Rabbinic Pastors Association

Application for Student Membership

Shalom!

Welcome to the Rabbinic Pastors Association! Student membership applications are reviewed by the RPA Board of Governors. If you are a rabbinic pastor student or chaplaincy student at one of the following institutions, and have completed at least one year of study, 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 and independent association under the umbrella of OHALAH, the Jewish Renewal association of rabbis and cantors.

RPA student 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 institution listed on page 2 may attend the annual OHALAH conference regardless of whether they are RPA Student Members.

When an RPA student member presents written verification that s/he is entering his or her last year of studies, s/he will become an RPA senior student member. When a senior student member presents a copy of his or her ordination or graduation document, s/he will become a full member of the RPA. (If a student member forgets to inform us that s/he has entered the last year of studies, we will nevertheless accept him or her as a full member of the RPA upon receive of his or her ordination or graduation document.)

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Application for Student Membership - Instructions

**Please follow these steps to apply for RPA Student Membership Status: (**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 1. If your institution is listed, you are qualified to use this application.

2. Obtain a letter from your institution verifying the date you became a rabbinic pastor student or a chaplaincy student (which should be at least one year prior to applying for RPA student membership) and confirming that you are presently a student in good standing.

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

4. Go to the member section of the website at http://ohalah.org and follow the prompts to pay your $18 RPA student membership fee. Your $18 payment covers your RPA membership for one year. (We will bill you $18 per year after that.) If for any reason you are not accepted as a student member, 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).

**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!

Application for Rabbinic Pastors Association Student Membership

**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:

Institution where you are enrolled, and month/year you began studying:

Name of Employer:

Work Address:

City, State/Province, Zip/Postal Code:

Country:

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

Cell Phone: Home Phone:

Work Phone:

**COMPATABILITY -** RPA student 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 student subscribers 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?”** Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Application for Rabbinic Pastors Association Student Membership (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 to become a Student Member of the Rabbinic Pastors Association.

Print Name Signature Date