



Campus Climate Initiative (CCI) Application for 2021-22 Campus Cohort

Application Deadline: July 19, 2021

[Apply Here](#)

About the Campus Climate Initiative

Hillel International's Campus Climate Initiative (CCI) works collaboratively with higher education administrators to ensure a positive campus climate in which Jewish students feel comfortable expressing their identity and values, free of antisemitism, harassment, or marginalization. The CCI model involves partnership between the college or university administration, the local Hillel, and the CCI team. It is based on the premise that key administrative leaders play an essential role in effecting broad-based educational and policy change on campus, and that the university-Hillel partnership can lead to positive changes that will benefit both Jewish students and all students. CCI's work is intended to be integrated within universities' existing commitments to diversity, equity and inclusion. Hillel is seeking applications for our 2021-22 cohort of approximately 8-12 institutions.

The CCI team works with cohort campuses to support them in:

- Gathering data to better understand the current climate for Jewish students on campus
- Training and empowering university administration and staff to understand the needs of Jewish students, the diversity of the Jewish community, and the challenges of campus antisemitism
- Creating and adopting best practice policies, procedures and programs to address antisemitism and foster a positive campus climate for Jewish students and all students

Program Details

The work of the initiative will be tailored to the needs and goals of each participating institution, and will generally include:

- A virtual launch event where lead administrators and Hillel professionals from participating campuses will meet each other and learn together:
 - **Part 1: Tuesday, August 24, 11:30am - 3:30pm ET**
 - **Part 2: Friday, October 8, 11:30am - 3:30pm ET**



- An on-campus site visit (or virtual if necessary), involving meetings with initiative leaders and senior campus leadership to build support and identify specific goals for the initiative
- A campus climate and institutional practices assessment conducted by the Hillel CCI team with campus input
- Creation of campus-specific goals and action plan based on assessment results
- Ongoing individualized consultation on action plan implementation from the CCI team, including advising on potential changes to campus policies, procedures, communications, and educational programs
- Training and professional development for administrators on topics including but not limited to:
 - Understanding Jewish students, the multifaceted nature of Jewish identity, and the diversity of the Jewish community
 - Understanding contemporary antisemitism in the United States and in college and university spaces, including the nuanced distinctions between anti-Israel activity, anti-Zionism, and antisemitism
 - Strategies for addressing antisemitism and promoting inclusion for Jewish students and all students on campus
- Ongoing cohort learning and resource sharing through CCI's cohort community on the [ACE Engage platform](#)

Cohort offerings will take place virtually throughout the year. Campus-specific trainings and educational offerings may take place virtually or in-person.

Applying colleges and universities are asked to identify 2-3 lead campus administrators and 1 lead from the campus Hillel. We will later suggest that participating campuses identify a broader advisory committee of 10-15 administrators, faculty, staff and students from diverse curricular and co-curricular departments. We can offer guidance in identifying the right people for this committee.

CCI will prioritize participation for institutions that have the following characteristics:

- A strong Hillel presence on campus
- Existing relationships between the Hillel and university administrators (though this initiative can help strengthen those relationships)
- Commitment from university leadership at the highest levels to taking proactive steps to foster a positive campus climate for Jewish students



- The university can identify 2-3 administrators to take the lead on this project, in partnership with the local Hillel
- The university and Hillel can identify concrete reasons for focusing on this work in their particular context. This may stem from a desire to be proactive and/or due to a history of antisemitism on campus.

Campus leads will work with the CCI team throughout the year:

- [Mark Rotenberg, Vice President of University & Legal Affairs](#)
- [Rebecca Russo, Executive Director, Campus Climate Initiative](#)

There is no fee to participate in the Campus Climate Initiative during the 2021-22 academic year.

Applying for CCI's 2021-22 Cohort

To apply for CCI's 2021-22 campus cohort, please submit [this application form](#) by July 19, 2021. Informational meetings with applicants will take place on Zoom during the following 1-2 weeks and notification of acceptance will be sent soon after.

Applications should be jointly submitted by the college or university administration and the local Hillel. **Please hold the launch event dates (listed above) on your calendars** for 2-3 lead administrators and 1 Hillel professional from your campus to attend.

For More Information

Please contact Rebecca Russo, Executive Director of the Campus Climate Initiative, at russo@hillel.org for more information.