



The Machon 8-Week Program

June 10 – August 2, 2018
\$4,195

The Machon 8-week Program is a Leadership Development and Staff-in-training program. Our emphasis in this program is to provide participants with an immersive opportunity to work directly with campers and to reflect on their experience. During the 1st session of camp, participants will learn what it means to be a great staff member and will develop the skills necessary to be an effective role model and mentor to our campers. **During the 2nd session, participants will live in cabins with campers and counselors and under supervision, will practice those skills.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CAMP COLEMAN MACHON 8-WEEK PROGRAM

What can *you* expect?

What do *we* expect?

PLEASE NOTE: The Machon 8-week Program is a Leadership Development and Staff-in-training program. Machonikim are ***NOT*** staff and do not share the same responsibilities or privileges as contracted staff members. Our emphasis in the program is to provide participants with an opportunity to work directly with campers and to reflect on their experience.

Why: To prepare all participants to be excellent staff members and activity leaders at URJ Camp Coleman in the years ahead.

Who should apply for the 8-week Machon Program? The 8-week program is best for teens who showed leadership as a camper through their commitment to our Brit Kehillah and core values and have proven that they are ready to be role-models at camp. The ideal candidates have experience working with children in a camp or school environment.

Application Process: The Machon programs are open to rising 12th graders. They are selective programs and all participants must complete the application process. Applicants are evaluated based on the strengths of their application, reference and interview with a Coleman representative. Applicants who have participated in a combination of programs such as Coleman, NFTY travel programs or other Union for Reform Judaism Israel programs and NFTY-STR/SAR are given priority. **Particular attention is paid to the evaluation of candidate's attitude and level of participation in previous programs.** Applicants will be notified by e-mail of their application status in late January.

Where: At the Union for Reform Judaism, Camp Coleman in Cleveland, GA.

When: The Machon program is an **8-week program** that parallels the regular Camp Coleman sessions. The 2018 dates are June 10 – August 2, and they will be participating in a camp-sponsored trip during the period between 1st and 2nd session. Participants are expected to attend the full program. **It is expected that Machon attend an orientation weekend at Camp Coleman during the weekend of March 23-25, 2018 (this date is subject to change).**

What do Machonikim do? The Machonikim participate in interactive training sessions focusing on camp leadership skills, child development and behavior management, so that they can become effective camp leaders as counselors and specialists. Included in every Machonik's training are a wide variety of opportunities to learn and grow as cabin counselors or specialists based on the participant's assignment to a specific bunk or specialty. The program is designed so that participants can learn about children, group development, and his/her own strengths/limitations based upon active involvement in a specific cabin group or specialty area.

Every Machonik should understand that, **at times, training will be hard work** and, like anytime we learn new things or gain new skills, it can be a little bit frustrating. Participants need to understand that they are no longer responsible for just themselves. **Machon participants are taking on a much greater responsibility in the camp community.**

During the 2nd session, Machonikim will live in bunks with campers in order to ensure a full and meaningful experience for all involved. There will be no guarantee as to which age group a Machonik will be assigned. It is our intention to place Machonikim where we feel they will perform best, however it is our expectation that all participants will perform to the best of their abilities no matter where they are assigned.