



## Yeshiva Masmidim Honors Program

Yeshiva University proudly inaugurated the Yeshiva Masmidim Honors Program in 2006-2007. The program, under the aegis of MYP, identifies approximately 10 exceptional incoming students each year who demonstrate potential to become genuine *talmidei chochomim*. 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 *bechinot*.

### 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 sugyas, and the ability to prepare a new *sugya*
- Interviews with Rabbi Twersky and Rabbi Yona Reiss, 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
- *Bechinot* 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 their *iyun shiur*, and when possible within the Yeshiva's *mesechta*) with *bechinot*
- Weekly tests on the *parsha*, *Rashi*, and *Onkolos*
- Weekly *hashkafa chaburah* given by Rabbi Twersky
- Coordinated *mussar seder*



- Expectations will be 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. During their final year in the program, students are directed to choose from a selection of individualized study options in order to enhance their personal learning growth.

### **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 noon
- *Elul Zman*

***In addition to June Zman, talmidim are expected to remain in Yeshiva at the following times:***

- *Yomim Noraim*
- *Shavuot*
- Two out of every four Shabbotot. In-Shabbotot will feature *sedarim* and/or *shiurim*

### **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. Rabbi Twersky 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*
- 3.4 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
- Requirements for a class in which a student receives an incomplete mark must be fulfilled within four weeks of the next semester

To allow excellence in all aspects of study, *talmidim* will take between 12 and 16 credits per semester, subject to approval of Rabbi Twersky. 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**

- Up to full tuition scholarship
- Yeshiva Honors notation upon graduation