

Senior Project – Overview

“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.” -- Benjamin Franklin

OBJECTIVES

In the final weeks of the seniors' careers at Kehillah Jewish High School, students participate in the Senior Project. The main goal of the program is to provide students with an opportunity to deepen and explore their intellectual, social and moral interests within professional and community settings. Internships and service-learning projects offer students a way of bringing their Kehillah education to bear on the challenges facing the wider world. At Kehillah, we believe deeply in the role of self-discovery and self-understanding in preparing students for meaningful lives. We have designed a program that we believe will help students better understand themselves and the world, and enable them to create extraordinary futures.

The Senior Project program prepares seniors to:

- Transition to college and an independent environment.
- Explore professional and community settings.
- Inspire and educate community members.
- Develop presentation skills.

The school will support students in finding placements within businesses and organizations that support their interests and aspirations.

REQUIREMENTS

All seniors are required to complete **120 hours** during their project and submit online journal entries (on Schoology) as well as a final Senior Project presentation on **May 31**. The projects begin **May 1** and conclude **May 30**. All seniors must complete a Senior Project and provide a presentation that satisfies and follows the Senior Project presentation rubric in order to earn their Kehillah diploma.

ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS OF THE SENIOR PROJECT

- Students may not receive financial compensation for work
- **Students must complete a minimum of 6 hours per day. 120 hours total is the minimum overall requirement for the project.**
- Students may not be supervised by relatives. They should seek opportunities outside of the family business.
- Students not taking an AP exam are expected to report to their internship each day.
- Students taking an AP exam are excused from their internship that day as well as from six hours of the total (120) hour requirement.



Kehillah Jewish High School

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CATEGORIES

In order to give the program structure and a clear set of guidelines, student experiences must fall into one of two tracks. Requirements for both tracks include online journals and an oral presentation at the end of the process. There are two project categories from which seniors can choose: an internship with a business or organization; or a service-learning project through an organization.

Internship/Apprenticeship towards career exploration allows students to explore future career options, gaining valuable hands-on experience in an area of their choosing. Students in this track can intern in law, medicine, journalism, banking, finance, hospitals, technology firms, law enforcement, the arts, design, etc. under the supervision of a sponsor, or work in a field with a professional interest, hobby, or unique opportunity. They must adhere to the overall guidelines outlined under the Senior Project requirements.

Service-Learning Projects allow students to expand their involvement with community service organizations and invest time and energy that is not ordinarily possible during the academic year. Some domains of service learning include: conflict/violence resolution and treatment, disaster relief, elder care, environmental sustainability, homelessness, poverty prevention and development, substance abuse prevention and treatment, etc. Students in this track should be able to articulate a real world problem, and as part of their presentation they must propose solutions (ways to address the problem or improve the community in the area designated); they must offer a way to take some step forward, however small it may be.

