

# RABBI AKIVA ACKERMAN

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## Bio

Rabbi Akiva Ackerman grew up in West Hempstead, NY and attended DRS Yeshiva High School for 4 years. While there, he was a member of the top shiur for several years and served as the captain of the basketball team. Following that, he arrived in Eretz Yisrael, where he studied for 3 years in Yeshivat Shaalvim and subsequently was appointed to serve as the Madrich Ruchani for the overseas program. Concurrently, he completed a degree in Mortuary Science through the University of McAllister's online program and ultimately received Semicha from Hagaon HaRav Yehuda Silman while learning in the esteemed Shaalvim Kollel. In addition he is also actively pursuing a masters degree in Yeshiva University.

In addition to currently serving as a Rebbe and Director of Student Activities at MTA high school, Rabbi Ackerman has also been a long time senior staff member on NCSY Kollel. While teaching in those respective institutions, Rabbi Ackerman has gained popularity through unique ability to connect to talmidim both inside and outside the Beis Medrash, and through his weekly shiur "Parsha Highlights" as he relates to the needs and interests of Yeshiva guys. He also shares unique bonds with Gedolei Yisrael and has shared tremendous insights from them from receiving such unprecedented access.

## Skills

Can teach formally and informally, meaning inside and outside the classroom, Can give over shiurim in Iyun, Bekius, Halacha, Machshava, Hashkafa and Zionisim. Expert tour guide in Eretz Yisrael. Speaks fluent hebrew. Excellent management skills.

## Education

2013- 2016

*DRS Yeshiva High School*

Member of the top shiur, Captain of Basketball team and Tennis team.

2016-2019

*Yeshivat Shaalvim*

Rav Nusbacher's shiur for 4 years, Learned afternoon seder with different Rabbonim in the Yeshiva

2018-2020

*University of Mcallister- B.S. Mortuary Science*

Online program, made honor roll several semesters

2021-2023

*Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education & Administration and RIETS Rabbinic Fellow*

Masters degree in Jewish Education

Advanced Semicha studies and Rabbinic training

## **Affiliations/Ordinations**

Semicha- Yoreh Yoreh from Harav Yehuda Silman- Av Beis Din of Bnei Brak

Bachelor's Talmudic Literature- Yeshivat Shaalvim

Rabbinic Fellow at Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary

## **Fellowships**

Academic- 2021-2022

**Fuchs Mizrahi High School- Education Fellow**

- Fellowship with High School in Cleveland
- Traveling several times a year to teach students and meet with Judaic faculty
- Heavily involved in community engagement providing Shabbos programming
- Reference- Rabbi Avery Joel (646)-483-1855

Academic- 2022-2023

**AIPAC Leffell Rabbinic Fellowship- Rabbinic Fellow**

- Program is geared towards enriching education in the U.S.-Israel relationship with a premium on how Rabbis can enhance the connection through domestic political leadership from rabbinic positions. Joined by Rabbinic figures from across the country spanning Reform, Conservative, Orthodox and non-denominational backgrounds of Judaism for an academic year of programming.
- Mission trip to Washington D.C. engaging with politicians and developing relationships through Synagogue engagement and enhancing relationships between U.S.-Israel
- Seminar with Rabbinic Delegation to Israel. Met with leading figures, politicians and first hand civilians to discuss domestic and foreign issues and to promote Jewish community engagement in the Diaspora to enhance U.S.-Israel relationship.
- Reference Judah Lindemann (415)-517-7132

## Experience

Academic- 2019-2020

### **Yeshivat Shaalvim** – *Madrich Ruchani*

- Informally supervisor of dorm life, and spiritual guidance
- Formally gave highly weekly popular shiur “Parsha Highlights” featured on YU Torah
- Work Reference- Rav Yosef Nusbacher +972-52-7610591

Summers- 2017-2022

### **NCSY Kollel**– *Senior Staff*

- 2017- Sportstaff- Supervised daily sports leagues for over 300 participants
- 2018- Madrich, Dorm Captain- Engaged in meaningful relationships and gave Chaburos and enhanced culture in dorm life for high school teens
- 2019- Associate trip coordinator, Madrich, Dorm Captain- Continued to say Chaburos and organized a six week itinerary of travel for 400 participants to travel all over Israel
- 2021- Head Madrich, Director of Operations- Played an integral part of the administration and was the director of staff for the largest summer in the program's history of over 450 participants. Also coordinated a professional development track for advisors
- Work Reference- Rav Netanel Leboiwtz +972-58-6135569

Academic- 2022-

### **Yeshiva University High School for Boys**– *Director of Student Activities*

- Teaches tenth grade course on Machahva/Jewish philosophy
- Director of all aspects of student activities and programming both on and off campus. This includes clubs, trips, Shabbatons etc.
- Serves as the Chesed Coordinator and is in charge of all Chesed activities that students are affiliated with both in and out of school. Also is in charge of YUHSB annual national relief mission in conjunction with NCSY