



ARE YOU READY TO BE A *WRITE ON FOR ISRAEL* FELLOW?

APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 27, 2011!

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

- Will be a high school junior in fall 2011
- Are ready to commit to the full, two-year *Write On* curriculum
- **Can attend 7 Sunday seminars in 2011-2012**, on November 20, 2011, December 4, 2011, January 22, 2012, February 5, 2012, March 18, 2012, April 29, 2012 and May 20, 2012. Seminars begin at 10:30 AM and end by about 5:00 PM. These dates have been selected with care, but they may be subject to slight adjustments.
- **Can attend two 3-hour orientation sessions with your parent(s)**: one tentatively planned for the evening of October 25 or 26, 2011 (one of these dates will be confirmed later – you will not be choosing between them) before the program begins, and one focused on our Israel experience will take place at the end of the March 18, 2012 seminar.
- Will complete all individual and team assignments for the program
- Can travel to Israel with *Write On* in the second half of June 2012.
- Will commit to participating in advocacy activities during senior year 2012-2013, including a Washington, DC Fly-In.

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 2011-13 academic years now through May 27, 2011. We will accept a maximum of 30 applicants to begin the 2-year program in November 2011, concluding in June 2013. Admission is competitive, and this application plus the required attachments will comprise your admission portfolio.

Information about the program, an FAQ and copies of the application materials are available at www.writeonchicago.org. If you would like an application to be mailed to you, send an email today to 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. You may also call the Israel Education Center’s Teen and Campus Programming Coordinator, Aaron Levine, at (312) 357-4849 to request an application. If you have any questions about the program, contact us and we will be happy to answer them.

Application Deadline: May 27, 2011

Return application to:
Write On for Israel
Room 5061
30 S. Wells St.
Chicago, IL 60606



APPLICATION

APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 27, 2011!

This application has 10 parts! Please read and complete it carefully. Be sure to include:

1. High school transcript
2. Reference forms
3. Writing samples
4. 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.

Write On Fellows pay a participation fee of \$2,000 for the two-year program. \$250 of this sum will be refunded upon achieving a 100% attendance record at all seven Junior Seminars and Orientation sessions, and submitting all homework assignments by their due date. An additional \$250 will be refunded upon graduation from the program in June 2013. Thus, the net cost of participation for a Fellow who fulfills all program requirements will be \$1,500.

The participation fee covers only a small fraction of the cost of the program, which includes attendance at the seminars, all seminar materials, individual mentoring, travel to Israel in Summer 2012, travel to Washington, DC in 2013 and all elements of the Senior Program.*

WOFI Fellows sign a participation contract guaranteeing completion of the 2-year program. Payment of the participation fee will be due no later than the October Orientation date, unless other arrangements are made with the Program Director. Fellows who withdraw from the program by December 4, 2011, will receive a refund of their participation fee, less \$300 for supplies and administrative fees. **Fellows who withdraw from, or are asked to leave, the program after December 4, 2011, but before the Israel trip will forfeit their participation fee. Fellows who leave WOFI after the Israel experience will be billed \$3,500 for the cost of the trip, and will be ineligible for the refund of any part of the participation fee.** Parents of students offered a Write On fellowship will schedule a meeting with a program representative to review participation and financial commitments and responsibilities of participants.

Families for whom the \$2,000 participation fee constitutes a hardship may seek financial assistance by contacting the JUF's Israel Education Center Director Emily Briskman at (312) 357-4671.

If you have questions about this application or WOFI, please call Write On for Israel at (312) 357-4849 or send an email to writeonforisrael@juf.org.

* Other additional minor fees may apply.

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
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1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

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

4. College Plans

Do you plan 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) 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. A two-state solution is in Israel's best interest

6. Community-Based Experience and Affiliations

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
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____

8. References

Please provide two letters of reference (use the appropriate form.) 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: _____

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. I understand the program requirements, including monthly seminars, an Israel trip and a Washington, DC experience, 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 pay a \$2,000 participation fee (of which \$250 will be refundable upon full attendance at all Junior Seminars and Orientations and submission of all homework assignments by their due dates, and an additional \$250 will be refundable upon graduation from WOFI.) Further, I understand that if my child leaves the program after the Israel trip, my family will be billed for and I will pay for the cost of that trip.

Signature/parent or guardian

Date

10. 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 2012 and in the senior program in 2012-2013, and it is my intention to participate fully in the two-year *Write On for Israel* curriculum. I understand that my family must pay a participation fee and 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.

Signature

Date