

**UNITED SYNAGOGUE YOUTH
INTERNATIONAL BOARD
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON
APPLICATION**

Mail your application to: USY
General Board Application
Rapaport House
820 Second Avenue, 10th Floor
New York, NY 10017

They can also be sent via e-mail to levy@uscj.org or faxed to 212-353-9439 (attention Rabbi Dave Levy)

Applications are due **February 1**. The USY Officers meet soon afterwards, and they reserve the right not to consider any application that arrives after that date.



**USY INTERNATIONAL BOARD
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON APPLICATION**

Mail your application to: **No later than February 1.**

USY, General Board Application, 820 Second Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10017

Please attach a recent photo of yourself.

Name: _____ Age: ____ Sex: ____ Grade: ____ GPA: ____

Chapter: _____ Region: _____

Address: _____
City State Zip Code

Phone:(_____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Chapter, Regional and International Experience:

Extra-curricular activities other than USY:

Anything else we should know about you?

International Board Position(s) of which you wish to be a chairperson:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

On a separate sheet of paper, please explain why you want the above position(s) and give a detailed account of ideas you would initiate as chairperson. The essay is perhaps the most important part of the application. (Please do not send videos or any bulky attachments).

1. _____, pledge to fulfill my responsibilities as a member of the USY International Board. I will observe the standards as designated by the USY Constitution.

USYers' Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Regional President or Youth Director's Signature: _____

Chapter President or Youth Director's Signature: _____

USY INTERNATIONAL BOARD COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON APPLICATION

Serving as a USY International Committee Chairperson is an extremely rewarding experience. Committing yourself to the responsibility of a committee allows one to contribute expertise in a specific area of USY International Leadership.

However, before applying for a board position, there are a few things you should consider.

Q: What are the qualifications needed for a board position?

A: While there are no defined qualifications necessary, the Officers will be choosing chairpersons based on prior experience in the field of the position for which you are applying. You should know what skills are needed to perform the duties of that position, and be certain that you possess them. Your past USY work should reflect a great deal of interest, hard work and dedication. With the exception of the position of International Convention Chair, current 12th Graders are not eligible to apply for Board positions.

Q: Must I have set goals in mind when applying?

A: You should have in mind some basic goals, which you would like to accomplish. Of course, the more specific goals are formed when the committee begins working.

Q: Do I have time to devote to a board position?

A: Only you know that for sure. Unfortunately, a USY Board position is going to involve work and time. You may find that coupled with your current school work and extra-curricular activities (not to mention your first semester of college if you are a senior), you simply don't have the time for a board position. Try to anticipate what your time limitations are and will be. You may want to speak with a past board member in order to get a better idea of what the commitments are.

Q: What are the standards involved in a board position?

A: USY Constitution Article V, Section 7:

Introduction: As leaders of USY, the Officers serve as accessible Jewish role models (dugmaot) to the USY constituency. In that capacity, they are expected to aspire to become ideal Conservative Jews, reflecting a strong commitment to Jewish survival and the performance of mitzvot. Therefore:

- 1) The Officers of United Synagogue Youth shall observe the Sabbath and Jewish Holidays with regard to the Responsum of the Rabbinical Assembly pertaining to Travel, and by refraining from all school examinations and public functions thereon. (The Jewish Holidays include Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Pesach, Shavuot, Sukkot and Simhat Torah).
- 2) The Officers shall observe the dietary laws where possible in private and at all time in public.

- 3) The Officers shall participate in some mode of Judaic study for not less than three hours weekly; they shall attend not less than four religious services monthly, three of which must be on the Sabbath.
- 4) It is expected that leaders of the organization will refrain from relationships which can be construed as interdating.
- 5) It is expected that the leaders of the organization refrain from the illegal use of drugs and the illegal use of alcohol.
- 6) The Officers shall participate actively in the affairs of their respective Chapters, and in all of the activities of their respective Regions.
- 7) The provisions contained herein shall also apply to the remainder of the membership of the International General Board of USY as well as all members of Regional Executive USY Boards.

USY BOARD COMMITTEES

(TENTATIVE: Subject to Officers Approval)

These are the basic committees for which you can apply. Any changes deemed appropriate by the officers will probably not affect your application, the changes usually require people with similar qualifications as those listed below.

Achshav

The editors will be in charge of the production of this quarterly magazine which is now an on-line publication. Their responsibilities include the solicitation of articles, artwork, and other creative writings (as part of the *Shalhevet* section); creating the issue theme; and editing. Past experience has shown that it is very important for the editors to have reliable E-mail access. (Approx. 2)

Religion/Education

The chairpeople will be responsible for the development of materials for religious programming in chapters and regions. This includes making existing materials known while creating new ones, enabling chapters to have meaningful religious and educational programs. This committee is also responsible for encouraging participation in the Abraham Joshua Heschel Honor Society, and for seeking educational resources from other organizations and making them available to USYers. They will also be responsible for all aspects of Mitzvah Enhancement programming, and will work to increase USYers knowledge about and commitment to mitzvot. They will also be responsible for communicating with their regional counterparts and will be in charge of distribution and dissemination of information pertaining to their responsibilities. They will also be responsible for developing new ideas and programs related to the area above. (Approx. 2)

International Convention

The co-chairpersons will serve as the planning force of International Convention. Although the actual theme is selected at least 18 months prior to the Convention they will plan and execute the Convention Program in all aspects, including the functioning of Convention Committees. Candidates must be High School Seniors. The educational theme for IC 2013 will deal with Tikun Olam. (2 people)

Membership/Kadima

This committee helps to foster a link between USY and Kadima. They are also responsible to prepare helpful materials as well as printed publications, and new program ideas to help retain and expand the membership of USY. One of the committee members will be the editor of Kol Kadima, the official magazine for Kadimians. Special programming for seniors also falls under their responsibilities as does reaching out to the Solomon Schechter Day Schools and to Ramah Camps. They are responsible for communicating with their regional counterparts. (Approx. 2)

LaNasi

The editor of LaNasi, the USY Chapter President's newsletter, has many responsibilities. The job includes the responsibilities of putting together the newsletter, including soliciting articles, the layout of this publication, taking charge of the creative responsibilities, and printing. The editor will organize the newsletter from home. Desktop publishing experience is preferred. Samples of work, such as chapter newsletters or regional newsletter, are encouraged. In addition to the responsibilities of the newsletter, the chair runs the LaNasi listserve, facilitates online chats for Chapter Presidents, and works to make more resources available to the network of Chapter Presidents. Ideally the person should have first-hand experience as a Chapter President. (Approx. 1)

Social Action/Tikun Olam

The chairpeople of this committee will be responsible for all aspects of USY's increasing interest in Social Action, including publications and programmatic suggestions. This committee works with the poor, the disabled, oppressed Jewry, etc. They are responsible for the preparation of the Bein Adam L'Chavero section of Achshav and to review all new and potential Tikun Olam publications. They also work to better the Tikun Olam Tzedakah Program and assist the regions with fund raising ideas. They are responsible for preparing the Eit La'Asot Newsletter, and materials to assist chapters with SATO programming.

Israel Awareness

The chairpeople of this committee will work to increase the Zionist consciousness of the USYers. They will be responsible for developing new and overseeing existing programs and materials dealing with Israel. One of the chairpeople will edit Hechalutzon, the Hechalutzim Newsletter. The chairpeople will be a liaison between our regional and International organizations. They will be in charge of distributing information about special International organizations. The chairpeople also deal with Noar M'sorati, our sister organization in Israel, and Mercaz, the Zionist arm of the Conservative Movement. (Approx. 2)

Online Services/Publicity

The primary responsibility of the Online Services/Publicity chair is to develop new and creative ways to generate publicity for USY, especially through the website and social media sites. The person is also responsible for working with the USY staff on the website, particularly in developing ideas for new website features and for helping create and implement them. The person should have experience working with websites and with communication on the Internet. (Approx. 1-2)

Please note

From time to time the International Officers decide to create new committees. If you have suggestions for a new committee or project, please include them on your application. Some of the committees mentioned above could be combined or eliminated at the discretion of the new administration.