Rabbinic Pastors Association

Membership Application Information

Shalom! Welcome to the Rabbinic Pastors Association! Rabbinic Pastors Association membership applications are reviewed by the RPA Board of Governors. If you have a valid ordination or certification as a rabbinic pastor or chaplain from one of the following institutions, you are welcome to apply for membership in the Rabbinic Pastors Association (RPA):

ALEPH Ordination Program

Academy for Jewish Religion, California

The Jewish Theological Seminary

The Rabbinic Pastors Association is a professional organization for those who do the holy work of pastoral counseling, teaching, and leading worship and lifecycle rituals among other things. The RPA is and independent association under the umbrella of OHALAH, the Jewish Renewal association of rabbis and cantors. Rabbis and cantors who are qualified rabbinic pastors or chaplains are welcome to apply for membership in the Rabbinic Pastors Association regardless of whether they are also members of OHALAH.

RPA members are eligible to participate in the RPA email discussion list and the OHALAH email discussion list and to submit articles and teachings for publication in the resources section of the OHALAH website.

All rabbinic pastors and Jewish chaplains may attend the annual OHALAH conference regardless of whether they are RPA Student Subscribers.

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Instructions

Applications are reviewed by the RPA Board and determinations issued within approximately 90 days of receipt of your payment and all of your documents.

**Please follow the steps below to complete your application. (**Applications are reviewed and determinations issued within 90 days of receipt of your payment and all of your documents.)

1. Scan or photograph your ordination or certification document and email it to us.

2. Email to us a letter of recommendation from a professional who can attest to your character and professional capacity.

3. Go to the website at http://ohalah.org and follow the prompts to pay your first year RPA membership dues. Dues are on a sliding scale starting from $54 and up to $216 per year. Your payment will apply beginning after your acceptance. If for any reason you are not accepted, we will refund your payment.

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

5. Print and sign your application.

6. Scan and email your application (item 4), ordination document (item 1) and your letter of recommendation (item 2) to OHALAH/RPA Bookkeeper & Membership Administrator Lynn Pisetzner at lynn@ohalah.org.

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.

Thank you!

Rabbinic Pastors Association

Application

**Please type your responses to this form, print it, sign it, scan and email it to us**

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.)

Cellular Phone:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

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Application (continued)

**COMPATABILITY –** RPA members are welcome to attend the annual OHALAH Shabbaton and conference that includes rabbis, cantors, rabbinic pastors, chaplains and students from across the streams of Judaism. RPA members are also included on an RPA email discussion list and are welcome to subscribe to the OHALAH email discussion list and to participate in distance learning opportunities. There is a warm, welcoming atmosphere during the OHALAH shabbaton and conference as well as during distance learning on the e-mail discussion list and 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 RPA?” and “what is it about the core values of Jewish Renewal that resonates for you?”**

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

1. Do you belong to any professional associations?

If so, which one(s)?

2. Have you ever been denied membership in a professional association to which you have applied?

3. Have you ever been suspended, expelled, placed on probation or been subject to other disciplinary action by a professional association for any reason other than the non-payment of dues?

4. 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)? Please answer Yes or No by removing the one that does not apply.

If you answer yes to questions 2, 3, OR 4 above, please explain.

**DECLARATION –** My answers to all the questions on the above application and the accompanying ordination or certification document and accompanying recommendation are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I hereby apply for membership in the Rabbinic Pastors Association.

 Print Name Signature Date