



## **APPLICATION FORM -- DEADLINE MAY 11, 2009!**

**Complete this *Write On for Israel/Chicago* application only if you:**

- Will have junior standing AND be in your third year of high school in fall 2009
- Are ready to commit to the full, two-year *Write On* curriculum
- Can attend 7 Sunday seminars in 2009-10, on December 6, 2009, January 10, 2009, February 21, 2010, March 21, 2010, April 18, 2010, May 16, 2010, June 6, 2010. Seminars generally begin at 10:30 am and end by about 5:00 pm. June 6, 2010 is an SAT testing day, so our seminar will begin at 1:00 pm and end by about 7:00 pm.
- Can attend three 3-hour orientation sessions with your parents: one tentatively planned for November 4 or 18, 2009 (one of these dates will be confirmed later – you will not be choosing between them) before the program begins, and two focused on our Israel experience – the first on January 10, 2010, and the second on April 18, 2010.
- Will complete all individual and team assignments for the program
- Can travel to Israel with *Write On* in summer 2010.
- Will commit to participating in advocacy activities during senior year 2010-2011.

*Write On for Israel (WOFI)* is open to students from all streams of Judaism. Throughout the program, all religious practices will be respected, and dietary laws will be strictly observed.

**WOFI is accepting applications for the 2009-11 academic years now through May 11, 2009. We will accept a maximum of 25 applicants to begin the 2-year program in December 2009, concluding in June 2011.** Admission is competitive, and this application plus the required attachments will comprise your admission portfolio.

**To secure an electronic application, send an email today to [writeonforisrael@juf.org](mailto:writeonforisrael@juf.org).** Put “Application Information” in the subject line, and provide your full name, address and telephone number in the body of the email. Please indicate your high school and graduation date. An application will be emailed to you. OR, call Write On Executive Director Leslie Millenson at 773-883-9766 to request an application.

**Application Deadline: May 11, 2009**

**Return application to:**

**Write On for Israel  
c/o Community Foundation for Jewish Education  
Attn: Amy Kurzawski, Administrative Assistant  
4709 Golf Rd., Suite 400  
Skokie, Illinois 60076**

**This application is four pages long! Please read and complete it very carefully. Be sure to include: High school transcript, reference forms, writing samples, essays. We prefer that submitted applications be complete. However, if you have difficulties obtaining transcripts or references, you may send them under separate cover. Please include a cover note with your application explaining any missing items and when we can expect them.**

**There is no charge for *Write On for Israel*, HOWEVER: Upon acceptance, WOFI Fellows must sign a participation contract and deposit \$500 guaranteeing completion of the 2-year program.** Fellows who successfully complete the 2-year program may apply for a refund of their deposit or designate it to tzedakah to support the program. Fellows who are not invited to complete a Senior Fellowship or who drop the program on or after January 10, 2010, forfeit their deposit. Fellows who voluntarily leave WOFI after the Israel experience will be billed for the cost of their trip, less the deposit (an additional \$3,500). *Families for whom the \$500 deposit constitutes a hardship may seek an exemption from the Executive Director. If you have questions*

about this application or WOFI, please call Leslie Millenson at 773-883-9766 or email her at [writeonforisrael@juf.org](mailto:writeonforisrael@juf.org).

### 1. *Write On for Israel Applicant Identification*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Provide full legal name exactly as on your passport – if you have a nickname, include in parenthesis.

Country of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (Street, City, State, ZIP!)

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

E-mail address: (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation year: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name of advisor/home room teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. *High School Transcript*

*Please secure a sealed copy of your high school transcript and enclose it with your application.*

### 3. *Experience and Qualifications*

In what extracurricular activities do you participate, and how much time do they consume?  
Activity \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Per Week \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your experience in journalism, public speaking, advocacy or political campaigns (examples: school newspaper, debate, etc.)

### 4. *College Plans*

Are you planning to attend college? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Yes, but not immediately after high school

If yes (whether right after senior year or not), name your top three choices for college (if known):

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

What fields interest you as potential majors?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not plan to attend college right after high school, what are your plans? (go to Israel, etc., explain below)

### ***5. Writing Skills***

How do you rate your writing skills? (circle) Below Average, Average, Strong, Superior?

*Please provide two short writing samples (no more than 2 pages double spaced, preferably typed, not hand written) from a school project or extracurricular activity. If you write for a school newspaper or other organizational publication, please use clips from these publications as your samples.*

***Please submit two 500-word essays (typewritten)***

**The first must be about: Why I want to participate in *Write On for Israel***

**For the second essay, prepare an argument in support of (or against) one of the following statements:**

1. The American media are biased against Israel
2. Israel is important to all Americans – not just Jewish Americans
3. Israel's intervention in Gaza is justified.

### ***6. Community-based Experience and Affiliations***

Do you belong to any synagogues, youth groups or other organizations through which you participate in the Jewish community or in Jewish or Israel issues?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any pro-Israel activities in which you have participated at school, synagogue or elsewhere.

## 7. *Israel Experience*

Have you traveled to Israel? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, how many times? \_\_\_\_\_

Who sponsored your Israel visit(s)? (examples: a youth organization, synagogue, family)

*If more than 3 trips, list the most recent.*

Trip(s)	Date	Sponsor
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1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## 8. *References*

***Please provide two letters of reference.*** One must be from a teacher, counselor or other adult familiar with your academic performance, especially writing, leadership skills and other special talents. The second may be from an adult who knows you personally – a neighbor, family friend or relative (not a parent) who can assess your ability to succeed in this program. *See accompanying reference form.*

## 9. *Permission from Parent/Guardian*

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

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

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name and phone: \_\_\_\_\_

By my signature below, I acknowledge that \_\_\_\_\_ (*applicant's name*) is applying for the *Write On for Israel* program, that I understand the program requirements, including monthly seminars and an Israel trip, and I will make every effort to support his/her participation in the program throughout the two-year curriculum. I understand that my family must post a complete deposit of \$500, which may be forfeited if my child does not complete the program, and that if my child drops the program after the Israel trip, my family will be billed for and I will pay for the cost of that trip.

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Signature/parent or guardian

Date

## 8. *Applicant Signature*

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have read the requirements for *Write On for Israel*, that I understand that, if accepted, I will be required to attend monthly seminars, complete home assignments, participate in an Israel trip in summer 2010 and in an internship program in 2010-2011, and it is my intention to participate fully in the two-year *Write On for Israel* curriculum. I understand that my family must post a completion deposit, which can be forfeited if I do not complete the program, and that if I drop the program after the Israel trip, my family will be billed for and expected to pay the cost of that trip.

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Signature

Date