Rabbinic Pastors Association

Senior Student Membership Information

Shalom! Welcome to the Rabbinic Pastors Association! Rabbinic Pastors Association applications are reviewed by the RPA Board of Governors.

If you are in your last year of study to become a rabbinic pastor or chaplain at one of the following institutions, you are welcome to apply for student 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 an 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 pastor students and Jewish chaplaincy students in good standing at an institutions listed on page 2 may attend the annual OHALAH conference regardless of whether they are RPA Student Subscribers.

When an RPA student member presents a copy of his or her ordination or graduation document, s/he will become a full member of the RPA.

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Instructions

**Please follow these steps to apply to become a senior student member of the Rabbinic Pastors Association: (**Applications are reviewed and determinations issued within 90 days of receipt of your payment and all of your documents.)

1. Locate the name of your institution on page 2. If your institution is listed, you are qualified to use this application.

2. Email to us a letter from your institution verifying the date that you will enter your last year of studies.

3. Email to us one letter of recommendation from a teacher, mentor or supervisor who can attest to your character and professional capacity.

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 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).

**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!

Rabbinic Pastors Association

Application

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

(Please note: Having an employer is not a requirement for student membership.)

Cellular Phone:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

**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?”**

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Application (continued)

**DECLARATION –** My answers to all the questions on this application and the accompanying verification and recommendations are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I hereby apply for senior student membership in the Rabbinic Pastors Association.

Print Name Signature Date