Membership Application for Cantors

**OHALAH is an association of rabbis and cantors interested in and committed to Jewish Renewal.** We share learning, chaverschaft, tefillah and opportunities for personal, professional and spiritual growth during our annual conference and day-to-day on our email discussion list.

OHALAH has a Cantorial Committee for cantors and cantorial students. Cantors who are accepted into OHALAH also automatically become members of the Cantorial Committee.

OHALAH maintains a website at ohalah.org. Members may submit articles and teachings for publication on our website at ohalah.org/resources/.

OHALAH’s Membership Committee reviews membership applications on an ongoing basis. *Please note that this application is for cantors; there is a separate application for rabbis.*

**ORDAINATION/INVESTITURE CREDENTIALS:**

* If you were ordained or invested by one of the following institutions, you should complete only the application and **not** the Supplemental Form.
* If your ordaining/investing institution is not listed below, you must complete both the application and the Supplemental Form. Please note that in this case, we cannot guarantee that your ordination/ investiture will be deemed sufficient for membership in OHALAH.

Academy for Jewish Religion

Academy for Jewish Religion, California

ALEPH/AOP

B'nai Or Religious Fellowship (predecessor to ALEPH)

Hebrew Union College/Jewish Institute of Religion

Jewish Theological Seminary

Jews College - London College of Jewish Studies

P'nai Or Religious Fellowship (predecessor to ALEPH)

Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Yeshivat Tomchei T'mimim

Yeshiva University - Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary

* If you were not ordained or invested as a cantor, you may submit a letter on the official letterhead of the Cantors Assembly or the American Conference of Cantors verifying that you are a cantorial member in good standing together with your application and Supplemental Form.

Cantors whose applications are not approved for membership because of ordination/investiture credentials may wish to consider further cantorial studies in one of the programs listed above and reapplying for OHALAH membership after successfully completing such additional study.

Membership Application for Cantors - Instructions

Shalom!

**Please follow these steps to apply for membership in OHALAH: (**Applications are reviewed and determinations reached within 90 days of receipt of your payment and all of your documents.)

1. Locate the name of your institution on page 1. If your institution is listed, please complete steps 2 through 7 of these instructions. If your institution is **not** listed, please complete step 8 as well.

2. Scan or photograph your ordination/investiture document and email it to us. If you do not have ordination or investiture, you may email us a letter on the official letterhead of the Cantors Assembly or the American Conference of Cantors verifying that you are a cantorial member in good standing.

3. Email to us two brief letters of recommendation from cantors or rabbis who can attest to your character and your capacity as a cantor. Please be sure that letters include the typed or legibly printed name and professional title of the recommending clergy.

4. Go to the website at http://ohalah.org and follow the prompts to pay your first year membership dues. Dues are on a sliding scale starting from $54 and up to $540 per year. Your dues payment will apply beginning after your acceptance. If for any reason you are not accepted, we will refund your payment.

5. Complete the application on pages 3 and 4 of this form by typing in your answers.

6. Print and sign your application.

7. Scan and email your application (item 5), ordination document (item 2) and two recommendations (item 3) to OHALAH/RPA Bookkeeper & Membership Administrator Lynn Pisetzner at [lynn@ohalah.org](mailto:lynn@ohalah.org).

8. If your ordaining/investing institution is not listed on page 1, please also complete the Supplemental Form as well and email to Lynn.

**We will email you to acknowledge receipt of your application. If you do not receive an acknowledgment of receipt within two weeks, or have any questions, please contact OHALAH/RPA Bookkeeper & Membership Administrator Lynn Pisetzner at 702-492-1697 or** [**lynn@ohalah.org**](mailto:lynn@ohalah.org)**.**

Thank you!

OHALAH Application for Cantors

**Please type your responses to this form, print and sign, scan, and email to OHALAH/RPA Bookkeeper & Membership Administrator Lynn Pisetzner at** [**lynn@ohalah.org**](mailto:lynn@ohalah.org)**.**

Name:

Name as you wish to be listed on our membership   
roster (if different from your name above):

Hebrew Name:

E-mail address:

Home Address:

City, State/Province, Zip/Postal Code:

Country:

Name of Employer:

Work Address:

City, State/Province, Zip/Postal Code:

Country:

*(Having an employer is not a requirement for membership.)*

Cell Phone:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

**COMPATABILITY**

OHALAH includes rabbis and cantors from across the streams of Judaism. We seek to provide a warm, welcoming atmosphere during our conference, distance learning and discussions and on our e-mail discussion list. This requires a breadth of acceptance and tolerance for one another and the vast depth of diversity in customs, practice, politics, faith and understanding.

Please share some reflections about the extent to which you are able to embrace a collegial relationship with others whose customs, practice, politics, faith and understanding run somewhat counter or completely count to yours in the areas of (1) the relationship of other faiths and spiritual paths to Judaism, (2) egalitarianism, (3) LGBTQ issues, including gender identity, (4) patrilineal descent, (5) interfaith couples and families, (6) political views with which you disagree, including views on Israel. **In addition, please address the questions “why do you wish to join OHALAH?” and “what is it about the core values of Jewish Renewal that resonates for you?”** Attach additional sheet if necessary.

**OHALAH Application for Cantors (continued)**

**OTHER CANTORIAL ASSOCIATIONS**

A. Do you belong to another cantorial association? YES NO

B. If yes, which one(s)?

C. Also, if “yes,” please read Article 3.2.2. of OHALAH’s Bylaws. A complete copy of our Bylaws is available in the About Us/Policies section of our website at http://ohalah.org/.

“3.2.2    Associate Members.  If a member of OHALAH is simultaneously a member of another Cantorial Association that does not permit full membership in OHALAH, said member shall automatically be deemed an Associate Member of OHALAH.  An Associate Member may vote and serve on a Committee, but may not serve as an Officer or Director or participate in any placement that OHALAH may offer.”

D. Have you ever been denied membership in a cantorial association? YES NO

E. Have you ever been suspended, expelled, placed on probation or been subject   
to same for the non-payment of dues? YES NO

F. Have you ever been denied membership, or have you ever been suspended,   
expelled, placed on probation or been subject to other disciplinary action by any other  
professional association for sexual or monetary impropriety? YES NO

G. Have you ever been convicted of a felony (or its equivalent outside the United States)   
or have you ever pled “no contest” to a felony (or its equivalent outside the United)? YES NO

**If you answer yes to questions D, E, F or G above, please attach explanation.**

**DECLARATION**

My answers to all the questions on the above application and the accompanying verification and recommendations are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I hereby apply for membership in OHALAH and the OHALAH Cantorial Committee.

Print Name Signature Date