

MATANEL FOUNDATION
ACTIVITY REPORT

Name of the Program: "Matanel Mechina Scholarships"

Year of activity: 2024-2025

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Number of active participants in the program: 66 Mechina students.

Estimated number of impacted participants: 66 students received scholarships directly. Including their peers and their educators, the estimated total number of impacted individuals is approximately 300.

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

In its second year of operation, the Matanel Mechina Scholarships program continues to provide essential support for students from underprivileged and peripheral backgrounds. This year, **66 students** across **6 different Mechinot** received scholarships that allowed them to fully participate in the Mechina experience—socially, educationally, and personally. Despite a year marked by national challenges, the program remained a vital source of stability and inclusion, enabling students to engage in Mechina life without the burden of financial hardship. The scholarships ensured equal access to opportunities and fostered a strong sense of belonging among participants.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.): The scholarships enabled 66 recipients to take full part in the Mechina experience, including academic learning,

outdoor education, volunteering, and leadership development. Students participated in intensive programs such as a week-long navigation course. Tal from Mechinat Echad Mishelanu, described how the scholarship made it possible to participate in a week-long navigation course: “Like in life, we learned how to find our path, to return to the starting point when lost, and to keep going. Without your support, this meaningful experience that gave us tools for life wouldn’t have happened.”

Scholarship recipients reported feeling empowered, equal to their peers, and fully included in all aspects of Mechina life. As Roni from Mechinat Magen Shaul expressed: “The scholarship is not only financial help—it’s a sign of trust that strengthens my motivation to grow and succeed.” The program maintained its focus on bridging social gaps, promote social mobility, personal development and strengthening personal growth among participants.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...):

Evaluation was based on direct feedback from scholarship recipients and Mechina staff, as well as written reflections collected throughout the year. In addition, as part of the project’s assessment process, each participating Mechina submitted a short video describing the significance of the scholarships for their students and for the educational process. These videos provided personal insights and offered a powerful qualitative layer to the evaluation. Mechina educators reported that scholarship recipients showed high levels of commitment, engagement, and leadership, and that the support allowed them to focus on personal development and community contribution. Looking ahead, it is recommended to continue collecting qualitative materials (videos, testimonials).

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

We hope to continue the program in a similar format next year, maintaining its structure and values. Our goal is to provide a significant number of scholarships once again, thanks to the generous support of your Foundation. We will continue working to ensure that more Mechinot are familiar with the opportunity, and we aspire to reach a broader group of scholarship recipients—from different backgrounds and from a wide range of Mechinot. We are sincerely grateful to the you for making this program possible and for your ongoing partnership and trust.