

Beit Binah *Madrichim* Description and Application

Madrich (masc.) or *Madrichah* (fem.) literally means, “guide.” *Madrichim* (plural form) is a program for teens to exercise Jewish leadership in the K-6th grade Beit Binah classrooms. Our *Madrichim* program offers 9th-12th grade teens the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, to increase self-confidence, express Jewish values, and learn practical teaching skills by assisting teachers in the classroom. *Madrichim* work under the supervision of the classroom teacher and the Director of Life Long Learning. *Madrichim* must be included as members of Kol Shofar in good standing.

What do *Madrichim* do?

The *Madrichim* program is not just a way to help our students; it is also an opportunity for teens to develop communication, organizational, and teaching skills. Generally, *madrichim* are responsible to

- Act as positive Jewish role models for students and their families
- Assist in the classroom at the discretion of the teacher
- Serve as individual tutors to individual students that require remediation or enrichment
- Work with students in small groups
- Prepare classroom materials, record keeping, *tzedakah* collection
- Assist in classroom organization, tidiness, and decor
- Participate and help to lead school wide *tefilah* and *havdalah*
- Encourage student participation, involvement, and attentiveness to projects and activities
- Learn to become self-reflective practitioners, accepting feedback and evaluation from teachers and administrators

Is this a paid position?

9th grade *madrichim* serve as volunteers and receive community service credit. *Madrichim* that have volunteered for at least one year and received positive recommendations may be paid beginning in 10th grade. Paid *madrichim* are compensated for class time and any additionally assigned training sessions. 10th-12th grade *Madrichim* are also always able to choose to serve as volunteers and receive community service credit in lieu of payment.

In order to fulfill the payment agreement, *Madrichim* are expected to:

- Sign in at least 10-minutes in advance of Beit Binah start time (3:50 PM Wednesdays and/or 8:20 AM Sundays).
- Attend no fewer than 80% of assigned class sessions.
- Stay in direct and regular communication with the classroom teacher, informing him or her of any upcoming absences within 3 days notice (unless it is an emergency).
- Report needs and concerns to the teacher and/or Director.

8th Grade *Jr. Madrichim*

Depending upon classroom needs, and on a case-by-case basis, 8th grade students may apply to become *Jr. Madrichim*. *Jr. Madrichim* serve as volunteers.

Madrichim Application

Personal Information

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Age: _____ Gender: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Email: _____ Parent Phone: _____

I am applying for:

_____ Wednesdays (4:00-5:45 PM) Grades 3-7

_____ Sundays (8:30 AM – 12:00 PM) Grades PreK-7

_____ Both Wednesdays & Sundays

With which grade level are you most interested in working? (Check all that apply)
(Keep in mind that PreK-2nd grade only meet on Sundays)

___ PreK-K-1st grades

___ 2nd grade

___ 3rd & 4th grades

___ 5th grade

___ 6th & 7th grades

Comments about your availability and/or grade placement preferences:

Please describe briefly why you want to be in the Madrichim program. What are you expecting from this experience?

Please describe your Hebrew ability and your interest in helping students with Hebrew reading. Are you comfortable with helping students learn to read basic Hebrew? Are you comfortable with the prayers and melodies for Bar/Bat Mitzvah? Is assisting in Hebrew language something that you would like to pursue? (Note: Hebrew proficiency is not a prerequisite for becoming a *Madrich* or *Madrichah*).

What would you like to learn as a *Madrich* or *Madrichah* this year – how would you like to grow in this experience?

Did you attend Beit Binah or some other religious school? If so, what did you learn from that experience that you would bring to your role as a *Madrich* or *Madrichah*; how does your previous religious school experience inform what it means to be a *Madrich* or *Madrichah*?

Beit Binah *Madrichim Brit Avodah* – Responsibility Agreement

Beit Binah's *Madrichim* program welcomes 8th-12th graders into our synagogue school program to be outstanding Jewish role models. Our *Madrichim* take on that responsibility by bringing in their own passions and knowledge, ensuring a safe and positive environment for learning and socialization, and assisting in the overall process of the Beit Binah program. Our *Madrichim* are learning vital skills about the Jewish educational profession.

***Madrichim* are required to read, understand, and abide by the following assertions. Your signature at the bottom confirms your acceptance to the following standards and responsibilities:**

1) *This program runs well when our Madrichim are paired well with the classes and students:*

- I understand that acceptance as a *Madrich/ah* is dependent upon enrollment numbers, availability, and the specific needs of Beit Binah.

2) *Our Madrichim are invaluable Jewish role models in our classrooms:*

- I will act as a representative of the Jewish values of respect, integrity, and caring to the entire Beit Binah community: teachers, leadership, students, and parents.
- I will encourage students to learn, participate and be involved in the class.
- I will try to find ways to connect with the students.

3) *In order to provide a consistent learning environment:*

- I agree to be present and active in the classroom.
- I agree to be present at a minimum of 80% of my assigned class sessions.
- I agree to inform my teacher and the appropriate leadership if I am unable to attend a class or other scheduled event.

4) *Our Madrichim take on professional responsibilities through the duration of the Beit Binah year:*

- I understand that my first year as a *Madrich/ah* will be volunteer (earning no compensation), and that I will only be eligible to apply for a salaried position in subsequent years and/or I fulfill all mandatory requirements.
- I understand that Kol Shofar has a policy that all *Madrichim* must be in attendance no fewer than 80% of the assigned class sessions.
- I understand that failure to attend 80% of my assigned class sessions will make me ineligible to apply for a salaried position the following year of the program (with certain exceptions depending upon extraneous circumstances).

5) *Beit Binah classrooms are meant to be healthy and safe learning environments:*

- I will not allow any electronic devices I might own distract me from the job at hand.

Kol Shofar maintains the discretion to modify this *Brit Avodah* and *Madrichim* requirement at any time. *Madrichim* will be notified of any changes when they occur.

Madrich/ah Signature: _____ Date: _____