensitive information) to MASA representatives in Israel, and to organisations specifically engaged by the Company to assist the Company in performing all of its obligations in respect of the MASA Scholarship Application.

DATED the                      day of    200...

.....  
[insert name of Participant]

.....  
Signature

.....  
[insert name of parent]

.....  
Signature

.....  
[insert name of parent]

.....

## Statutory Declaration of Financial Independence

I ....., do solemnly and sincerely declare that I am financially independent of my parents and request that MASA consider this when calculating the scholarship fund to be awarded to me.

I acknowledge that this declaration is true and correct and I make it in the belief that a person making a false declaration is liable to the penalties of perjury.

DECLARED at )  
in the State of )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

\_\_\_\_\_ )  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
2007

Before me: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (sign):

Name (Print Name):

Address:

Qualification:

Persons who may witness statutory declarations include:

- a justice of the peace
- a notary public
- a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court
- a clerk to a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court
- the Prothonotary or a Deputy Prothonotary of the Supreme Court, the Registrar or a Deputy Registrar of the County Court, the Principal Registrar of the Magistrates' Court or a Registrar or Deputy Registrar of the Magistrates' Court
- a member of the police force
- a registered medical practitioner
- a registered dentist
- a pharmacist.