Admissions Policy

Individuals who have demonstrated intellectual promise and high moral character who believe that they can benefit from the educational program offered at the Yeshiva are encouraged to apply to Telshe Yeshiva Chicago to pursue its program of Talmudic study. Applicants must have a high school diploma or an equivalent (see below). Age, race, physical handicap and national origin play no role in the evaluation of applicants.

Although students may make a financial aid application at the same time that they apply for admission to the Yeshiva, the decision on financial aid is made by a separate office. It is the policy of Telshe Yeshiva Chicago to make every effort to assist needy students who are accepted for study.

Telshe Yeshiva Chicago has trained staff who meet with students to inform them of various assistance programs available to them. Applicants are encouraged to discuss any financial questions that they may have with these staff members before completing their application.

The application procedure has been streamlined to afford all applicants a fair and simple chance to demonstrate their fitness for our educational program. The major criteria for admission are spelled out below:

1. High school graduation or an equivalent.
Students must:
   a. Have graduated high school and provide evidence of high school graduation
   or
   b. Have completed a high school equivalency test such as GED/TASC/HISET

Telshe Yeshiva Chicago does not utilize an Ability to Benefit test for admitting students.
2. Academic preparation:
Applicants for admission must have completed a yeshiva high school program which includes the following:
   a. A minimum of 150 folio pages of Talmud.
   b. Study of the Pentateuch.
   c. A formal program of halacha study based on the Orach Chaim segment of the Shulchan Aruch Codes.

3. Fine and upstanding character:
Telshe Yeshiva Chicago has rigorous codes for behavior, dress and life style. Applicants must demonstrate a personal commitment to following these rules which are based on halacha and Yeshiva practice.

4. Satisfactory reading command of the languages of the basic texts studied at Telshe Yeshiva Chicago: Aramaic and Classical Hebrew.

Candidates determined to be eligible will be invited to an oral examination and interview. Applicants should be prepared to discuss their academic plans and their interest in Jewish studies at this interview. The oral examination probes the applicant's ability to discuss a Talmudic passage and his general knowledge in Talmud and Bible. The interview/examination is a critical part of the admissions process. Following this interview/examination, the applicant will be informed of the decision of the Admissions Committee and provided with registration information. To initiate the admissions process, please write to the Dean of Students at:

   Telshe Yeshiva Chicago
   3535 West Foster Avenue
   Chicago, IL 60625
   Attention: Admissions Office