

Encouraging Professionalism in Chinuch (E.P.I.C.) - Teacher Application Form

- ❖ A unique professional development opportunity for teachers at any point in their career who want to further develop classroom skills, practices and new approaches, through individual mentoring.
- ❖ A collaboration between the Associated Talmud Torahs, Association for Torah Advancement (AFTA), and National Louis University
- ❖ Now in its eleventh year

Individual Mentoring Model –Program 2019-2020 School Year

- Limited number of participants (can be from Limudei Kodesh or General Studies classes)
- Enrollment and initial visit begin in September; mentoring to begin after the fall Yomim Tovim (November, 2019)
- Description of the 35-hour Professional Development Program (over 5 months):
 - 1) Includes 2 visitations per month by the National Louis mentor (10 visits total for the program)
 - 2) A mentor meets with the teacher to discuss program expectations, collaborative goal setting, and discuss time frame.
 - 3) School visits are generally about 2 hours including observation and discussions. School administration provides for coverage during post-observation meetings.
 - 4) Three evening workshops @ 1.5 hours per workshop on a related professional growth topic.
 - 5) Upon satisfactory completion of the program and full compliance with all expectations, each participating teacher will receive a \$600 stipend.
 - 6) Written work will include: initial goal statement to principal and mentor, summary letter to principal at conclusion of program, questionnaire, completion of time sheet, journal with mentor, and other work as discussed with mentor such as lesson plans.
 - 7) ATT will grant 1.5 credits (includes the mentoring program and the 3 evening workshops) to each participating teacher from the ATT's Department of Teacher Education and Development.
 - 8) Mentor and teacher will communicate with the school principal about the project at the beginning and end of the process as per the requirements on the next page.
 - 9) Participants work collaboratively with their mentor to determine appropriate individual goals. Past participants have worked on the following:

- Classroom Management, Authentic Assessment, Developing Higher Order Thinking Skills, Effective Questioning, Differentiated Instruction, Multiple Intelligences, Portfolio Development
- Meaningful Student Involvement, Grouping Strategies, Time Management Skills
- Unit Development/Revision, Lesson Design, Curriculum Mapping, Curriculum Design
- Reading Strategies, Arts Integration, Making Effective Use of Classroom Assistants

If you are interested in participating in this unique professional development opportunity, please complete the attached application form and submit it to your principal by September 13, 2019.

Requirements for EPIC Teacher Participants for 2019-2020

Following are requirements for teachers who are participating in the EPIC program during the 2019-2020 Academic Year. Please note that your signature means that you have read them and agree to abide by each requirement. You will be asked to discuss these expectations with Rabbi Avrohom Shimon Moller or with Dr. Jeff Winter prior to the start of the program.

Participants who do not fulfill this agreement may forfeit all or part of the honorarium at the discretion of the program directors.

Agreement Expectations

- Teachers are expected to devote time to the EPIC program in lesson planning and goal setting. This includes obligations which occur outside regular school hours, including; lesson planning, journaling, checking email, and review of articles or other educational materials.
- Teachers need to make good faith efforts to schedule observations at times which are mutually acceptable with mentors, and insure that coverage for their classrooms is available during conference time if necessary.
- Teachers need to be available and responsive through email and phone with their mentors and other program personnel.
- Teachers need to complete a survey about the experience and send to the address as directed on the form by May 1, 2020.
- Teachers are required to attend three EPIC evening programs during the academic year. Credit for ATT certification is available for this. Dates for the seminars will be set to meet the needs of the majority of participants. Provisions for making up this requirement are available but if a teacher does not fulfill this requirement, a small part of the stipend will be deducted.
- Teachers need to keep a weekly reflective journal which is shared with their mentor.
- Teachers will receive a summary report from their mentors and teachers are required to write a summary report to their principals and to Dr. Winter about their experiences in the program. Participants will receive a template for the report from Dr. Winter.

Teacher Signature: _____

Please submit this form to your principal by September 13, 2019.

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Teacher Application Form**

I am interested in participating in the EPIC program.

Teacher's Name: _____

Please check here if you have already participated in this program - ____

Teacher's Home Address: _____

Teacher's e-mail address: _____

Teacher's Phone Number: home _____ cell _____ School Phone Number _____

I teach: Limudei Kodesh General Studies

Please specify grade level and subjects taught: _____

Teacher's School: _____

Principal's Name: _____

Number of years teaching: _____

Institution where you completed high school: _____

Institutions where you studied beyond high school: _____

1) Please explain why you would like to participate in this program and what are your initial goals for participation in EPIC.

2) What qualities or special background would you like to have in a mentor?

3) Please attach a current resume with a summary of your professional background and experience.

Please submit this form to your principal by September 13, 2019.