PERSONAL CONDUCT POLICY

As members of a Torah-observant community and institution, students are expected to comport themselves in full accordance with the laws and ethos of tznius as delineated in the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law). Tznius, generally defined as modesty, implies much more. It connotes humility, concealment, reserve, privacy, and inwardness. Most significantly, tznius is a way of life – the choice of garb is merely its most visible manifestation. It encompasses behavior, speech, and even thoughts. Tznius means an awareness of being in G-d's presence at all times. Student comportment and conduct at school and in the community must reflect this awareness. Tznius applies to men no less than to women. Clothes do more than reflect one’s fashion sensibility; they can create a mood and an impression – with or without intention. Tznius allows us to communicate rather than obscure the deepest level of selfhood.

To clarify the standards of decorum expected of students at Hebrew Theological College, the following dress code guidelines have been specified. The dress code policies apply to on-campus, degree-seeking students.

For Women – Pants of any length may not be worn in public (on campus or off). Skirts should cover the knees (no slits may be open above the knee), sleeves should cover the elbows, and necklines should reach the collar bone (v-neck tops must have an underlying shell). Garments that are see-through are unacceptable. No midriffs should be revealed standing or sitting, and garments should not be revealingly tight. Flip-flops and similar sandals are inappropriate on campus. Heavy make-up and multiple piercings are inappropriate on-campus. T-Shirts with pictures and logos are inappropriate for class.

For Men- In addition to the religious requirement of Kippa and Tzitzis, all students in Beis Midrash, Semicha and LAS programs will comply with the following guidelines for appropriate dress:

- Button down shirts with a collar
- Full length pants (blue jeans are not acceptable).
- Shoes with socks (sneakers/gym shoes are not acceptable).

These guidelines apply anywhere on campus with the exception of the dormitory. In the dormitory, good judgment regarding appropriate dress for a Ben Torah is expected. These guidelines apply throughout each semester including the summer semester. The above rules are relaxed when students are engaged in sporting activities and events on the sport fields. All HTC students are expected to comply with announced dress code when participating in HTC sanctioned outings unless otherwise noted. In addition to the above dress code policy, HTC expects its students to exhibit behavior appropriate for Bnai Torah, such as:

- Appropriate behavior in synagogue and prayer services
- Interpersonal relationships reflecting Torah values
- Respect for property, be it College-owned or personal
- Speaking respectfully and communicating with others in a proper manner

Questions concerning appropriateness or acceptability of specific behaviors or apparel within the Hebrew Theological College community should be directed to the Mashgiach Ruchani, the Menahel Ruchani or the Rosh HaYeshiva. Violations of the dress code or the College’s expected standards of student comportment and conduct, as well as abrogation of any section of this Student Handbook, will subject a student to discipline, and potentially to expulsion from the College.