

THE MARSHA STERN



TALMUDICAL ACADEMY

# YESHIVA HANDBOOK

5780/2019-2020

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

THE MARSHA STERN TALMUDICAL ACADEMY

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[www.yuhsb.org](http://www.yuhsb.org)

## Statement of Philosophy

Yeshiva University High School for Boys emphasizes the core belief that Torah is at the center of our existence and represents the lens through which we look at all of life, as it guides our response to each and every opportunity and challenge. We therefore define our lives not only by the ongoing study of Torah, but by our complete dedication to the values and ideals of Torah. Simultaneously, we recognize that proper understanding of the sciences and humanities, examined through the prism of Torah, can further our appreciation of G-d's great wisdom. It is by the light of both of G-d's expressions of His will - through revelation and creation, Torah U'Madda - that we interact with and impact the world around us.

In light of the above, the yeshiva provides a challenging academic program in an atmosphere that expects and expresses adherence to the traditional ideals and practices of Orthodox Judaism. It is designed to motivate Torah living - striving to become ever more devoted to G-d, Torah learning, personal integrity, and the kind of ethical behavior basic to Jewish life as well as to participation in contemporary society. Genuine concern for the welfare of others, observance of *mitzvos*, love of the Jewish people, and pride in our Jewish heritage and values should characterize the intellectual goals and the daily behavior of our talmidim. Moreover, we expect each talmid to identify wholeheartedly with the destiny of our fellow Jews throughout the world and to exhibit loyalty to *Eretz Yisrael*, recognizing it as the spiritual homeland of the Jewish people. We are dedicated to preparing our talmidim for adulthood, both as knowledgeable and committed Jews, and as broadly educated, intellectually curious, and caring members of society.

Talmidim are also expected to be law-abiding citizens of the United States of America and the countries in which they reside. By contributing to the culture of the broader community in which we live, we bring Torah values to the larger civilization and thereby sanctify G-d's name.

As the High School of Yeshiva University, our identification with the institutional commitment to Torah U'Madda requires the establishment of an environment in which talmidim are encouraged to pursue all academic studies with the intent of becoming more understanding of the world and its mysteries, to work hard at personal academic achievement, and to maximize intellectual potential. It is our hope that each talmid will seek to enrich the high school experience by involvement in co-curricular activities, both at yeshiva and through communal participation. Our programs, both academic and extracurricular, reflect the primacy of Torah as well as the importance of a broad liberal arts and science program. We strive to enable our talmidim to fulfill their religious and intellectual passions to the fullest extent possible.

## **Yeshiva University High Yeshiva for Boys Admissions Policy**

Yeshiva University High School for Boys is a Torah institution of academic excellence. The curricula in Jewish and general studies are demanding. They are designed for young men who have completed a yeshiva or all-day elementary yeshiva program and have demonstrated, via appropriate admissions tests and interviews, that they are capable of maintaining a level of excellence in a serious dual studies secondary yeshiva program.

Yeshiva University High School for Boys admits talmidim of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, and activities generally accorded or made available to talmidim at Yeshiva University High Schools. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other yeshiva administered programs.

### **Community and Communication**

Yeshiva University High School for Boys is a community. Communities thrive through structure and articulated norms, which ensure the safety and happiness of all members of the community. As members of the YUHSB community, talmidim must consider how their actions impact others and reflect the values of our community.

Communities thrive when everyone is working together. Effective communication helps everyone collaborate to achieve our goals. We recognize that what happens at home has a profound impact on what a talmid is feeling and experiencing in yeshiva and vice versa. Parents can expect to hear the following from the yeshiva:

- Weekly updates on the happenings in the yeshiva, through Lion's Life
- Quarterly updates on their child's progress, through report cards as well as bi-annual parent teacher conferences
- Timely posting of grades on assessments
- Reports when a teacher sees something of note (positive or negative)
- Significant disciplinary actions or behavioral concerns

Parents are asked to be in touch with the yeshiva if:

- A talmid will not be in yeshiva
- In case of an important family event (a simcha, bereavement, family illness, or divorce)
- You hear something concerning
- To share nachas

We look forward to working together to ensure the growth of your sons, our talmidim.

## **Policies and Procedures**

Talmidim at the Yeshiva University High School for Boys are expected to behave in a manner that reflects positively on themselves, on our yeshiva, and all of Klal Yisrael. Whether in yeshiva, at yeshiva sanctioned programs and events, and even while engaged in personal activities, our yeshiva expects that the conduct of our talmidim and their feelings of responsibility toward others will identify them as growing Bnei Torah of the highest standards.

**Please realize that these rules are general guidelines only. The yeshiva's administration reserves the right to deal with specific situations as it sees fit on a case by case basis. Please understand as well, that all of the yeshiva's policies and regulations will be strictly enforced.**

### **Section 1 - Learning**

Talmidim best achieve our goals when they are present and engaged. Our attendance policies are intended to provide a structure to ensure our talmidim are accountable for properly following their schedules and reflect the value of attendance as part of the learning process.

#### **I. TEFILLAH**

**Tefillah is an opportunity for us to begin our day by connecting with Hakadosh Baruch Hu in a meaningful conversation. As a yeshiva, we are passionate about creating an environment that is conducive to each of us having the opportunity to engage in meaningful tefillah.**

1. Davening is an essential component in the life of a Ben Torah. Yeshiva sessions begin daily at 8:10 am with shacharis. Attendance will be taken and all talmidim are required to be at the minyan to which they have been assigned, unless given specific permission by the administration. Barring unforeseen circumstances, talmidim are expected to be in their assigned location prior to the start of the minyan, with their tefillin. Attendance will be recorded on Renweb. Each shiur rebbe will be responsible for the attendance grade of the talmidim in his shiur. Shacharis attendance will be counted as part of the Talmud grade. This arrangement reflects the commitment we have to shiur focusing on the total religious growth of each talmid. The attendance system works as follows:
  - 8:15 am - Tardy Unexcused
  - 8:25 am - Absent Unexcused
  - 1 point will be deducted for each lateness, beginning the fourth time.
  - 2 points will be deducted for each unexcused absence, as well as lunch detention.

2. When talmidim arrive at yeshiva each morning, they are required to go directly to their minyan. Knapsacks can be left in Lampport Auditorium, near the lockers or outside of the classrooms, but are not to be left outside of the main office. Talmidim are expected to remain in davening throughout the entirety of the tefillah. Any talmid found away from the minyan during davening without his rebbe's permission will be considered as cutting davening.
3. Due to the importance of davening, proper decorum is expected at all times. In order to enable everyone to have a spiritually meaningful and halachically appropriate experience, we expect that all talmidim will respect the environment and not engage in any sort of disruptive behavior.
4. The same behavior standards and minhagim are in effect, as applicable, during mincha (which generally takes place in the classrooms) and ma'ariv within the yeshiva. The minhagei hayeshiva are a long standing tradition of Yeshiva University, and talmidim are expected to respect and abide by them.

## ***II. ATTENDANCE***

**Classroom learning time is irreplaceable because of the valuable classroom discussions and learning process. Furthermore, our goal is to instill a sense of punctuality and responsibility in our talmidim. For both of these reasons, attendance is of great importance.**

1. Regular attendance is a prerequisite for good academic performance. Talmidim are therefore required to attend every class, meeting, and assembly scheduled during the yeshiva year. **If a talmid is going to miss or be late for yeshiva for any reason, a parent must call the attendance line at 212-960-5337 before 10:00 am and follow prompts to report your son's absence.** In some cases, further documentation, such as a physician's note, may be required in order for the absence to be considered excused.
2. **If a talmid needs to leave early for any reason, a parent must call the attendance line at 212-960-5337 and follow the prompts to report your son's early dismissal** prior to him leaving yeshiva. The talmid coming late or leaving early must also sign in or out in the main office.
3. Regular exams represent an important component of talmid assessment in the yeshiva setting. Because of the importance of these exams, no talmid who misses one will be allowed a make-up exam unless his absence has been excused. Similarly, if a talmid needs to leave yeshiva early on the day of an exam and will thus miss that exam, documentation

must be provided. A talmid with an unexcused absence on the day of an exam will receive a zero on the exam, and no make-up will be given. In addition, talmidim who are out of dress code, and therefore not allowed to take the exam, will be charged with the same consequence as an unexcused absence. A talmid who is in school but feels that he will be unable to take an exam, must speak to his Grade Dean or a member of the administration for permission to postpone his exam.

4. If a talmid will be absent for an extended period of time, a parent should alert his Grade Dean in advance of the absences.
5. Attendance is essential to academic success. Talmidim are expected to be in a supervised class at all times. Regardless of academic scores, a Talmid's grade will reflect any lack of class attendance. For classes that meet 3 or more sessions per week, a talmid is allotted up to 8 absences per semester. For classes that meet 2 or less sessions per week, a talmid is allotted up to 4 absences per semester. Absences that exceed these limits will result in a talmid's grade being lowered one third of a grade **per additional absence** (A to A-, A- to B+, etc) up until and including failure of the course. A talmid is considered absent any time he is not in or is more than 15 minutes late to any regularly scheduled class.
6. Please note that 'cutting,' in which a talmid is in yeshiva but elects not to attend a class, will not only be counted as an absence, but also assigned the appropriate disciplinary consequence.
7. Shiur on Sunday represents an integral part of our yeshiva philosophy and our curriculum. Therefore, **missing 4 Sundays (even excused) in a single semester will result in the deduction of 10 points from a talmid's semester Gemara grade.** Talmidim will lose 3 additional points from their semester average for each additional Sunday absence.
8. Talmidim are held responsible for all work missed and all assignments given while absent from yeshiva for any reason, and should contact their classmates to review what was covered in class. Talmidim with **excused** absences will be required to make up missed exams with the following guidelines:
  - Make-up exams take place during lunch each day in room 202. A talmid is expected to make up his exam within the next two make-up dates (that he has lunch).
  - If a talmid does not make up the exam within two make-up dates, he will lose 15 points and has two more days to make up the exam. After that week, a talmid may make up the exam and earn 50% of the total points received on the exam.
  - Should there be extenuating circumstances, a talmid may speak to an administrator to make alternate arrangements.

9. A talmid who is present for the day is expected to attend every class over the course of the day, unless otherwise excused. Permission to miss a particular class may be granted only by a member of the administration who will discuss the matter with the teacher(s) involved. **Talmidim must get permission from a teacher prior to the class if the absence is to be excused.**
10. If a talmid is present in yeshiva but does not attend a particular class, he will be charged with **a cut, resulting in a 3-point deduction from his semester grade in that class.** A talmid whose absence is unexcused for an entire day will be considered as having cut each of that day's classes.
11. A quiz or examination missed because a talmid **cut class** will be graded as a zero, which will be averaged into the talmid's quarterly grade. No make-up will be given in such cases.

### III. LATENESS

1. Talmidim are expected to be in their assigned classrooms by the time the bell rings, signaling the beginning of class. A talmid entering the room after the bell has rung is considered late whether or not the lesson has begun. This pertains to all shiurim, including after the shiur break, all General Studies classes, and all programs. Repeated lateness to class will result in a reduction to one's grade. A talmid may be late no more than three times each quarter. Each tardy past three per quarter will result in an additional point off the quarter final grade. Parents will be notified if lateness becomes a habitual problem.
2. A talmid who arrives in class 10 or more minutes late or leaves class for 10 minutes or longer without an excuse approved by an administrator will be considered to have cut that class.
3. The requirement to be in class on time applies **whether or not the rebbe or teacher is in the room.** Talmidim may not leave the room because the instructor is late or because they have heard that the instructor may be absent. If the instructor is not present, talmidim must remain in the room in an orderly fashion and await his/her arrival or further direction from a member of the administration.
4. A talmid who is going to miss class or be late because of a yeshiva related obligation must seek permission of the instructor prior to the lateness or absence in order for the absence to be excused. **Only a talmid's teacher or an administrator can excuse a talmid from class in almost all circumstances unless the parent has called in.**

#### IV. DRESS CODE

1. All talmidim are expected to dress as Bnei Torah. Dress is how we create an image for ourselves and the community we are a part of, and it is therefore central to our experience as a religious community. Thus, talmidim are expected to dress at all times in a manner that reflects their self-esteem and respect for the yeshiva as a makom Torah. **Talmidim are required to wear a full button-down shirt, appropriate slacks (no jeans, joggers, sweatpants or denim pants) and shoes or sneakers of a professional appearance.** In class, no hats or caps are permitted. Hoods from sweatshirts must not be worn on the head during class and the collared shirt must be visible. A kippah must also be worn at all times, including when representing the yeshiva at a sporting event. Inappropriate neckwear is not permitted. Talmidim are expected to be neatly dressed at all times. **The administration reserves the right to ask talmidim to change any attire including shoes that are regarded as inconsistent with the culture of our yeshiva.**
2. Talmidim must be in dress code at all times (including lunch and free periods) during the yeshiva day regardless of whether a talmid has class or not. Talmidim are considered out of dress code even if they have their appropriate attire in their locker or bag. Gym clothes are allowed in the gym.
3. On Rosh Chodesh, our long-standing tradition at the yeshiva is for talmidim to dress in a more formal manner to mark the special character of the day. We strongly encourage this practice.
4. Talmidim must be groomed in accordance with the yeshiva's expectations for a Ben Torah. Sideburns of an acceptable halachic length are mandated. Talmidim with haircuts or hair length deemed inappropriate by the administration will not be permitted to attend classes at our yeshiva or to participate in any yeshiva activities until the situation is rectified. Other than during the period of sefiras haomer, and barring extenuating circumstances, talmidim are expected to be clean-shaven.
5. Talmidim who do not abide by the yeshiva's rules in this area may not be admitted to classes until they are dressed and groomed appropriately. Absence from class for this reason is considered unexcused. Repeated violations of the dress code may result in further disciplinary action. Parents will be notified of any problems in this area, and may be asked to come to the yeshiva for a meeting if this is deemed necessary.



## Section 2 – Academic Standards

The YUHSB faculty and administration consider the appropriate placement for each talmid in each subject. Placement is recommended based on past performance and other relevant information. The goal is to place each talmid in the right class for him to thrive and grow while not being overwhelmed. While placement is an art, it is not a science with a perfect formula. If a talmid and/or his parents feel the placement is not appropriate, they should contact the **appropriate Grade Dean**. Each request for a class change will be evaluated by consulting with the appropriate teachers and members of the administration and the Grade Dean will follow up with the talmid and his parents.

Over the course of a semester, a talmid should expect to have a minimum of three assessments. All homework assignments will be posted on RenWeb by 7 pm and talmidim should expect to receive their work returned to them in a timely manner.

### V. **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Of much greater and more lasting importance than a grade achieved on any test or assignment is one's personal integrity and level of yiras shomayim. Therefore, talmidim are always expected to submit only their own work. Assignments prepared by others or copied from someone else will not be accepted. Please be aware that copying and pasting text from the internet, even when changing a few words, still constitutes plagiarism. Likewise, when taking any quizzes or examinations, talmidim must behave in a manner that places them above suspicion. If a faculty member believes a talmid cheated, we rely on the judgment of our professionals. Please be aware that these guidelines apply to the talmid who copies someone else's work, as well as any talmid who knowingly shares his work with someone else. All incidents of dishonesty on exams, quizzes, or assignments will be recorded into the talmid's permanent record throughout their yeshiva career and will result in the following consequences:

- **First Offense:** The talmid must make up the work and will earn 50% of his grade on that examination or assignment, which cannot be dropped and must be averaged into the term's final report card grade and parental notification.
- **Second Offense:** The talmid will earn a 0 on the work, 3-day suspension from yeshiva, and a meeting with parents.
- **Third Offense:** A talmid may be expelled from YUHSB.

Parents will be notified of all incidents of cheating and dishonest behavior. Unlike other disciplinary events that may be expunged at the end of the year, incidents of academic dishonesty are carried throughout a talmid's yeshiva career.

## **VI. EVALUATIONS AND GRADE REPORTS**

1. Grade reports are issued at the end of the Fall and Spring terms. Faculty members are required to post grades regularly on RenWeb to update parents and talmidim about academic progress and concerns. Parents and talmidim are invited to communicate with faculty and the Grade Deans for further information regarding their son's progress.
2. A talmid who receives a failing grade (a grade below a 65) for a semester will have to make up that semester of work. If he fails both semesters, he will have to make up the entire course. Please be aware that yeshiva policy requires a talmid who fails any course to make the work up in the summer (by attending summer school, if applicable) or, in some cases, to repeat the course the following year.
3. Talmidim who fail a Regents course must take the course in the summer or make up the course work at Yeshiva University High School for Boys. Merely passing the Regents exam does not fulfill the Regents requirement. Talmidim who pass the course, but fail the exam, need to make up just the Regents exam in order to receive a Regents diploma. Talmidim who receive a failing grade, an incomplete, or believe that their grade needs to be changed, have one semester to question their grade.
4. After a semester has elapsed, talmidim may not engage teachers in a discussion about changing their grades.
5. Any talmid who fails Talmud and one additional subject or two or more subjects in an academic year, will be counseled out of the yeshiva. We do not allow talmidim to repeat grades in the yeshiva as we do not believe it is in their best academic or social interest.

## **Section 3 – Behavioral Standards**

### **VII. GENERAL ETIQUETTE**

1. Talmidim are expected to abide by halachic norms both inside and outside the yeshiva. Talmidim are expected to behave properly in class, in accordance with the rules set out by the individual instructor. Talmidim must also display proper respect towards all faculty and staff members, in

and out of class. **If a talmid is sent out of class because of inappropriate conduct, he must report directly to the main office.** A member of the administration will determine, after consulting with the instructor, the severity of the talmid's infraction, and an appropriate response on the part of the yeshiva will follow.

2. **If a talmid is sent to the office by his instructor and does not go there, he will be subject to suspension from yeshiva for the remainder of that day and, depending upon the case, for subsequent days.**
3. Proper behavior is required not only in the classroom and in the yeshiva building, but also at any and all yeshiva related functions. This includes bus trips to and from yeshiva or special activities, as well as any special events or programs that talmidim may attend elsewhere as part of our yeshiva. Each talmid is expected to demonstrate the highest level of respect both to his fellow talmidim as well as to any adult (such as the bus driver) with whom he may interact during the day. A talmid whose behavior is inappropriate at these times will be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension from riding the bus when appropriate.
4. A person's use of language and his overall comportment often identify his character. It is the yeshiva's goal to help each talmid develop the character traits of a true Ben Torah. A talmid's speech, as well as the way he carries himself in general, must therefore reflect the fact that he spends a good part of each day involved in Torah study. Foul and vulgar language is inappropriate anywhere, and will not be tolerated in yeshiva or at any yeshiva functions, including sporting events and other competitive activities.
5. Talmidim are expected to treat all yeshiva property with the utmost respect. Any talmid who is found damaging, vandalizing, defacing, or abusing yeshiva property may be suspended and may not be admitted back into yeshiva until a discussion with his parents has been held. Moreover, the talmid and/or his parents will be held responsible for any financial expense incurred because of the talmid's actions. Talmidim are also expected to clean up after themselves.
6. All media brought into yeshiva or to yeshiva functions, be it electronic, digital, or print, must be befitting a Ben Torah. The technology of today allows our talmidim the ability to be a call away at any moment. Talmidim are free to use cell phones, iPods, MP3s, etc., on the bus, during breakfast, and during lunch. All of these forms of technology, however, can be sources of distraction for our talmidim and can have a negative impact on their learning and on our yeshiva environment at large. They must be used appropriately whether in the yeshiva building or on the bus to/from yeshiva.

7. Any cell phone or similar device seen during any class may result in that item being confiscated. It will be held by the administration for 24 hours on the first offense and 48 hours on the second offense. A third offense will require parents to come to the yeshiva to retrieve the device. Please consult the Cell Phone Policy document for more specifics.
8. Yeshiva University High School for Boys does not distinguish between people starting and participating in physical violence or fighting. Any talmid involved in physical or verbal abuse of another talmid may be suspended. Talmidim who engage in this behavior repeatedly risk behavioral probation and expulsion from yeshiva.
9. Talmidim may not use personal laptop computers, iPads, or portable media devices of any kind during class. Any such devices used in class will be confiscated unless the Associate Principal has granted prior permission. Any such device that is found will be confiscated and held by the administration for 24 hours on the first offense and 48 hours on the second offense. A third offense will require parents to come to the yeshiva to retrieve the device. Please consult the Technology User Agreement for more details.

## VIII. HIERARCHY OF CONSEQUENCES

As we strive to develop Bnai Torah who will ultimately serve as role models to others, the personal comportment of our talmidim is critical to the mission of Yeshiva University High Yeshiva for Boys. We guide and educate our talmidim to make positive choices. However, when talmidim choose to break a yeshiva rule, it is important that they understand the consequences of their behavior, as outlined below.

### ***Cutting Class***

Attendance in class is a talmid's most basic responsibility. If a talmid is present in school but does not attend a particular class, he will be charged with a cut. A talmid that misses 10 minutes or more of a class will also be marked cutting. Talmidim lose three points each time they cut a class. If a pattern of cutting class emerges, parents will be contacted and the talmid will be placed on behavioral probation.

1 <sup>st</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmid loses 3 points from quarterly average.</li> <li>• Parents are contacted.</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmid loses 3 points from quarterly average.</li> <li>• Parents are contacted.</li> <li>• Talmid is given an in-yeshiva detention.</li> </ul>

3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One day out-of-school suspension.</li> <li>• Parental conference in school. The talmid may not return to yeshiva until the parent conference has occurred.</li> <li>• Talmid loses 3 points from quarterly average.</li> </ul>
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***Talmid Asked to Leave Class (Disruptive Behavior)***

1 <sup>st</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmid meets with a yeshiva administrator.</li> <li>• Email or call goes home.</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmid meets with a yeshiva administrator.</li> <li>• Email or call goes home.</li> <li>• Lunch detention is assigned.</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmid meets with a yeshiva administrator.</li> <li>• Email or call goes home.</li> <li>• After school detention is assigned.</li> </ul>
4 <sup>th</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email or call goes home.</li> <li>• Administrative conference with parents required before talmid may re-enter classes.</li> </ul>

***Dress Code***

1 <sup>st</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warning.</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lunch detention.</li> <li>• Parents are contacted by administration.</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After school detention.</li> <li>• Meeting is set up with parents.</li> </ul>

***Vandalism and Other Serious Infractions***

1 <sup>st</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmid meets with a yeshiva administrator.</li> <li>• Talmid is placed on probation and may be suspended.</li> <li>• Parent conference with appropriate administrator(s).</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmid is suspended until talmid and parent participate in a conference with a yeshiva administrator.</li> <li>• Reevaluation of talmid's admissions standing recommended.</li> </ul>

***Lateness to Class***

1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmid is warned.</li> </ul>
4 <sup>th</sup> Offense:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talmidim who accrue more than 3 lateness marks to class will have one point deducted from the final semester grade for each lateness beyond 3.</li> </ul>

**Please note that administration reserves the right to respond to any disciplinary event at the discretion and judgment of the administration.**

## **IX. TEXTBOOKS AND YESHIVA PROPERTY**

1. Most General Studies textbooks are issued to the talmid by the yeshiva. Talmidim are responsible for each textbook issued to them and will be charged for any textbook lost, defaced, or not returned at the end of the academic year. Talmidim should not accept a defaced or damaged textbook unless the teacher clearly records the problem in RenWeb. Otherwise, it will become the talmid's responsibility to pay for the damage done to the book. A talmid who does not return his book for any reason at the end of the year or returns it in an unacceptable condition will have to pay for it, and may not receive his final report card or his diploma until he has done so. At the end of the year, talmidim are to return the textbooks to the school librarian. Talmidim who return all of their textbooks will be given a confirmation receipt. Talmidim without their confirmation receipt will be held financially responsible for any books not returned.
2. Most seforim are provided by the yeshiva. Rebbeim may ask talmidim to purchase additional seforim beyond what is provided by the yeshiva. It goes without saying that seforim must always be treated with proper respect. In addition, talmidim are required to purchase texts for certain specialized courses (e.g., AP classes) as well as workbooks and readers for other General Studies courses. These books remain the talmid's own property.

## **X. Substance Use Policy**

The yeshiva is concerned about the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of all its talmidim. Our first commitment is to provide educational programming for our talmidim and their parents. Please note that because of the seriousness of this, when indicated, the substance use programming may be mandatory, for parents as well, and failure to attend will result in a family not being able to receive a report card or complete graduation requirements. As a yeshiva high school community, we have joined 25 other yeshiva high schools in adopting a uniform policy. Recognizing certain gray areas, the policy outlined below provides more details.

1. Illegal substances including cigarettes, e-cigarettes, "vaping", alcohol, marijuana, and all other mood or mind altering drugs are absolutely prohibited on and around the Yeshiva University campus, and at all yeshiva related functions, including the bus ride to and from yeshiva. Any talmid who is found to have used, dealt, or be in possession of any such substances at any yeshiva related function will be subject to immediate expulsion.
2. If the administration becomes aware of any talmid who has used

substances outlined above, even if not in yeshiva, the yeshiva will work actively to engage the family and the talmid to facilitate appropriate help and treatment. Talmidim who engage in substance use are strongly encouraged to consult with the yeshiva's Guidance Department or administration. Talmidim can be confident that such problems will be addressed professionally, confidentially, and with compassion. Talmidim can be assured that they are welcomed and encouraged to seek help from the guidance, faculty, or administration, and that the involved faculty members will support them with sensitivity and will only notify appropriate adults, including the talmid's parents, without disclosing their conversations to anyone else.

- Please note that if a talmid comes forward and admits substance use while not in school, his consequences will follow our therapeutic protocol. If we become aware on our own, or a talmid registers a positive drug test, he will also face disciplinary consequences, including a two-day suspension and possible removal from extra-curricular activities.
3. Dealing: As an extension of our commitment to provide a safe and wholesome environment for our talmidim, a talmid who is found to be distributing, and/or providing drugs or other substances, whether in or out of yeshiva, may be asked to leave the yeshiva.
  4. Hosting or attending an open house/party: Talmidim may not host other talmidim at their homes for parties that include any form of substance use. Talmidim who host such an "Open House" may be suspended from yeshiva and may face further disciplinary action including expulsion.

**Testing Procedures and Treatment Plan.** YUHSB reserves the right to test any talmid for drug use on a random basis and for any reasonable cause. Additionally, YUHSB may recommend a treatment plan based upon the observations and input of our faculty, guidance, and administration.

**The Treatment Plan:** If a talmid tests positive for drug use or is evaluated by the guidance and administration as needing treatment, the following plan will be implemented.

1. Full substance abuse evaluation by a substance abuse counselor with parents and talmid. Parent must grant a release so that our Guidance Department can be updated about the prescribed treatment plan.
2. Counselor will make a recommendation for a treatment plan, which may include additional education, further counseling, and/or rehabilitation. This treatment plan must be successfully completed by the talmid.
3. Guidance staff will speak to the counselor to review the talmid's

treatment plan.

4. Follow-up testing will take place on a random basis. If the talmid is using drugs again after treatment and does not approach guidance about a relapse, this would be considered grounds for dismissal.
5. Failure to adhere to the treatment recommendations of a treating physician would be considered grounds for dismissal.

## **XI. SECURITY AND SAFETY ISSUES**

1. During the entire yeshiva day, talmidim must remain on the Yeshiva University campus unless attending a yeshiva-sponsored, supervised event being held off campus. This includes during breakfast time, lunchtime, and any free periods. The campus is defined as Amsterdam Avenue between 184th Street and 187th Street and any Yeshiva University building in which the talmid is taking a class and 185th and Audubon (Dunkin Donuts and 16 Handles). Talmidim are not permitted to go up or down any of the side streets, including Rite Aid, or to the Laurel Hill Terrace area, without permission from an administrator. Any talmid found off campus, as defined here, may be suspended for the remainder of that day and will be subject to further disciplinary action depending upon the circumstances.
2. Any talmid found in the dormitory during the yeshiva day will be subject to disciplinary action, including detention and suspension, unless he is there with administrative permission.
3. During any off-campus yeshiva event, including extra-curricular activities, class trips, inter-yeshiva competitions, and the like, all attending talmidim must remain at the location where the program is taking place throughout its entire duration. Directions provided by the activity's supervisor must be followed at all times. Failure to comply with this rule may result in dismissal from the activity and additional disciplinary action depending upon the circumstances.
4. No high school talmid is permitted to have his own private apartment and to reside there without a parent or legal guardian anywhere on or around the Yeshiva University campus. Without permission from an administrator, talmidim may also not visit, during the yeshiva day, a relative or friend who lives in an apartment or in a dormitory room, even if it is on or around the campus.
5. **Talmidim who drive to yeshiva are forbidden to use their cars at any time during the yeshiva day without permission from an administrator.** Such permission will not be granted without the approval of the driver's parent, and may be denied even if there is parental approval.



6. For the sake of the security and comfort of all our talmidim and staff, under no circumstances may any talmid have in his possession any item which can compromise the safety of others while on the Yeshiva University campus or at any yeshiva-related function, including the bus ride to and from yeshiva. Any talmid who is found to have such an item with him will be subject to immediate disciplinary action, including possible expulsion from YUHSB. The same is true for any talmid who physically threatens, fights with, or harms any other person.
7. Yeshiva University regulations require each talmid to carry a picture identification card furnished by the YU security office. This card should have a current sticker for the yeshiva term. Incoming talmidim will receive their cards during the first several days of the new term. Returning talmidim must receive current validation for the cards issued to them previously. These cards must be shown to the security guard upon entering any Yeshiva University building. They must also be shown, upon request, to any Yeshiva University official.
8. The Security and Safety Department of Yeshiva University conducts several unannounced fire and lock down drills during the course of the academic year. When the alarm sounds, all work is to stop immediately. Talmidim and staff are required to move quietly and quickly to the designated exits and from there to the assigned areas away from the yeshiva building.

## **XII. LOCKERS AND VALUABLES**

**The administration reserves the right to search a talmid, his possessions, all lockers, desks, and other areas open to talmid access in case of a concern for lost or stolen property, possession of illegal substances such as alcohol, other drugs, or any material that may be considered a threat to the learning community. Lockers are not personal property.**

1. Each talmid is assigned a locker for his use during the academic year. The talmid is responsible for any material that he places in the locker and should make certain that it is kept locked when it is not under his supervision. A talmid is not permitted to use any locker other than the one assigned to him.

2. Talmidim should not bring large sums of money or valuables to the yeshiva. If one must bring in such items, they should be left with a member of the yeshiva office staff. They should not be left in a locker or a backpack.
3. In general, talmidim should not leave any personal belongings, including laptops, computer equipment, sports equipment, and the like, lying around unattended anywhere in the building.
4. Talmidim are strongly encouraged to safeguard their personal property in the yeshiva at all times. The yeshiva is not responsible for any personal property that is brought into the building. We are on an urban campus and talmidim should protect themselves accordingly

### **XIII. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

We strongly support and encourage talmid participation in the wide variety of extra-curricular activities sponsored by the yeshiva. Talmidim have an opportunity to show special talents and develop their skills by participating in these activities.

Participation in these activities, however, is a privilege afforded only to talmidim in good standing. Academic, behavioral, and attendance standards must be maintained by those who wish to participate in extra-curricular activities. Talmidim who are failing a course or are having other academic or behavioral issues in yeshiva, are subject to suspension or removal from the activity at the discretion of the coaches and administration. Talmidim must be present on a day they wish to participate in an extracurricular event.

### **XIV. DORM POLICY**

The dorm serves as a home for the talmidim who live there. In order to maintain its role, the following guidelines apply to all talmidim.

1. Talmidim are not allowed in the dorm during the yeshiva day, beginning with shacharis until dismissal, whether to visit, to get something they forgot, borrow something from a member of the dorm, etc., unless they have permission from an administrator.
2. When beds are available, talmidim are welcome to sleep over in the dorm. In order to reserve a bed, parents must email the dorm supervisor ([dorms@yuhsb.org](mailto:dorms@yuhsb.org)) giving their son permission to sleep over in the dorm. There is a \$10 fee and permission must be given by 2 pm that day. If an email is not sent until 6 pm, the family will be charged \$20.
3. Any talmid who sleeps over in the dorm without permission from the

dorm supervisor will be subject to disciplinary action. On the first occasion, he will lose dorm privileges for a semester and on the second occasion, he will be subject to a suspension from yeshiva.

4. Any talmid who is not sleeping in the dorm must leave the dorm by 8 pm.
5. The regular yeshiva standards of behavior apply in the dorm.

## **XV. PROBATION**

If a talmid fails to comply with any of the yeshiva policies described in this handbook, or with any other yeshiva requirements, it may become necessary for him to be placed on academic or disciplinary probation. There may also be certain talmidim who are accepted to YUHSB provisionally. Any talmid who fails two or more classes will receive a letter from our office indicating that he has been placed on academic probation. Any talmid who fails Talmud will be automatically placed on academic probation. The letter will also inform him that a committee of the administration will review his grades at the end of the next marking period to determine whether he will remain on academic probation. A talmid on probation may be declared ineligible to participate in sports and extra-curricular activities. Without substantial improvement in his grades, this talmid may be asked to leave the yeshiva at the end of the semester.

## **XVI. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

1. Parents are asked to please notify the yeshiva office promptly of any change of address, telephone number, and/or e-mail address either at home or at work.
2. Please note that the faculty and staff cannot dispense medicine (e.g. aspirin). If a talmid decides to come to yeshiva feeling under the weather, but feels that he may need some medicine during the course of the day, he should bring medicine from home.
3. In order to insure that the elevator is operational for those who need to use it, talmidim are not permitted to use the elevator at any point, unless they receive specific permission for medical reasons or to transport heavy packages. Talmidim who feel they need to use the elevator should please see Rabbi Schenker. Any talmid who uses the elevator without permission will receive an after school detention and will be subject to further disciplinary consequences in future instances.
4. Talmidim are not permitted to be in the yeshiva gymnasium at any time without faculty supervision.

5. The Office Administrator is in charge of distributing public transportation passes. They are available only to those talmidim who are legally entitled to receive them.
6. Yeshiva closings (due to inclement weather, etc.) will be emailed and texted through the Remind app.
7. Family and YUHSB - Everything that happens in a talmid's home has an impact upon him, whether positive or negative. It is important that our yeshiva professionals be aware of any major changes which are taking place at home. These include births, family celebrations, illness in the family, death in the family, or marital troubles. Please let an administrator, your son's Grade Dean, or a member of our guidance staff know about these things so that we can support the talmid with the highest level of consideration. Parents and talmidim can be assured that our staff will notify only the appropriate adults who can help the talmid and family, while keeping the information in the strictest of confidence.

#### **XVII. OTHER POLICIES ADDENDUMS**

Please note that in addition to the yeshiva handbook, each talmid and his parents are expected to review and sign the cell phone policy, as well as the technology user agreement.

*We trust that all parents and talmidim recognize that these policies are part of our effort to maintain increasingly high academic standards at YUHSB and assure a quality of education at the yeshiva for everyone. As always, the administration and faculty will be available to provide assistance wherever necessary. It is our collective hope that all talmidim will continue to raise their level of performance and will achieve great success at Yeshiva University High School for Boys. We continue to strive for an ever-growing and productive partnership between the yeshiva's administration, faculty, parents, and talmidim. We thank you for your support.*

## **Yeshiva Handbook 2019-2020**

Please sign and return this sheet of paper to the office by the end of the first week of yeshiva. Any talmid who does not sign will not be allowed in yeshiva after the first week until it is signed. Your signature on this page represents your consent to the policies and procedures of YUHSB as outlined above.

Thank you, and as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Talmid Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Talmid Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_