

**MACHZIKEI HADATH**  
**RABBINICAL COLLEGE**

**CATALOG**  
**2022-2023**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College was founded in 1956 to provide a program of intensive study in Talmud and Rabbinical studies in the classic tradition of Gerer Chassidus. The College offers a five-year undergraduate academic program leading to the First Talmudic/Rabbinic Degree

## **HISTORY AND BACKGROUND**

Gerer Chassidus, the philosophical foundation of Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College, has a long and glorious history. While a short synopsis cannot do justice to the inspiring story of the Gerer dynasty, it will have to suffice for this publication.

Gerer Chassidus was originated by Rabbi Yitzchok Meir Alter, commonly known by his pen-name Chidushei Harim, in the town of Ger, Poland. He became the Rabbi of Ger in 1859 and quickly drew a large group of dedicated followers. He taught these followers, or chassidim, the importance of toiling in the study of Torah. Under the gentle leadership of the Chidushei Harim, the lights of Torah study were kindled in the hearts of thousands. He opened a rabbinical seminary in Ger, which soon became renowned as a center for Torah scholarship and religious services.

The Chidushei Harim died in 1866. It was not until after his death that his brilliant writings on Torah and Chassidic philosophy were published; comprising the remarkable total of twenty volumes. Since all his thirteen sons tragically died during his lifetime, the mantle of Gerer leadership was transferred to his beloved grandson, Rabbi Aryeh Leib Alter. Rabbi Aryeh Leib, became known by the title of the book he authored, the Sefas Emes. The Sefas Emes, a classical work, is a widely used reference source, as it applies the teaching of our sages to daily life. Following in the path of his illustrious grandfather, the Sefas Emes emphasized the theme of Torah study and taught it to multitudes of students.

We find this theme even more pronounced with the emergence of Rabbi Avrohom Mordechai Alter, son of the Sefas Emes, and successor the Gerrer dynasty. With Rabbi Avrohom Mordechai's organization and tenacity, institutions of advance Talmudic learning under the auspices of Gerer Chassidus, blossomed throughout Poland. Unfortunately, with Hitler's rise to power, Polish Jewry and its citadels of Torah were virtually wiped off the map by the Nazis. Miraculously, Rabbi Avrohom Mordechai, along with his three sons and members of his immediate family, were able to escape Hitler's inferno.

In 1940, Rabbi Avrohom Mordechai Alter arrived in Israel. He spent the duration of the war completely immersed in the rescue efforts of his brethren. Afterwards, he provided assistance and support for thousands; enabling them to rebuild broken lives, and encouraging them to find comfort in the study of Torah. He died in 1948 following an extended illness. His son, Rabbi Yisroel Alter, assumed the leadership role for the remnants of Ger's Chassidim.

Rabbi Yisroel Alter devoted the remaining twenty-nine years of his life to reconstructing the quality of Torah life and Chassidus of prewar Poland in Israel. Rabbi Yisroel was able to establish nineteen institutions of Torah learning in Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, Bnei Brak, Ashdod, and Haifa.

After his passing, the mantle of leadership was passed to the Lev Simcha, who led Ger for the next 15 years. Emphasizing the concept of “Shivisi Hashem L’negdi Tamid”, he directed Ger until his passing in 5752 (1992). His brother, the Pnei Menachem, the esteemed Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivas Sefas Emes in Yerushalayim, led the chassidus for the next three and a half years.

Each of these Rebbes forwarded the ideals and traditions that are represented by the legacy of Ger. This rich legacy and heritage continues to this day under the guidance of the present Rebbe Shlita. Currently the Rebbe Shlita directs well over one hundred Mosdos, with a combined enrollment of between 15,000 to 20,000 students

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College, the American educational arm of the Gerer Chassidic dynasty, has its roots in the educational system founded by the Rebbes of Ger. In 1968 the entire educational complex was transplanted to the blossoming Boro Park neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York.

## **MISSION**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College was founded with the intent of offering a program of advanced study in Talmudic and Rabbinical Studies. A fundamental aspect of the education we provide is the training of future educators. This factor, vital to the continuity of our legacy, provides the seeds of the next generation’s education. Thus, our program has also incorporated the cultivation of potential educators within the student body, resulting in a good number of our students continuing on as qualified teachers and educators throughout our educational system.

## **COVID-19**

Any updates or changes that may arise during the course of the year due to COVID-19 will be communicated to the students. Students should refer to the school’s website, <https://mhrc.edu> for the most up to date information.

## **STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College has an approved study abroad program for students who wish to benefit from a year or two of study in one of the Gerrer Yeshivos in Israel. Courses offered are similar in content and style to those offered at Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College. Students who wish to avail themselves of this opportunity may contact Rabbi Dov Garfinkel for further information. Rabbi Garfinkel

may be reached by phone at 718-854-8777, by email at dg@mhrc.edu or in the main administrative offices.

Enrollment in a program of study abroad approved for credit by the home institution may be considered enrollment at the home institution for the purpose of applying for assistance under the FSA programs.

### **CAMPUS AND FACILITIES**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College is situated in the heart of the vibrant community of Boro Park in Brooklyn, New York. The institution has two educational centers within a five-block radius.

One of the buildings is located at 5407 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. It is a seven-story brick building that houses the main administrative offices and a study hall on the main level. The classrooms and staff offices are on the second floor. The lowest level houses a cafeteria while the upper floors contain the dormitory facilities.

The second building is located at 5115 Old New Utrecht Road, Brooklyn, New York. It is a beautiful new two-story building. It has an attractive study hall on the ground level, with a cafeteria on the lower level and classrooms on the upper level.

While the facilities at Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College may not be fully accessible to the handicapped, every effort will be made to accommodate handicapped students admitted to the institution.

### **LIBRARY**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College holds a collection of over 15,000 reference books, ranging from volumes of the Bible and Talmud to the latest Jewish Periodicals and publications. Students will find these resources more than adequate for their studies. Those interested in doing more extensive research may avail themselves of the library in Yeshiva Yagdil Torah on 5110 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### **TEXTBOOK INFORMATION**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College offers a highly specialized program of study in Talmud and related subjects. All textbooks are readily available for use on open stacks in the study hall and school library. Students who wish to purchase their own copies of the texts studied may purchase them from one of the Judaic bookstores stores in the area.

Many students prefer to have their own Gemara, Kovetz Miforshim, and Mishna Berura which cost between \$20 and \$50 each, depending on the publisher and edition. Most texts used in the program are reprints of the Talmud and other classical texts that do not have ISBN numbers.

Below are the addresses of three local Judaica stores:

Mivchar Judaica	1802 50 <sup>th</sup> Street	Brooklyn, NY 11204
Z Berman Books	4602 17 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Brooklyn, NY 11204
Eichler's	5004 13 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Brooklyn, NY 11219

## **STUDENT LIFE**

Although similarities in the student body appear more conspicuous than their differences, there is a broadening aspect of student life, as students come from many states and countries.

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College holds the individuality of the student as paramount; therefore, we offer a variety of services that cater to the many interests and needs of our students.

## **FINANCIAL AID OFFICE**

The Financial Aid Office assists students in completing procedures necessary to receive funding through various Federal programs available to college students. Grants are available to all qualifying students. Please refer to the section on financial aid that appears later in this catalog.

## **AVAILABILITY OF FULL TIME EMPLOYEE TO ASSIST ENROLLED AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College has designated Rabbi Dov Garfinkel, Chief Fiscal Officer, as the full time employee available to assist enrolled and prospective students in obtaining information on financial aid programs available, criteria for eligibility, and procedure for applying for financial aid, cost of attendance, retention rates, completion and transfer rates, institutional security and crime statistics, and all required disclosures and information, as required by 668.42, 668.43, 668.45 and 668.46 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations. He is available in the administrative offices during regular business hours or by calling 718-854-8777.

## **COUNSELING**

Our counseling department offers private consultation in a wide range of areas, including academic and personal. This department is under the capable direction of Rabbi Yisroel Kempinski, whose understanding nature, and keen insight provides guidance to students. Students from all walks of life feel comfortable seeking his counsel, as our counselor maintains an "open door" policy.

Drug use and abuse are by their very nature in conflict with the religious philosophy of Ger Chassidus and Orthodox Judaism, and would therefore be extremely rare in our school. However, for counseling and treatment, students would be referred to our community liaison, the Torah Umesorah Counter Force

Program. Torah Umesorah is now in its second decade of providing counseling service in many areas to the Jewish community.

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College has a very stringent policy on drug and alcohol usage. For more details refer to the Institutional Drug and Alcohol Policy.

### **FIRST AID**

The office is equipped with first aid supplies that are used for minor ailments or injuries. The college utilizes the services of Hatzolah, a highly qualified local emergency volunteer squad, for emergency situations or injuries. The college has arrangements with a local physician, Dr. Ziamba, to treat students whenever necessary.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

#### **TUTORING PROGRAM**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College has established a community service tutoring program. Parents from local elementary and high schools call the office if they need tutoring for their children. The college matches them with one of the college students who is qualified to tutor and is interested in gaining teaching experience.

#### **ADULT EDUCATION**

Traditionally, since the origin of Gerrer Chassidus, the study and teaching of the Talmud has been an essential part of our tradition. As a Chassidic Rabbinical College with a legacy, we feel that one of our greatest services is to innovate and offer programs of Talmud and Chassidic study for the community.

Adults from the community may attend the college's regularly scheduled lectures both in the morning and evening hours. Many people frequent our study hall for both of these sessions. Others may take advantage of our program for private or group study without the benefits of a lecture. Whatever their intellectual desire may be, they know that they are welcome in our study hall.

### **STATE AUTHORIZATION AND ACCREDITATION**

#### **NY State Notice**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College does not offer programs leading to the academic degrees authorized by the New York State Board of Regents. In Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College's opinion, its studies, though different in kind, are equivalent in duration, intensity, depth of knowledge, and quality of scholarship to degree programs approved by the Regents. The credits offered by this institution measure a student's progress toward the rabbinical degrees offered by this institution. Under New York



State law, a corporation formed for religious and educational purposes, which does not confer academic degrees requiring program registration by the State Education Department, does not require any further state approvals or credentials in order to exist or to perform its post secondary education functions. Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College falls into this category and is therefore not subject to the evaluation of the New York State Board of Regents.

### **Accreditation**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College is accredited by the Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools (AARTS), and approved to offer a First Talmudic/Rabbinic degree.

The AARTS Handbook is available upon request by contacting the organization via email: [office@aarts-schools.org](mailto:office@aarts-schools.org), mail: 2329 Nostrand Ave., M-200, Brooklyn, NY 11210, or telephone: (212) 363-1991.

Copies of the NY State exemption letter and letter of accreditation can be viewed in the office during regular business hours.

### **ADMISSIONS**

Applicants to Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College must meet one of the following requirements:

1. Have graduated high school and provide evidence of high school graduation.
2. Have completed homeschooling at the secondary level as defined by state law and provide documentation of homeschooling.
3. Meet one of the recognized equivalents. Recognized equivalents include:
  - a. GED/TASC/HISET
  - b. Successful completion of an associate's degree program;
  - c. Successful completion of at least 60 semester or trimester credit hours or 72 quarter credit hours that does not result in the awarding of an associate's degree, but that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree at any institution;  
or
  - d. Enrollment in a bachelor's degree program where at least 60 semester or trimester credit hours or 72 quarter credit hours have been successfully completed, including credit hours transferred into the bachelor's degree program.

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College does not utilize an Ability to Benefit test for admitting students.

Students applying to Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College must also fulfill the following minimum requirements:

- Talmud: Completion of at least 150 folio pages of the Talmud.
- Bible: Competence in the Pentateuch and Commentaries.
- Code of Law: Competence in the laws and customs in the Code of Law (Orach Chaim) and personal commitment to their observance.
- Language: The ability to read and write classical Hebrew; a working knowledge of Aramaic, the language of the Talmud, and Yiddish.

In order to assess the extent of the applicant's background knowledge, all applicants must undergo a personal interview with the Dean which may include an oral or written examination on previous Talmudic studies, before being accepted into the Yeshiva.

If accepted for enrollment, the applicant will be asked to complete an admission form.

Applicants will be selected for admission based on intellectual ability, academic preparation, and personal ethical development. Admission to Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College is open to male members of the Orthodox Jewish faith regardless of color, race, national origin, or physical handicap.

In order to initiate the application process, we encourage students to write to the Dean of Students at:

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College  
5407 16<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11204

#### **TRANSFER CREDITS AND ACADEMIC RESIDENCY**

Credits may be granted, at the discretion of the Yeshiva, for courses taken at another postsecondary institution of Talmudic Studies providing the following conditions are met:

- The credits transferred must be based on course work similar in content, style and academic rigor to the one offered at the Yeshiva.
- The student must have achieved a grade that would have enabled him to pass a similar course at the Yeshiva.
- All credits must be properly documented.

- Transfer credits accepted are counted toward the number of attempted credits and the number of credits earned by the student.
- Transfer credits will only be awarded if a transcript from the previous school attended is provided.
- Credit by examination may be granted to students based on the examination that the Rosh Hayeshiva administers to each incoming student. Students will be placed at the appropriate academic level and granted the credits by examination that will place them on par with the class.

In addition to the degree requirements described in the section detailing the academic programs offered at Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College, there is a 30 credit academic residency requirement for the First Talmudic/Rabbinic Degree.

Decisions regarding transfer credits are subject to the same appeals process described below.

Please be advised that the transferability of credits and acceptance of the degree earned at Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College are at the complete discretion of an institution to which a student may seek to transfer. If the credits or the degree earned at this institution are not accepted at the institution to which a student seeks to transfer, he may be required to repeat some or all of the coursework at that institution.

## **ACADEMIC REGULATIONS**

### **SATISFACTORY PROGRESS**

All matriculated students pursuing an approved program at Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward graduation, which in this institution is defined as being in good academic standing as detailed below.

The SAP standards required for students receiving Title IV federal financial aid are the same for all matriculated students at Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College. Satisfactory academic progress at Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College has two principal components: a qualitative standard and a quantitative standard:

At the end of each semester, a report is generated which indicates whether or not each student is meeting SAP requirements. If a student is readmitted to the school the student's academic file is evaluated to determine if the student is meeting satisfactory academic progress requirements.

- **Qualitative Standard**

In pursuit of graduation, the student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (the equivalent of a “C” average) or better. Each student is evaluated at the end of each semester and is expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

Semester grade point averages will be calculated according to the following numerical equivalents:

A+	Superior	4.0	A	Outstanding	4.0
A-	Excellent	3.7	B+	Very Good	3.3
B	Good	3.0	B-	Above Average	2.7
C+	Average	2.3	C	Below Average	2.0
C-	Fair	1.7	D+	Fair/Poor	1.3
D	Poor	1.0	F	Failing	0
I	Not included in calculation of GPA		W	Not included in calculation of GPA	

The GPA is established by multiplying the grade point equivalent of each course by the number of credits it yields. The products of each course are then added together. The sum is then divided by the total number of credits earned in the semester.

Credit hours with a grade of Incomplete and Withdrawn are not included in the determination of the grade point average. Credit hours with a grade of fail, whether or not the Fail is earned or unearned are included in the determination of the grade point average. If a student receives failing grades for all of his courses, the Registrar will determine whether or not the student completed the semester.

- **Quantitative Standard**

- **Maximum Timeframe – measured in credit hours**

Students must make sufficient progress through the academic program to complete the program with a maximum attempted credit ceiling equivalent to 150% of the published length of the program in credit hours.

- **Pace of Completion**

A student must earn 67% of his cumulative attempted credits. Every semester, each student is evaluated to see if he has successfully earned 67% of his cumulative attempted credits. The student’s cumulative

earned credits are divided by the student's cumulative attempted credits to determine if the student is progressing through the academic program at a pace sufficient to complete the program within the maximum time frame. If the number of credits earned divided by the number of credits attempted is 67% or greater, he is determined to be meeting the quantitative standard.

## **WHEN SAP IS NOT MET**

### **WARNING**

If a student falls below the SAP standards, he will be notified that he is being given a warning period which will last one semester. The student will also be notified that he has the option of appealing his lack of satisfactory academic progress at any point. During the warning period, a designated faculty member may counsel the student and assist the student to improve his performance. The student may be provided with various student services that might include tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or other academic assistance. If, after this warning period SAP standards are still not met, he will be subject to academic discipline which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution.

### **Federal Financial Aid Warning**

For continued eligibility for federal financial aid programs, if a student falls below the satisfactory progress standards, he will be given a period of financial aid warning during which time he maintains federal financial aid eligibility. The warning period will last for one semester. During the federal financial aid warning period, the student will receive the counseling described above. If, after this federal financial aid warning period, satisfactory progress standards are still not met, the student will be notified that he will no longer be eligible for financial aid. The student will also be notified that he has the option of appealing his lack of satisfactory academic progress in order to be granted a probationary period.

## **APPEALS PROCESS, MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES**

A student may appeal the institution's determination that he is not making satisfactory academic progress. Basis for appeal include the death of a relative, an injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances. The student must submit the appeal in writing to the administrative office. In the appeal, the student must describe why he failed to make satisfactory academic progress, and what has changed in his situation that will allow him to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation. The senior faculty member will consider all information provided by the student and will consult with faculty members, as appropriate. If it is determined that the appeal should be accepted, the senior faculty member will determine whether or not the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements of the institution by the end of a one semester probationary period. If it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after the probationary period, the student will be placed on academic probation as described below. If it is determined that the student will be able to meet the

standard SAP requirements of the institution by the end of the probationary period with a customized study plan, then the student will be placed on academic probation with a study plan, as described below.

If the appeal is accepted, the student will be granted a semester of academic probation or academic probation with a study plan, as described below. If the appeal is not accepted, the student will be subject to academic discipline, which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution. He will also be ineligible for federal financial aid until he reestablishes eligibility as described below in the section entitled "Reinstatement." The final decision (denial of appeal, academic probation, or academic probation with a study plan) will be conveyed to the student in writing.

### **ACADEMIC PROBATION**

If after the period of warning, a student is still not making SAP and successfully appeals the lack of SAP, and it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after a probationary period, the student will be placed on academic probation. The period of academic probation is one semester during which the student has the opportunity to attempt to meet the SAP standards of the institution. The student can request counseling to assist him to improve his performance. In addition, the student may request to be provided with various student services that might include tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or other academic assistance.

### **ACADEMIC PROBATION WITH A STUDY PLAN**

If after the period of warning, a student is still not making SAP and successfully appeals the lack of SAP, and it is determined that the student will not be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after a probationary period, the student will be placed on academic probation with a study plan. For a student on academic probation with a study plan, a senior faculty member will develop a study plan in conjunction with the student and other faculty, as needed. The study plan will include a customized plan for the SAP standards (as well as other academic provisions to assist the student in meeting those standards) that ensures that the student is able to meet the school's satisfactory progress standards by a specific time, though an academic plan could take the student all the way through successful program completion.

### **REEVALUATION AFTER A PROBATIONARY PERIOD**

At the end of the probationary period, the student's satisfactory academic progress will be reevaluated. If the student is now meeting the standard SAP requirements of the institution, or is meeting the SAP standards of his study plan, he will be considered as meeting satisfactory academic progress. If, after the period of probation, the student's academic performance still fails to meet the academic progress standards of the institution, or the provisions of his study plan, he will be subject to academic discipline which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution, and he will be ineligible to receive Title IV federal financial aid.

### **REINSTATEMENT FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID**

A student who became ineligible for federal financial aid because he was not meeting satisfactory academic progress standards, has the opportunity to reestablish eligibility. Eligibility is reestablished by meeting institutional SAP standards. The financial aid office will receive notification of each student's status at the start of each semester, and the student will be notified that he may once again receive aid from the Title IV programs.

### **INCOMPLETES**

If a student has not completed all required course work for a particular course, he may have additional time (up to six months), at the discretion of the instructor, to complete the work. A grade of incomplete will only be assigned with a documented plan from the instructor detailing course work that must be completed. In the interim, those course grades are marked as incomplete. Courses in which a student receives a grade of incomplete are not included in the GPA as long as the Incomplete remains on the transcript. The courses marked incomplete are included in the student's number of credits attempted but not credits completed. A grade of incomplete will be replaced with a grade at the conclusion of the period of time given for the work to be completed.

### **WITHDRAWALS FROM A COURSE**

A student who withdraws from a course(s) will have the course recorded as Withdrawn. This grade will not be counted in the student's GPA. However, the course(s) will be counted towards the student's number of credits attempted but not completed.

### **TRANSFER CREDITS AND SATISFACTORY PROGRESS**

Transfer credits are not included in the GPA calculation; however, they are counted toward both the number of attempted credits and the number of credits earned by the student.

### **REPETITIONS**

All repeated courses are counted in the number of the student's attempted credits.

For Title IV awarding purposes, if a student is repeating a course in which he earned a passing grade, for the purpose of grade improvement, it is counted towards the student's enrollment status for Title IV purposes only the first time the course is retaken. If a student is repeating a course in which he received a failing grade, it is always counted towards the student's enrollment, regardless of how many times he repeats that course in an attempt to pass.

For TAP grant awarding purposes, repeated courses are only counted towards the student's enrollment status for TAP grant awarding purposes for the semester in which the repeated course is taken, if the student received a failing grade. All attempts of a course are included in the student's GPA, including failing grades.

A student repeating a course must remain within the time frame required for satisfactory academic progress standards.

### **CHANGE OF MAJOR**

All credits attempted are included in making a student's SAP determination, regardless of any subsequent changes in major, if applicable.

### **ESL/NONCREDIT REMEDIAL COURSES**

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College does not offer any ESL or non-credit remedial courses.

### **GROUND FOR DISMISSAL**

Students are expected to keep the hours of Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College study schedule, and attend all required lectures. They must also submit to regular oral examinations.

Students not consistently adhering to school regulations may be placed on probation. If improvement is not seen, the Dean will give the student notification that dismissal is under consideration.

Further grounds for dismissal are if the student persistently violates yeshiva rules and discipline, or for a serious breach of character or moral conducts as defined by the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law). It should be noted that dismissals are extremely rare as every effort is made to accept students of high character and diligence.

### **GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING FOR STATE GRANT PROGRAMS**

To maintain eligibility for NY State aid (TAP), a student must be in good academic standing, which includes two elements: pursuit of program and satisfactory academic progress.

**Pursuit of program** is a requirement that a student receive a grade (whether passing or failing) in a specific percentage of the courses each semester. The percentage is dependent on the number of TAP payments the student has received.



Payment	1	2	3	4	5	6 - 10
<b>Pursuit of Program: Minimum credits that the student must have completed in the previous term</b>	0	6 which is 50% of full time	9 which is 75% of full time	9 which is 75% of full time	9 which is 75% of full time	12 which is 100% of full time

**Satisfactory academic progress** is defined as accumulating a minimum number of credits and achieving a specified GPA each semester, depending on the number of TAP payments students have received.

Term Payment	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Satisfactory Academic Progress: Minimum credits that student must have earned before being certified for this payment</b>	0	6	15	27	39	51	66	81	96	111
<b>Satisfactory Academic Progress: With a GPA of at least</b>	0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

Good academic standing is assessed each term. There is no financial aid warning period for New York State aid programs (TAP). Students who do not meet good academic standing standards lose their eligibility for state aid except as provided below.

There is a one-time good academic standing waiver that the school may issue if it determines that it is in the student's best interest. There is a C average waiver for students who fail to meet the required GPA average. The C average waiver is handled on a case-by-case basis and a request for the waiver, which includes supporting documentation, must be provided. Reasons for a waiver being granted may include death of a relative, personal illness or injury, or another extenuating circumstance.

Students who became ineligible for NY State aid because they were not meeting the good academic standing standards can reestablish eligibility by making up academic deficiencies during terms while not

receiving a TAP award, being readmitted after not being enrolled for one calendar year, transferring to another TAP eligible institution, or being granted a waiver.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is expected at all regularly scheduled classes. Excessive unexcused absences may be grounds for grade reductions, loss of course credit, dismissal, or other disciplinary action.

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Federal Policy**

Under certain specialized circumstances, and with approval from the Regional Office of the U.S. Department of Education, a student may be granted an approved leave of absence. In order to be granted a leave of absence a student must follow the procedures outlined below:

The student must request the leave of absence in writing to the Dean, Rabbi David Olewski. The request must be signed and dated and must include the reason for which the student is requesting a leave of absence. A leave of absence will not be granted if the reason for the request is not included. The request for a leave of absence will be reviewed by the Dean within ten days of submission to the Dean. If approved, the request will be forwarded to the registrar's office and the decision will be placed in the student's academic file. Notification will be sent to the financial aid office.

The student must submit the request for a leave of absence and must receive the approval prior to beginning the leave of absence. The exception would be unusual circumstances when it is impossible for the student to do so, i.e. if the student was in a car accident or other unforeseen emergency/disaster.

A student will only be granted a leave of absence if it can be expected that he will return from the leave of absence on time. If it appears that the student may not return after the leave of absence, an approval will not be granted.

The maximum time for an approved leave of absence is 180 days.

Students on an approved leave of absence will not be considered withdrawn from the institution and no refund calculations will be made for Title IV financial aid received. Students who fail to return to school after an approved leave of absence will be considered withdrawn from the institution as of the date of the start of the leave of absence and refunds will be calculated accordingly.

## **GRADE POINT SYSTEM**

The grading system followed at Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College is based on a combination of criteria. These may include an evaluation by instructors of the student's classroom interactions, and oral

examinations. The grades are not based on a precise number average, but rather on the descriptive titles below. However, for purposes of computing averages, the following table is used:

A+	Superior	4.0		A	Outstanding	4.0
A-	Excellent	3.7		B+	Very Good	3.3
B	Good	3.0		B-	Above Average	2.7
C+	Average	2.3		C	Below Average	2.0
C-	Fair	1.7		D+	Fair/Poor	1.3
D	Poor	1.0		F	Failing	0
I	Incomplete			W	Withdrawn	

The GPA is established by multiplying the grade point equivalent of each course by the number of credits it yields. The products of each course are then added together. The sum is then divided by the total number of credits earned in the semester.

Credit hours with a grade of Incomplete and Withdrawn are not included in the determination of the grade point average. Credit hours with a grade of fail, whether or not the Fail is earned or unearned, are included in the determination of the grade point average.

Sample GPA Calculation:

A-	6 (credits)	x	3.7	= 22.2
B+	4 (credits)	x	3.3	= 13.2
C	1 (credits)	x	2.0	= 2
A	1 (credits)	x	4.0	= 4
	12 (credits)			41.4

Divided by 12 Credits for the Semester = 3.45 GPA

### **NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. (An “eligible student” under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution at any age.) These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College receives a request for access. A student should submit to

the registrar, dean, head of the academic department, or other appropriate official, a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the school official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to ask the school to amend a record should write the school official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. The written request should also specify the purpose of the disclosure and the parties to whom the disclosure may be made. The request must be signed and dated.

If the school decides not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official typically includes a person employed by the school in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the school.

The school also discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the student, § 99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to record the disclosure. Eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A postsecondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining prior written consent of the student —

- To other school officials, including teachers, within Machzikei Hadath Rabbinical College whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university's State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)





































































































