

**Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts  
The Frelander Family Jewish Camping Initiative  
SUMMER 2026 Summary**

**Goal**

The goal of the Initiative is to promote and support Jewish overnight camping among Jewish families in Central Massachusetts.

**Parameters**

The program is a partnership among the Frelander family, the synagogues, and the Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts.

Each participating synagogue will be eligible to help award \$2,000 grants to 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students who will attend a qualifying Jewish overnight camp for the first time for at least one month.

**Who is eligible?**

- Families in good standing, belonging to the synagogue.
- The oldest child who is currently in 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade and will be a first –time camper. We will also consider older children but the priority will be given to 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- A family can participate regardless of financial need.
- The child must be the oldest sibling in the family (if there are siblings).
- Both the oldest child and the siblings have not gone to overnight camp before.
- The family has not received the scholarship before.

**What camps qualify?**

Qualifying camps must be not-for-profit Jewish overnight camps with strong Jewish educational and experiential components. Each participating synagogue will determine which overnight Jewish camps qualify for this program.

**The role of the synagogues**

Promote camping among its members; Identify prospect families; Work with families to recruit campers.

**The role of the Federation**

Coordinate and administer the program; hold the funds and distribute grants to camps; assist synagogues with marketing and promotion of the program; serve as a liaison to the Frelander family.

**Deadline**

Applications must be received by February 20, 2026.

**How to enroll campers**

Each camper/synagogue must fill out the attached JFCM Camp Scholarship form and submit it to the Federation in order to be eligible for the scholarship.

