

Frequently Asked Questions

What is *Panim el Panim*?

Panim el Panim ("face to face" in Hebrew) is a once in a lifetime opportunity to spend three days in Sacramento exploring public policy, politics and activism through a Jewish lens. You will visit the state capitol, lobby members of the California General Assembly, engage in dialogue with diverse groups of your peers from around the country, and participate in a meaningful social action project. All students participating in *Panim el Panim* receive 20 hours of community service. *Panim el Panim* looks great on a college application!

Who is eligible/how do I sign up?

All 10th-12th grade Jewish students are eligible for *Panim el Panim*. **A \$100 deposit is due by October 30, 2009 to hold your place.** Applications and other information you need will be available by contacting the Bureau office at 949-435-3450, or by going onto the Bureau website at www.bjeoc.org and downloading the application from the PANIM page.

Will I have to miss school?

Our *Panim el Panim* trip is held over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend from Sunday, January 17 to Tuesday, January 19, 2010. Participants will only miss one day of school. We will provide you with a letter to school officials that describes the educational value of *Panim el Panim*.

Is PANIM affiliated with a Jewish denomination or political organization?

PANIM is a pluralistic organization. There are students of diverse Jewish observance on our seminars. PANIM is not affiliated with any political party or organization. We present all sides and viewpoints on a wide range of public policy issues.

How much does the program cost?

The full cost of the program is \$595 per teen. This covers the cost of airfare, hotel (4 students per room), meals, program fees, transportation during the seminar, and staff fees.

Is there scholarship money available?

PANIM offers some need-based scholarships for students from families with the greatest hardship. Please go to www.bjeoc.org under the PANIM tab for a link to the scholarship form, or contact Mikah Goldman at 202-857-6622 or mikahg@bbyo.org for more information on PANIM scholarships. The Bureau of Jewish Education may have limited scholarships available which will be granted following the application deadline.

Where does the term *Panim el Panim* come from?

The phrase *Panim el Panim* is from the book of *Shmot* (Exodus) in the Torah. *Panim el Panim* means "face to face," and refers to the encounter between God and Moses after the Israelites are released from slavery in Egypt.