



## RABBI ISAAC ELCHANAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY an affiliate of Yeshiva University

500 West 185 Street, Glueck Suite 632 • New York, NY 10033  
(646) 592-4455 • Fax: (646) 592-4060 • [riets@yu.edu](mailto:riets@yu.edu) • [www.riets.edu](http://www.riets.edu)

### Instructions for Completing Application for Admission

1. Students apply either to the Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik Semikha Program, the Pre-Semikha Program, or the Ludwig Jesselson Kollel Chaverim (Chaver Program) Program. While it is envisioned that most of the students will have attended Yeshiva College, graduates from other college institutions may apply as well, in accordance with the requirements set forth below.
  - a. Requirements for admission to the Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik Semikha Program include:
    - i. A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.  
Students with senior status at Yeshiva College or the Sy Syms School of Business may be considered for acceptance to the Semikha program during their senior year of college on an individual basis, based on their length of study in Israel.
    - ii. A satisfactory record in Talmud and Jewish Studies beyond the secondary school level for at least four years. Successful completion of any of the Yeshiva College Undergraduate Torah Studies Programs will automatically count towards fulfillment of this requirement.
    - iii. An entrance examination (bechina) demonstrating proficiency in Talmud.
    - iv. A personal interview.
  - b. Requirements for admission to the Pre-Semikha Program (for those not yet ready to be accepted to the Semikha program) include:
    - i. A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
    - ii. An entrance examination (bechina).
    - iii. A personal interview.
  - c. Applicants to the Ludwig Jesselson Kollel Chaverim (Chaver Program) are evaluated on an individual basis. They require:
    - i. A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
    - ii. An entrance examination (bechina).
    - iii. A personal interview.
2. Please submit the following items to the RIETS Office:
  - a. A completed application form.
  - b. A \$50 non-refundable application fee made payable to RIETS.
  - c. Two recent passport-sized photos.
  - d. One official copy of your transcript from each undergraduate and graduate institution attended. Student copies of the transcript are acceptable for Yeshiva University schools.
  - e. Two letters of recommendation, one from the student's most recent rebbe and one from the congregational rabbi.
3. Ordination by the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary is contingent upon the successful completion of one of the following co-requisite programs. Applications for the Masters programs are available from the individual schools or from the YU website. (<http://yu.edu/academics/graduate-schools/>)
  - a. Master of Science, Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration.
  - b. Master of Arts, Bernard Revel Graduate School.
  - c. Master of Social Work, Block Program, Wurzweiler School of Social Work.
  - d. Machshevet Yisrael Program, RIETS.
  - e. Intensive Kollel Program, RIETS (including the Marcos and Adina Katz Kollel at the Wilf Campus and the Kollel at the Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Institute in Jerusalem) Kollel Applications are available at [www.riets.edu](http://www.riets.edu).
4. For more information about RIETS programs or the RIETS curriculum, please visit [www.riets.edu](http://www.riets.edu) or contact the RIETS office: [riets@yu.edu](mailto:riets@yu.edu) or (646) 592-4455.

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*Attach a recent photograph of yourself here.*

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### Application for Admission to Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary

Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik Semikha Program    Pre-Semikha Program    Ludwig Jesselson Kollel Chaverim (Chaver Program)

Beginning Term:   Fall 20\_\_   Spring 20\_\_

1. Name: Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Last                      First                      Middle

2. YU ID (if available): \_\_\_\_\_

3. Full Hebrew Name (in Hebrew): \_\_\_\_\_

4. Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

5a. Current Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street,                      City                      State                      Zip Code

5b. Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street,                      City                      State                      Zip Code

6a. Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_      6b. Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_      6c. Email: \_\_\_\_\_

7a. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

7b. Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

8a. Country of Citizenship:   U.S.   Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8b. How long have you been in the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_

8c. Shul at Home: \_\_\_\_\_

8d. Rabbi: \_\_\_\_\_

9a. Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

9b. Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

9c. Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

9d. Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

10a. Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_

10c. Children's names and ages: \_\_\_\_\_

10b. Wife's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

10d. Wife's Hebrew Name: \_\_\_\_\_

10e. In-Laws' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

10f. Shul that in-laws attend: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Father's English Name: \_\_\_\_\_      Mother's English Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hebrew Name: \_\_\_\_\_      Hebrew Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kohen    Levi    Yisrael       בת  
 Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Employer: \_\_\_\_\_      Mother's Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_      Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_      Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Secondary Education (List all high schools):

Name of School	Location (City and State or Country)	Dates of Attendance	Year of Graduation	GPA
		-		
		-		

13. Other yeshivot attended (including YU and those attended as part of the YU S. Daniel Abraham Israel Program):

Name of Yeshiva	Dates of Attendance	Rebbe and Tractates(s) Studied

14. Colleges or Universities (list all undergraduate and graduate schools):

Name of School	Location (City and State or Country)	Dates of Attendance	Year of Graduation	Major	GPA
		-			
		-			
		-			

15. Have you ever applied to or attended a school of Yeshiva University?  Yes  No

16. Family members who have attended Yeshiva University schools, including RIETS.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

17. If you attended Yeshiva College and/or the Sy Syms School of Business, please provide the following information:

Attended JSS and/or Mechinah Program from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Attended IBC from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Attended SBMP from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Attended MYP from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

18. If you are enrolled in a YU joint Bachelor's/Master's Program, please indicate the subject area and expected date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_

19. If you are applying to the Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik Semikha Program, please indicate the co-requisite program in which you intend to enroll: Masters Degree:  Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education & Administration;

Bernard Revel Graduate School of Judaic Studies;

Wurzweiler School of Social Work;

Or:  Katz Kollel;  Machshevet Yisrael Program;  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

20. If you are applying to the Ludwig Jesselson Kollel Chaverim (Chaver Program), please indicate your intended area of graduate or professional studies. If none, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

21. Please provide the name, address, and phone number of the two people who will be submitting letters of recommendation on your behalf.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

22. Please give a brief statement indicating your reasons for applying to Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, explaining your career intentions and any other pertinent factors.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

22. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please ensure that all application materials have been submitted.  
Bechinot and interviews will be scheduled only after all materials are received.*

- Application for Admission
- \$50 application fee payable to RIETS
- Two recent passport-sized photos
- Official copy of transcript(s)
- Two letters of recommendation
- Foreign Student Questionnaire
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

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**Application for Admission to Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary**

**Request for Letter of Recommendation**

**To Applicant:** Please complete the top half of this form and give it to the Rabbi whose recommendation you are seeking with a stamped envelope addressed to the RIETS Office at the above address. Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation: one from the student's most recent rebbe and one from his congregational rabbi.

Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik Semikha Program

Pre-Semikha Program

Ludwig Jesselson Kollel Chaverim  
(Chaver Program)

Beginning Term:

Fall 20\_\_

Spring 20\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Rabbi,

The above-named student is applying for admission to the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary.

We would appreciate your sending us your recommendation for this applicant, indicating how long you have known him and whether or not you consider him a proper candidate for admission. We are interested in his Torah scholarship, his intellectual abilities, his ethical and moral character, and his commitment to Torah ideals and the observance of *mitzvot*. This recommendation will be kept in absolute confidence.

*Please write your recommendation in the space below. If more space is needed, please attach another sheet.*

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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- Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik Semikha Program       Pre-Semikha Program       Ludwig Jesselson Kollel Chaverim  
(Chaver Program)

Beginning Term:      Fall 20\_\_\_\_      Spring 20\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Rabbi,

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*Please write your recommendation in the space below. If more space is needed, please attach another sheet.*

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Foreign Student Questionnaire

*All applicants who are not U.S. citizens must complete this form and return it with the application for admission.*

Check all that *currently* apply:

Yeshiva College

Sy Syms School of Business

Mazer Yeshiva Program

Isaac Breuer College

Stone Bais Medrash Program

Mechinah Program

Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary Wurzweiler

Azrieli Graduate School

Bernard Revel Graduate School

School of Social Work

Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology

Cardozo School of Law

Program (Major): \_\_\_\_\_

Degree sought: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Began: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Last                      First                      Middle

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Current Mailing Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street,                      City                      State                      Zip Code

Permanent (Home) Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street,                      City                      State                      Zip Code

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Person to contact locally in case of emergency: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street,                      City                      State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code                      Email

Country of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_ expires: \_\_\_\_\_

In the United States now. Which visa do you hold? \_\_\_\_\_

Planning to come to United States under category other than student.  
 Which visa will you hold? \_\_\_\_\_

English is my native language.

English is not my native language. Date of Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): \_\_\_\_\_

I have arranged for my TOEFL scores to be sent to Yeshiva University  
*Please do so immediately if you have not done so already.*

If enrolled in a full-time course of English language study: Where? \_\_\_\_\_ Date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have previously attended any American schools, please complete the following:

School	Address	Dates of Attendance