

Dear Class of 2024 and families,

With joy and optimism, we want to welcome you and your family to the University of Chicago Hillel community. While students are not currently on campus, we continue to work with student leaders to support each other in building a vibrant Jewish life on our campus. We are excited to bring you into this community, whether in person or virtually.

Hillel is here to help create meaningful experiences for students on campus and provide opportunities for learning and connection. Every year, the fall holidays provide an opportunity for Jewish students to meet each other and build a community as we observe and celebrate together. Through multiple services options, shared meals, learning opportunities, cultural celebrations, and more, connections and friendships are formed and solidified.

Just as the holidays immerse students in Jewish community, there is also a tension that students experience in balancing the rhythm of the academic calendar and the Jewish calendar simultaneously. If the University begins Fall Quarter on campus, they are committed to providing several options to accommodate for the needs of students observing Rosh Hashanah, especially this year as it falls during the scheduled move in.

As part of our mission, we serve as a partner to the University to help communicate the unique needs of Jewish students as well as supporting students as they advocate for themselves. Please know that we are working closely with the University's Orientation Week Team and Office of Spiritual Life to ensure that Jewish students are able to fully participate in both Rosh Hashanah and move in celebrations.

At this particular moment, there is much ambiguity around fall quarter's structure. If we do move in as scheduled, we know that the majority of Jewish students will not come to campus until after Rosh Hashanah so that they can celebrate at home with family. If this is the case, Housing is prepared for Jewish students to move in on Monday, and the Orientation team will make it so that no essential programming will be missed. If move in takes on a new form, we look forward to connecting with you then. If you have any questions, please reach out to us or them to discuss details.

Logistics of move in aside, we hope that you and your family are able to view this transition with excitement and hope for shared learning together. Please let us know how else we may assist you during this process and welcome you into the community!

Best.

Rabbi Anna Levin Rosen

**Executive Director** 

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