



Jewish Geriatric Chaplaincy Training

Summer 2025

Level IA, IB, IIA, and IIB CPE

Hebrew SeniorLife

Introduction:

In the last 100 years, Hebrew SeniorLife (HSL) has grown from a small residence for frail elderly in Dorchester to a highly integrated system of housing, day care, and health care with an international reputation. HSL's system encompasses 650 long-term chronic care hospital patients, groundbreaking senior care research through the Marcus Institute for Aging Research, palliative and hospice care, rehabilitation services, and home care. HSL serves over 3000 older adults each day.

Hebrew Rehabilitation Center (HRC) is the largest of HSL's institutions, with campuses in Boston (Roslindale) and in Dedham. NewBridge on the Charles, located in Dedham, offers independent and assisted living as well as skilled nursing services and long-term chronic care. The Boston (Roslindale) campus offers long-term care, post-acute care, rehabilitation services, and outpatient specialty services.

Over 60% of the long-term chronic care patients in Boston are Jewish, with half of these being Jews from the former Soviet Union. In Dedham, closer to 75% are Jewish. Patients on the rehabilitation and post-acute services units on both campuses reflect the more general population of the surrounding communities, including a mix of religions and cultures, and our dedicated staff come from a multitude of cultures and countries around the world.

One CPE unit will take place at our Roslindale campus, with a concurrent group running at NewBridge on the Charles in Dedham. Cohorts and locations are determined during the admissions process, and only one application is necessary to be considered for both.

Program Description:

CPE at Hebrew Rehabilitation Center
Accredited by ACPE: The Standard for Spiritual Care & Education
1 Concourse Parkway, Suite 800
Atlanta GA 30328
(404) 320-1472
Fax (404) 320-0849
www.acpe.edu

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at HSL is designed for seminary and rabbinical/cantorial students, clergy, chaplains, and laypeople interested in pursuing spiritual care education. It provides important formation, skills, and resources for the congregational rabbinate or ministry, as well as for healthcare chaplains. CPE at HSL also serves as a valuable resource to those in affiliated professions who are seeking to further their education in spiritual care for their own fields.

Chaplain interns support the spiritual and emotional lives of diverse patients and their family members in ways that enhance overall health and wellbeing. Chaplain interns also work with caregiving staff around the spiritual aspects of their patients' needs, and are available to staff as they navigate ongoing emotional demands of their own work. The program provides students with attunement to Jewish religious and cultural approaches to facing the challenges of development, aging, loss, end of life decision making, dementia, and seeking spiritual fulfillment in late life. Special attention is given to the impact on spiritual caregiving of those with historical trauma as evoked by personal and world situations, resilience, working with LGBTQ elders, and spiritual care of those who do not identify as "religious."

English is the predominant language of the educational program, and applicants must be fluent in spoken and written English.

Dates: May 28, 2025 – August 14, 2025

Times: Class and clinical time cover Monday–Friday, 9:00am--5:00pm. Class does not meet on Jewish or secular holidays (Shavuot, June 2-3, Independence Day, July 4th). Readings, written assignments, and some preparation for event leadership are required outside of regular 9-5 hours. Given the intensity of the program, work or study commitments beyond CPE are discouraged; weekends provide much needed time for rest. Because of the intense and brief nature of a CPE program, there are no other vacation days during CPE. Planned absences due to family weddings, ordinations, etc. must be discussed in advance. No planned absences will be permitted during orientation (first five class days), Midunit evaluations (July 8), or Final evaluations/Siyyum (August 11-14).

The CPE program does not require overnight call, and is appropriate for students who are shomer/et Shabbat. Students 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, and must demonstrate the Outcomes and Indicators for their level of CPE (IA, IB, IIA, or IIB) in order to receive credit for the unit. Any hours over the required 400 are considered volunteer hours. Individual supervision with your Educator is scheduled 1 hour weekly within the hours of the program.

Faculty: Rabbi Beth Naditch, incoming Director of CPE at Hebrew SeniorLife, ACPE Certified Educator, Board Certified Chaplain, and The Rev. Dr. Katie Rimer, Certified Educator Candidate and Board Certified Chaplain. Guest speakers from within and outside HSL will bring their expertise to the didactic parts of the curriculum.

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Location: 1200 Centre St., Boston MA 02131 / 6000 Great Meadow Rd., Dedham, MA 02026

Cost: \$36 application fee. Tuition payment is \$1200. \$600 of tuition serves as a nonrefundable deposit when 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/meaning-making tradition interested in CPE with a focus on spiritual care of older adults, through a Jewish lens. Students must have access to a computer with good internet connection and private space for class and supervision in case of the need to meet virtually. E-mail CPE@hsl.harvard.edu with any questions.

Application process: The deadline for applications is November 15, 2024. More information may be found on our website, <https://www.hebrewseniorlife.org/education-programs/spiritual-care-education>. You can find the standard ACPE application form as a fillable pdf on this site. Please also note the [Attendance Policy](#), [Annual Notice](#), [Admission Policy](#), [Financial Policy](#), and [Use of Clinical Materials Consent Form](#).

By email: Please fill out the above application and email to cpe@hsl.harvard.edu. (If you are printing it out to fill in, please scan and email back). Please follow the prompts to pay the application fee of \$36 online. .

Interviews for candidates are scheduled once the full application is reviewed and the application fee is received. Should the applicant be invited to interview, the interview is customarily with ACPE Certified Educators Rabbi Beth Naditch and Certified Educator Candidate Rev. Katie Rimer.

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 admission decisions only after at least two of three references have been received. You will be informed of the admissions decision within one month of your interview or submission of a complete application. The decision is at the sole discretion of HSL.

Transportation and Parking: HRC Boston is accessible by Public Transportation: Orange Line T to Forest Hills, 38 bus Wren St. via Centre St. Students living close by in Jamaica Plain or Boston often walk or bike to HRC. There is an employee shuttle to our NewBridge campus from the Forest Hills "T" stop, but NewBridge students usually find it more convenient to have a car. International students have often rented a car for the duration of the program. Free parking is available.

Housing, Meals, and Accommodations: We do not offer housing, but recommend that students from outside the area explore dormitory options or area sublets at local theological schools.

Kosher breakfast and lunch can be purchased in the HRC cafeteria on non-holiday weekdays. NewBridge has a kosher deli and non-kosher employee subsidized lunches.

For more information contact:

Rabbi Beth Naditch bethnaditch@hsl.harvard.edu 781-234-9889

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Rev. Katie Rimer, katierimer@hsl.harvard.edu Tel (617) 363-8183

Website: <https://www.hebrewseniorlife.org/education-programs/spiritual-care-education>.

Email: CPE@HSL.Harvard.edu

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