



Hebrew College, 160 Herrick Road, Newton Centre, MA 02459
Office of Admissions: 617-559-8610 • Fax: 617-559-8601 • Email: admissions@hebrewcollege.edu

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

JEWISH MUSIC INSTITUTE

SHOOLMAN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JEWISH EDUCATION

CANTOR-EDUCATOR PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in applying to Hebrew College's Cantor-Educator Program. Please read these instructions carefully before completing your application. Should you have any questions about the application process or regarding the status of your application, please call the Office of Admissions, 617-559-8610, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Monday–Thursday and 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Friday, or email admissions@hebrewcollege.edu.

Selection of Candidates Admissions decisions are based on a careful review of a candidate's completed application, credentials, supporting documents and appropriateness for the degree program. Applicants for graduate degree programs must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and a competitive grade point average. An application for financial aid does not in any way affect a candidate's application for admission.

Applicants must be Jewish by birth or conversion process as recognized by at least one major rabbinic body. Because the Cantor-Educator Program is transdenominational, there is no specific requirement regarding religious observance. It is expected, however, that each candidate will evidence serious grappling with the *mitzvot* and the question of personal observance. Hebrew College also has a policy of non-discrimination with regard to sexual orientation. Applicants who are married to or in committed relationships with non-Jews will not be considered for acceptance to this program.

Application Submission Please send your completed application and all supporting materials to the Office of Admissions, Hebrew College, 160 Herrick Road, Newton Centre, MA 02459. You are responsible to ensure that all of your application materials are received; we welcome calls or emails from candidates regarding the status of their applications.

Deadlines

- Early Decision—Application and, if relevant, financial aid forms, must be postmarked by December 15; preference for fellowships and financial aid will be given to these applicants. Interviews will be scheduled during the last two weeks of December. Applicants will be notified of admission decisions by January 15. *Candidates applying for admission during the spring semester must apply by the December 15 deadline.*
- March Decision—Application and, if relevant, financial aid forms, must be postmarked by February 15. Interviews will be scheduled during the last week of February. Applicants will be notified of admission decisions by March 15.
- June Decision—Application and, if relevant, financial aid forms, must be postmarked by May 30. Interviews will be scheduled during the first two weeks of June. Applicants will be notified of admission decisions by June 15.

Application Checklist All applicants must submit the following materials:

- A completed, signed application form
- Two typewritten essays as described below
- Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate studies from accredited academic institutions. Please have official copies of transcripts forwarded directly from the issuing institution to the Office of Admissions.
- An official score report from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) General Test. (Hebrew College test code 3435)
- An official score report from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for all foreign students whose native language is not English and who have not received a degree from an accredited United States college or university.
- Three letters of recommendation, including one from a cantor or other Jewish professional well-acquainted with your musical and Jewish background, and another from an academic instructor. Letters should be completed on the enclosed forms and mailed directly to the Office of Admissions.
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50; please submit a check or money order made payable to Hebrew College.

Interview, Audition, Placement Exams and Psychological Testing The interview is an essential and required part of the application process for all Hebrew College graduate degree programs. This is an opportunity for us to get to know you better; for you to visit the campus, sit in on classes and meet students; and to learn more about the College and the Cantor-Educator Program.

During your visit to Hebrew College, you will also participate in a vocal audition and take placement exams in Hebrew and musicianship. In addition, you will take the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory-III (MCMI-III). For more information and to schedule your interview, audition and placement exams, please contact the Office of Admissions.

Fellowships and Financial Aid Qualified applicants are invited to apply for the Hebrew College Fellows Program; priority is given to those applying for December 15 Early Decision. For more information, please contact the Dean of Students, 617-559-8618, iregosin@hebrewcollege.edu.

A financial aid application is included in this packet. Instructions are on the form. If you are applying for financial aid, please complete the form and submit with your application materials according to the deadline schedule above.

Essay Questions On separate sheets of paper, please submit **two** typewritten essays of approximately 1,000 words each in response to the following:

- a. Discuss the path that has led you to apply for graduate study in the cantorate and Jewish education. Reflect on your personal growth as a Jew, a musician, an educator and a community leader.
- b. Read "The Vocation of the Cantor," Chapter 16 in *The Insecurity of Freedom* by Abraham Joshua Heschel (ISBN 0805203613). If you have difficulty locating this source, please call the Office of Admissions. Respond to Heschel's views on the cantorate, prayer and Jewish music. In what ways do you agree or disagree with his assessment?