



SEC Hamsa Israel Behavior Contract

SEC Hamsa Israel is a unique program amongst the constellation of Israel programs that students can choose from. One of the sources of that uniqueness is the type of community we envision during our time together. It is a community that seeks to empower students through giving them the opportunity to learn, grow and express themselves, and a community which highly encourages each student to bring themselves, their talents and their uniqueness, helping to create a positive atmosphere on our program.

Alongside this approach is a critical Jewish value that permeates SEC Hamsa – *derech erez*. Indeed, our tradition states firmly; “*Derech Eretz preceded the Torah.*” Loosely translated as “proper behavior is a prerequisite to the Torah”, this succinct saying has molded Jewish communities across the globe and over the generations. We believe *derech erez* and *Torah* are not limited to only the “holy places” in Israel, but must permeate all aspects of our trip, no matter where we are.

This approach towards our students -- which charges them with responsibility combined with an emphasis on *derech erez* -- is what will make for a very special relationship between staff and students, as well as between students themselves. With high expectations for ourselves as a staff in our relationship with each student, *we also have high expectations for our students and how they conduct themselves.*

These expectations include, but are not limited to:

- Consistent and on-time attendance at daily minyan, Shabbat programs, & study sessions
- Respecting our dormitory policies and curfews
- *A zero-tolerance policy on smoking, alcohol or drug use – any violation is cause for immediate dismissal from the program.*
- Traditional observance and respect of the laws of Kashrut and Shabbat
- Respectful behavior towards fellow students and faculty members
- Respect for others' property and private space, and respect for the SEC's campus facility, including dorms, dining hall and all public areas
- Concern for the welfare and well-being of fellow students

We the undersigned affirm that participation on SEC Hamsa Israel is contingent upon following the above rules and regulations throughout the program. We understand that the violation of these rules can result in disciplinary action, and, in the case of smoking, alcohol or drug use, immediate dismissal from the program.

Student Name/Signature _____

Parents' Signature _____