



Jewish Geriatric Chaplaincy Training June 1 – August 11, 2021 Level I and Level II CPE: Dedham Campus

Introduction:

In the last 100 years, Hebrew SeniorLife (HSL) has grown from a small residence for frail elderly in Dorchester to a highly-integrated mission centric system of care with an international reputation. HSL's system encompasses more senior housing than any other non-profit in Greater Boston, groundbreaking geriatric research, the Harvard Medical School Geriatric Fellowship program, palliative and hospice care, and new models of sub-acute and post-hospital care.

Over 60% of our long-term chronic care patients on our Roslindale campus are Jewish, with one third of these being Jews from the former Soviet Union; in Dedham, closer to 85% are Jewish. Patients on our rehabilitation and post-acute services units reflect the more general population of the surrounding communities, including a broader mix of faiths and cultures.

Our population of majority Jewish patients in our long term care center benefits from Jewish spiritual care while facing the challenges of aging, loss, end of life decision making, and seeking spiritual fulfillment in their later years.

Chaplains support the spiritual and emotional lives of *all* patients in ways that enhance their overall health and wellbeing. In addition, chaplains help the caregiving staff manage the ongoing emotional demands of their work, which include the presence of death and loss on a regular basis. Chaplains work with staff to understand the spiritual aspects of their patients' needs, as well as supporting families and caregivers. CPE in a geriatric setting serves as important preparation for the congregational Rabbinate, Cantorate, and ministry, as well as for health care chaplaincy positions.

Program Description:

Our curriculum addresses spiritual care as it relates to aging, illnesses of aging (including dementia), supporting family caregivers, bioethical decision-making, dying, and bereavement. Special attention is given to cultural and demographic diversity impacting the spiritual issues of older adults, including trauma-informed care, recognizing resilience, working with LGBT elders, and spiritual care of the “not religious.”

Being a Jewish CPE program involves the traditional elements of CPE, as well as incorporating both Jewish content and process in our work together. We include a Jewish text study component, as well as considering themes from the perspectives of Jewish elders, including topics of particular interest to the Jewish community, such as generational impacts of historical trauma and intentional examination of the impacts of being from a minority or majority culture.

HSL’s CPE program welcomes both Jewish and non-Jewish applicants. English will be the predominant language of the educational program, and applicants must be fluent in spoken and written English. Russian speakers are encouraged to apply.

Dates: June 1 – August 11, 2021

Times: Class and clinical time cover Monday–Friday, 9:00am--5:00pm. Class does not meet on Jewish or secular holidays. July 5th will be a day off. Some readings, written assignments, and preparation for event leadership are required in addition to this time frame. Given the intensity of the program, work or study commitments beyond CPE are discouraged; weekends provide much needed time for rest. The CPE program does not require overnight call, and is appropriate for students who are shomer/et Shabbat. The student must be able to document completion of a minimum of 100 education hours, a minimum of 250 clinical hours, and a total of 400 hours in the unit in order to receive credit for the program. No planned absences will be permitted during orientation (first 5 class days), Midunit evaluations, or Final evaluations/Siyyum (August 10-11).

Educator: Rabbi Beth Naditch, ACPE Certified Educator and Board certified chaplain, will supervise this unit.

Location: 5000 Great Meadow Rd., Dedham, MA 02026

Cost: \$25 application fee. Tuition is \$1200. \$250 of tuition is a non-refundable deposit upon accepting a position in the program and is credited toward the total tuition payment.

Who may apply? This program is open to persons of any religious/spiritual tradition interested in CPE through a Jewish lens with a focus on spiritual care of older adults. E-mail Rabbi Beth Naditch at bethnaditch@hsl.harvard.edu with any questions.

Application process: Applications are due November 15, 2020. Applicants should read the [Annual Notice](#), [Admissions policy](#), [Use of Clinical Materials Consent Form](#), and [Financial policy](#) on the HSL CPE website, and fill out the standard [ACPE application form](#). You may apply:

By email (preferred): Please scan the above application and email to cpe@hsl.harvard.edu. We will collect the \$25 application fee at the time of the interview.

By mail: Along with the printed application, Include a check for \$25 made out to "Hebrew SeniorLife CPE Program," and send them to: Rev. Mary Martha Thiel, Director of CPE, Department of Spiritual Care, Hebrew SeniorLife, 1200 Centre St., Boston, MA, 02131

Once your application is received, we will set up an in person interview, or, for applicants outside the Boston area, by Zoom. Rabbi Beth Naditch and another member of the CPE program's Professional Advisory Committee or member of the spiritual care department will share in the interviewing. We will send our own reference form by email to the references you provide. Please let your references know that there is no need to send anything ahead of time. We move forward with applications only after at least two of your reference letters have been received. You will be informed of the admissions decision within one month of the interview. The decision is at the sole discretion of HSL.

Transportation: The easiest way to travel to HRC NewBridge is by car, however, HRC NewBridge is accessible by an HSL shuttle which connects to the Forest Hills T stop on the Orange Line. International students have often rented a car or participated in a car swap for the duration of the program. Parking at NewBridge is free.

Meals: NewBridge has a kosher deli and a non-kosher salad bar and coffee/ice cream option where students can purchase food Monday through Friday.

For more information contact:

Rabbi Beth Naditch, BethNaditch@hsl.harvard.edu Tel (617) 982-2733
Rev. Mary Martha Thiel, Marymarthathiel@hsl.harvard.edu Tel (617) 363-8804

Our website can be found at <https://www.hebrewseniorlife.org/education-programs/spiritual-care-education>.