Annual Security Report


Hebrew Theological College
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In 2011 a student was attacked entering the Rockwell dormitory and her computer was stolen. Also in 2011, a car in the TI back parking lot was broken into and items from the car were stolen. There were fortunately no crimes on our campuses in 2012. In 2013 a swastika was etched into the sand near the Skokie campus baseball field.

**Security Policies**

**Access to Campus Facilities and Residences**

All external doors leading into HTC Facilities and Residences are equipped with keypunch codes that are disclosed only to enrolled students and staff members. A call button is in place at the main entrance of each campus for all guests seeking entry into the buildings. Visitors to the Skokie campus are required to sign in/out and wear a “Visitor” badge while on campus.
In the wake of the terrorist attacks in our country and the need for heightened security measures, security guards have been hired periodically to patrol the campus.

In addition, there are surveillance cameras in place throughout the Skokie and Chicago campuses, recording the activities taking place 24 hours of the day. Target hardening measures were taken at Chicago campus in 2009 with the change of the façade of the main building from glass to brick. The Chicago campus installed an upgraded surveillance system in the fall of 2012 throughout the main building. The Blitstein Institute (Chicago campus) maintains an alarm system for all its buildings. The alarm system alerts the central alarm agency that, in turn, alerts the police.

**Procedures for Reporting Crimes and other Emergencies**

If a student or faculty member notices any behavior on campus that appears to be criminal or leading to a criminal act, he or she should immediately contact the appropriate facility coordinator (Skokie campus - Mr. Walter Richtman, Chicago campus – Mrs. Rita Lipshitz or Mrs. Rosanne Younes), the head of the residence facility (Skokie campus – Rabbi Aaron Gaffen, Chicago campus –Mrs. Miriam Jaeger) or the highest ranking administrator present on campus. If none of the above is immediately available or if the seriousness of the situation demands immediate attention from law enforcement officials, that person should call 911.

**Policies for Issuing Security Warnings to Students/Employees**

Timely warning reports will be made to the campus community on certain crimes that represent a continuing threat to students and employees and were reported to officials with significant responsibility for student and campus activities or local police. These reports will be given directly to students and posted on school and residence facility bulletin boards.

**Status of Allowing Confidential Reporting of Crimes**

In order to provide a secure facility for all, students and staff members are required to report all crimes to the appropriate school authority. All such reports will be held in the strictest of confidence.
**Drug and Alcohol Policy**

Hebrew Theological College prohibits the illegal and irresponsible use of alcohol and other drugs, including abuse of prescription drugs, in accordance with Halakhic authorities as well as applicable federal, state, and local laws. Hebrew Theological College will enforce applicable laws concerning the possession or purchase of alcohol or illegal drugs as well as its own policies concerning the possession or abuse of alcohol or drugs.

As an institution whose mission focuses on the religious and general education of Orthodox Jews, Hebrew Theological College is fortunate to attract only those students committed to a Torah-observant environment which is not conducive to the casual use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or the abuse of prescription drugs. However, it is incumbent upon us to be familiar with the specific policies regarding such use as well as resources for individuals affected by such addictions.

**HTC Policies Concerning Possession of Alcohol and Drugs**

1. Possession of alcoholic beverages or illegal narcotics is strictly prohibited on Hebrew Theological College campuses, student dormitory and residences, and at any college function (on or off campus). Improper use of prescription drugs is similarly prohibited.

2. Alcoholic beverages or illegal narcotics may not be sold on the campuses of Hebrew Theological College for any purpose or under any guise.

3. Alcoholic beverages may not be served to HTC students as part of College-sponsored events or non-official activities connected with the College - except for sacramental purposes, and then only under faculty supervision.

Students who meet the legal criteria for purchase of alcoholic beverages in Illinois may request permission from the Residence Supervisor or Dean to bring sacramental wine into the residence hall for Sabbath and/or holidays. Permission is granted only when the Residence Supervisor or Dean is confident that the beverage is consistent with the dictates of Jewish law and will be used for ritual purposes only by individuals conforms to State of Illinois criteria for the possession of alcohol.

**Sanctions**

Students found to be in violation of the Hebrew Theological College Policies for Alcohol and Drugs will be held accountable for their actions and will face disciplinary action. Disciplinary actions for violation(s) of these policies include written warnings, probation, eviction from College housing, and expulsion. See above for the Disciplinary Infractions and Hearings process.
Health Issues

Students living in campus housing must have medical insurance. Proof of insurance must be provided at the start of every academic year, or upon initial enrollment. Thereafter, continuing students must provide proof of insurance once a year along with their contracts for student residence housing.

Students who are experiencing health issues are encouraged to seek services from their own medical professional. If a student needs help or advice in accessing health services, College officials are available to provide referrals and assistance in this area and will treat all requests of this nature with sensitivity to ensure the privacy of the student and his/her family. Students residing in campus housing are required to inform the student residence counselor/supervisor if they are experiencing symptoms of a contagious ailment or a medical difficulty interfering with normal functioning.

Substance abuse by students of Hebrew Theological College or by family members or friends is not only a serious Halakhic violation, but prevents students from experiencing the growth in learning and yiras shemayim that are cornerstones of Jewish education. A student who suspects that he/she has a substance abuse or addiction problem is urged to seek help. Likewise, students who feel affected by the substance abuse problems of others are urged to seek help not only for the abuser, but for themselves, as well. Students may feel free to bring these issues to their Deans, their Rabbeim, the Mashgiach Ruchani, the Menahel Ruchani, or the Rosh HaYeshiva, all of whom have experience in discussing the issues of alcohol or drug abuse and can provide referrals to qualified counselors and therapists trained to deal with substance abuse and other addictive behaviors.

Should a student feel uncomfortable approaching an individual within Hebrew Theological College to discuss a problem of such a personal nature, he/she is urged to contact one of the following individuals and/or agencies. All agencies are committed to ensuring the privacy of their clients:

The Ark ________________________________ 773-973-1000
Jewish Family and Community Services___________ 773-274-1324
SHALVA______________________________________ 773-583-4673
**Personal Conduct Policy**

As members of a Torah-observant community and institution, all faculty, staff, and students are expected to comport themselves in full accordance with the laws of Tznius (modesty) as delineated in the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law). Questions concerning the appropriateness or acceptability of specific actions within the Hebrew Theological College environment should be directed to the Rosh HaYeshiva. Suspected violations of these principles should be reported to the appropriate Dean or to the Rosh HaYeshiva.

Should a violation occur, HTC will make changes in a victim’s academic and living situation if reasonably possible.

**Security Awareness**

Information regarding the above security policies and programs will be reviewed during orientation at the beginning of each semester and disclosed in the Student Handbook.