



Out-of-Town Admissions Policy December 2014

1. Background of the Out-of-Town Student Program (OSP) at the Yeshiva of Greater Washington-Tiferes Gedaliah:
 - a. The program for students from out-of-town at YGW has historically provided a meaningful portion of the school's operating budget and bolstered student numbers, allowing for a greater variety of programming, more effective tracking of students, a broader array of classes, and a larger staff. The program has also provided a Jewish education for adolescents who would never have had one without YGW because no Jewish education options exist where their families live.
 - b. Nonetheless, in light of some notable concerns about the program, the YGW board of trustees placed a moratorium on the acceptance of new boarding students beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.
 - c. Moreover, the Board tasked the former Va'ad Hachinuch to do a thorough review of the admission policy and develop transparent policies for the admission of students from out-of-town, which would be consistently applied.
2. Mission of the new Out-of-Town Student Program (OSP) at the Yeshiva of Greater Washington-Tiferes Gedaliah (YGW): To accept a limited number of Out-of-Town (OOT) high school students who will both positively contribute to the religious, academic, and social atmosphere of YGW and contribute to the financial viability of the school.
3. The Enrollment Review Committee:
 - a. The institution has developed the Enrollment Review Committee, to be overseen by the members of the Rabbinic Governance Board (RGB). The focus of the committee is to ensure that the established processes and procedures have been followed.
 - b. Its membership shall consist of three members designated by the RGB not employed by YGW.
 - c. The Enrollment Review Committee will review application packets recommended by the Menahelim. The packet will include all relevant information collected during the admissions process but will be redacted to omit the student's name and other identifying information.
 - d. The Enrollment Review Committee may by a majority vote, confirm admission, request additional information, or veto acceptance.
4. Goals for the Enrollment Review Committee:
 - a. To admit OOT students who will contribute positively to the religious, academic, and social atmosphere of YGW;
 - b. To ensure a consistent and transparent execution of the policy for the OOT student admissions process for the YGW board of trustees (and, by proxy, the public).
5. Criteria for Admission:
 - a. Students who are positively committed to academic, religious, and personal growth.
 - b. Students whose educational needs can be met by the school, as determined by the Menahel, the Director of General Studies Curriculum & Instruction, the General

Studies Principal, the Learning Specialist, and academic testing. The potential student's parents will accept responsibility for enrichment or intervention (e.g. tutoring) if needed.

- c. Students with the ability to integrate (socially, academically, and religiously) with the students in their grade, in particular, and with the students in the school in general.
 - d. Students who are emotionally stable. A student who is receiving mental health treatment or has a history of emotional problems may be considered if they are determined to be emotionally stable based on the following procedure.
 1. YGW will ask their mental health provider to sign a document confirming that they are:
 - a. emotionally stable;
 - b. capable of functioning independently (i.e. not requiring substantial school resources); and
 - c. capable of adhering to behavioral expectations in the YGW and a boarding home environment.
 2. YGW will ask an independent licensed psychologist or psychiatrist (i.e. independent from the school and the applicant) to review the applicant's information and determine the level of risk for continued mental health problems. If level of risk is determined to be in the moderate to severe range, the student will not be accepted.
 - e. Students who agree to abide by the rules stated in "The Program Guide for OOT Students and Their Families" (e.g. conforming with Student Life policies including but not limited to curfews, behavior, and social activities).
 - f. Students whose families have demonstrated financial capacity to meet the minimum tuition, as determined by YGW's Board of Directors, and housing costs.
 - g. YGW staff has confirmed an approved and appropriate Host Home.
6. Criteria for Exclusion:
- An applicant who demonstrates any of the following will not be considered for admission:
- a. Students who are determined to be a likely negative influence on any student in YGW, including students with a negative attitude towards Judaism, academic work, school rules or authority.
 - b. Students with any history of using illicit drugs, alcohol, or committing illegal acts.
7. Each division will limit OOT students to no more than 25% of the student population of each division.