Israel Machane (Year 11) - Bursary Process & Guidelines

1. Our Commitment

Bnei Akiva is committed to making its programmes as accessible as possible, regardless of a family's financial circumstances.

We recognise that the cost of participating in Israel programmes can represent a significant financial commitment for families. Through our bursary programme, working alongside UJIA, we aim to provide financial assistance to those who need it most. We understand that every family's circumstances are different, and **we will always do our best to help wherever we can**. However, bursary funding is limited, and unfortunately we can not guarantee that every request will be met in full.

Our aim is to operate a fair, confidential and supportive process that allows us to help as many families as possible.

2. How to Apply

All bursary applications must be submitted through the UJIA online application process. You should indicate that you wish to apply for a bursary on the initial application (Form I), and when you are sent the full application form (Form 2) by Bnei Akiva, a link to the bursary application will be provided.

3. Completing Your Application

We appreciate that applying for financial assistance can sometimes feel daunting, particularly when providing detailed information about your family's finances. We ask that all applicants **do their very best to complete every section of the application as fully, accurately and carefully as possible**, providing all the requested information and supporting documentation.

Bursary applications can involve requests for substantial financial assistance, sometimes amounting to many thousands of pounds. It is therefore important that applications provide a clear and complete picture of each family's circumstances. The bursary committee can only assess applications based on the information provided. The more complete your application, the better we can understand your circumstances and consider what financial assistance may be available.

Please try to ensure that your application is completed to the best of your ability, with all requested information disclosed, clearly explained and with all supporting documentation.

Need some help?
If you're finding parts of the application difficult, we encourage you to ask a friend, family member or someone you trust for assistance. You can also approach **Paperweight**, a charity that provides practical support and guidance to members of the community.

If you're genuinely stuck, please don't worry. Email bursaries@bauk.org explaining where you're having difficulty, and someone will pick up your email and do their best to help or point you in the right direction. We ask that you make every effort to complete the application independently in the first instance, so that we can focus our resources on reviewing applications and helping as many families as possible. Please note, Bnei Akiva staff are not able to assist with this via telephone.

4. Other Sources of Financial Assistance

While Bnei Akiva and UJIA will do what they reasonably can to provide financial support, we encourage families to explore all available sources of assistance rather than relying solely on these bursaries. We suggest contacting other charitable organisations in the community and friends & family who may be able to assist you.

Our aim is to work alongside other funding providers to help make programmes financially accessible wherever possible.

Bnei Akiva's bursary is intended to contribute towards financial need, rather than necessarily cover the full cost of participation.

5. Anonymity and Confidentiality

The Bnei Akiva bursary assessment process is conducted in a highly confidential manner.
We recognise that discussing personal finances can be sensitive, and protecting applicants' privacy is extremely important to us.

The bursary committee do not receive applicants' names or any identifying details from the Bursary Officer. They assess applications solely on the financial information and circumstances presented. This approach helps ensure that all applications are considered fairly, objectively and without personal influence.

To protect the integrity and confidentiality of the process applicants must not contact bursary committee members with all enquiries being directed through the designated email address. **All bursary correspondence must be directed to: bursaries@bauk.org.**

If you have a question or need assistance, please email us and someone will do their best to help.

6. Allocation of Bursaries

The BA Bursary Committee considers all anonymised applications together, once the application deadline has passed. Applications are assessed according to financial need, considering the information provided, the cost of the programme, the family's ability to contribute and any other available financial assistance.

As the total amount of funding available is limited, the committee must consider the needs of all applicants when determining individual allocations. We appreciate that families may be facing significant financial pressures, and every application will be considered carefully and sympathetically. Awards are discretionary and may be lower than the amount requested. Previous receipt of a bursary does not guarantee that assistance will be available in subsequent years.

7. Deadlines and Decisions

Applicants should ensure that their completed application and all supporting documentation are submitted to UJIA by the published deadline. We encourage families to begin the process as early as possible to allow sufficient time to gather the necessary information and seek assistance if required.

Incomplete or late applications may be more difficult to assess and may not be considered where funding decisions have already been made.

Once the BA Bursary Committee and UJIA have completed their respective assessments, applicants will be notified of the outcome via email from bursaries@bauk.org

8. A Final Word

We understand that applying for financial assistance is not always easy, and we want families to feel comfortable seeking support when they need it.

Our bursary committee is made up of volunteers who give their time to help young people access these important educational opportunities.

We are committed to treating every application with fairness, sensitivity and respect.
In return, we simply ask families to:

- **Complete their applications to the very best of their ability**, providing as much accurate and relevant information as possible.
- Seek assistance from friends, family or Paperweight if they need help with the forms.
- Email bursaries@bauk.org if they are genuinely struggling and need further guidance.
- Respect the anonymity and confidentiality of the bursary process by communicating through the designated email address.
- Submit their applications and supporting documentation by the required deadline.

We will always do our best to help wherever possible. The more complete the information we receive, the better placed we are to understand each family's needs and allocate the funding available as fairly and effectively as possible.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation, and for helping us maintain a fair, supportive and confidential bursary process for everyone.