



CAMP ISRAEL TRIP INCUBATOR (CITI) INFORMATION SHEET

OVERVIEW:

Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC) believes that knowledge of and engagement with Israel and Israelis can play a vital role in developing Jewish identity. With generous support from RootOne, FJC seeks to maximize the number of teens from FJC camps who participate in an Israel travel program.

The Camp Israel Trip Incubator (CITI) seeks to provide knowledge and resources to leadership from five overnight camps that currently do not offer an Israel travel program, enabling and empowering them to create one that reflects their camp's unique culture and values. We are currently accepting applications for CITI Cohort 2.

WHO IS THIS PROGRAM FOR?

- Overnight Camps in the FJC network that do not currently offer an Israel Trip Experience for teens and are committed to planning a trip that would launch in summer 2028. Participating teens must be entering 11th, 11th or 12th grade in the fall of 2028.
- A year-round senior camp professional with decision-making authority in their camp's culture (Executive Director, Camp Director, Associate Director, or experienced Assistant Director)
- An Israel Trip Manager (a new staff position made possible by Camp Israel Trip Incubator Grant). Israel trip managers are year-round, part-time staff who will be part of your team from May 1st, 2026 through the summer 2028.
- **Requirements for CITI Trips:** The CITI Program was established to help FJC camps develop a summer Israel trip for their campers, and includes sleeping at least 20 nights in Israel. If you are interested in launching a trip but have any concerns or questions about any of the aforementioned requirements, please contact CITI Program Manager, Bobby Harris, to set up a time to discuss. bobby.harris@jewishcamp.org

GRANT FUNDING INCLUDES:

- Staff Capacity Funds: CITI will provide participating camps with \$35,000 to help camps hire an Israel Trip Manager. Funds may be used to hire a new employee or to add this work to the portfolio of an existing professional. Israel Trip Managers will be the main driver of the CITI initiative and will participate in virtual and in-person learning sessions. Once the Israel Experience is developed, participating camps will also be eligible for additional funds to hire a RootOne/FJC Fellow who will be responsible for trip recruitment and staffing.
 - Israel Trip Manager: \$35,000 (over the course of May 1, 2026 – August 2028). The amount of dollars listed relates to 3-week summer trips only.
 - RootOne/FJC Fellow: Approximately \$10,000 to be determined (over the course of March 2027 – August 2028).
- Marketing and Recruitment Funds: \$10,000 over 3-year period

OTHER BENEFITS:

- As part of CITI, you will not be working in isolation. On the contrary, you will be part of a learning community in which you can learn from and share with each other as you curate your camp's Israel experience.
- Participation in CITI will provide many opportunities to work closely with CITI faculty comprised of subject matter experts and experienced practitioners in Jewish camping and Israel engagement, as well as FJC and RootOne staff. Learning and mentoring will not only occur during the formal learning sessions but also during those times "in between."



PROGRAM CONTENT WILL INCLUDE:

- How to recruit and market for an Israel trip
- Managing change in your community and camp culture
- Designing the right trip itinerary for your camp
- Finding the right staff for your Israel trip
- Deciding whether you will run your own trip and plan it together with a tour operator, or run under an existing trip provider who already works with RootOne
- How to best prepare and manage the staff for your Israel trip
- Best practices for bringing the Israel experience back to camp
- Assuring camp's financial strength and providing financial assistance
- Meeting trip providers and tour operators
- Various approaches to Israel Education

HOW TO APPLY:

Applications are now LIVE and can be found here: <https://jewishcamp.tfaforms.net/5115672>

- Please only fill out this application *once per camp*.
- Applications are due Friday, December 19, 2025.
- You will be notified of a final decision by late February.

For the latest information about this program, check back to this document and [FJC's website](#)—these will be updated to reflect the most up-to-date information.

If you have questions about CITI, please contact FJC's RootOne Senior Camp Consultant, Bobby Harris at bobby.harris@jewishcamp.org.

