Yeshiva Masmidim Honors Program

Yeshiva University proudly inaugurated the Yeshiva Masmidim Honors Program in Fall 2006. The program, under the aegis of MYP, identifies exceptional incoming students each year who demonstrate potential to become genuine talmidei chachomim. Yeshiva University will provide these students with the opportunity to maximize their potential through a rigorous learning schedule and curriculum, within the framework of the university’s unique commitment to Torah Umadda. The program, directed by Rabbi Mayer Twersky, a renowned talmid chochom and rosh yeshiva, provides significant scholarships, mentorship, and bechinos.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND ELIGIBILITY
The program is open to students who have applied to Yeshiva College or Sy Syms School of Business. The admissions process for the Yeshiva Honors Program will include:

• An application
• A bechina focusing on general yedios, previously studied sugyos, and the ability to prepare a new sugya
• Interviews with the director, the Dean of RIETS, and/or other Roshei Yeshiva.
• Two letters of recommendation

ADMISSIONS TIMELINE
• The application and letters of recommendation must be submitted by February 15 prior to the fall term
• Bechinos will be administered in February or early March in Eretz Yisrael and New York
• Decisions will be announced in early April
• Admitted talmidim must formally accept in writing (This may be done by e-mail.)
• Talmidim may not defer their awards nor begin their studies in the spring semester

EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Students will be mentored by Rabbi Twersky and others who will help them work to achieve their full potential in learning.

In addition, we have incorporated into our program other responsibilities in order to foster the shleimus we seek for our talmidim.

• Bekius expectation of a minimum of 60 blatt of gemara per year with Rashi and Tosaphos (beyond what is covered in iyun shiur, and when possible within the Yeshiva’s mesechta) with bechinos
• Weekly tests on the parshah, Rashi, and Onkolos
• Weekly hashkafah chaburah given by Rabbi Twersky
• Expectations increase over the course of the program. For example, the Chumash requirement will expand to include the study of selected passages of Ramban in the second year.
TIME COMMITMENT
There will be additional mandatory learning times beyond the usual morning and night seder including:

- Friday morning seder 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Elul Zman
- June Zman

_Talmidim_ are also expected to remain in Yeshiva at the following times:

- Yomim Noraim
- Shavuos
- Two out of every four Shabbosos.

SUMMERS
_Talmidim_ are not required to stay in Yeshiva University for the summer, but the expectation is that other than a traditional _bain hazmanim_, _talmidim_ will be involved in full-time learning. The program director will meet with _talmidim_ to discuss and guide them in their specific summer plans.

PROGRAM MAINTENANCE AND SECULAR STUDIES
To remain eligible for the program, _talmidim_ must maintain the following standards:

- 90 average on Yeshiva Honors _bechinos_
- 3.400 GPA in Yeshiva College or Sy Syms School of Business
- Appropriate progress in the regular MYP _shiur_, in keeping with the expectations of honors students

To allow excellence in all aspects of study, _talmidim_ are expected to take between 12 and 16 credits per semester, subject to approval of the program director. Students must remain in the program three years and are encouraged to allow four years for college, beyond their studies in _Eretz Yisrael._

Additional Program Benefits
- Scholarships ranging from partial to full tuition
- Yeshiva Honors notation upon graduation