

MATANEL FOUNDATION
ACTIVITY REPORT

Name of the Program: Matanel Mechina Scholarships

Year of activity: 2025-2026

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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, families and 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 third year of operation, the Matanel Mechina Scholarships program continues to open the door of the Mechina experience to students from low-income families, from Israel's social and geographic periphery, and from unique populations. This year, 66 students across 6 Mechinot – Echad Mishelanu, Yemin Orde, Elisha, Magen Shaul, Oz Shlomo and Haviva Reik – received scholarships. Recipients were selected through an income test (average household income of up to NIS 2,500 per person) or individual criteria of need, and each scholarship was approved by the Mechina's scholarship committee and paid directly to the student – in cash, by bank transfer, or as food or clothing vouchers for the student's personal use. The scholarships allowed those students to take full part in Mechina life – educationally, socially and personally – without the burden of financial hardship, and to devote this formative year to growth and preparation for meaningful military service.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.): 66 scholarships were granted this year, and the program expanded to new Mechinot, reaching a broader and more diverse group of communities than in previous years – including immigrant families, members of the Ethiopian-Israeli community, and youth without family support. The living stipends covered students' personal needs during the year – equipment for field weeks and journeys, personal expenses, food and clothing – and freed them from having to turn to their

families for money. The impact of the program is best reflected in the words of the recipients' themselves:

Student at Mechinat Magen Shaul, wrote: "Your support is much more than financial assistance for me. It gives me the peace of mind to devote myself fully to the Mechina's learning, to volunteering, to social action and to my personal growth. Knowing that there are organizations like yours, which believe in the younger generation and invest in our future, strengthens my motivation to succeed and to give back to society."

Student at Mechinat Yemin Orde, wrote: "The scholarship helps me fund my studies at the Mechina and my personal expenses, so that I do not need to ask my parents for money – their financial situation is difficult as it is. Thank you very much for all the help."

Student at Mechinat Haviva Reik, shared: "The Mechina gives me the opportunity to learn, to go through meaningful processes, to learn about myself, to arrive at the army better prepared, and to gain friends for life. The scholarship allows me to be at the Mechina with peace of mind, without worrying about money."

Student at Mechinat Oz Shlomo, wrote: "I was very glad that you chose to give me a living scholarship during my studies. Thanks to the scholarship I can learn and prepare myself for the army and for life."

Student at Mechinat Echad Mishelanu, wrote: "I want to thank you for your donation, thanks to which I feel equal to everyone and at ease, lacking nothing – and that is not something to be taken for granted. When I go out on trips, I am not worried that I will lack anything; I receive quality equipment and a supportive environment. The Mechina gives me tools for life – thank you very much."

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

Evaluation was based on personal letters from scholarship recipients and their families, feedback from Mechina staff, and signed financial execution reports. In addition, as in previous years, each Mechina was asked to submit a short video in which a staff member describes the significance of the scholarships for the students and for the educational process. A letter from the parents of a recipient at Mechinat Elisha captures the program's impact on whole families: "The scholarship enabled our son to study and take part in the Mechina before his army service – something that was very important to him and to us. The Mechina is building him toward meaningful service in the IDF and continued contribution to the country. Blessed are you for being partners in this." Compared with the previous year, the program maintained a similar scale of 66 scholarships while broadening its geographic and social reach to new Mechinot. Looking ahead, it is recommended to continue collecting qualitative materials (letters, testimonials and videos).

Provisional guidelines 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, and to continue reaching students from a wide range of backgrounds and Mechinot – with an emphasis on Israel's social and geographic periphery. We are sincerely grateful to you for making this program possible and for your ongoing partnership and trust.