

# DENVER ACADEMY OF TORAH

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**Limudei Kodesh Rebbe or Educator and/or**

**Limudei Kodesh Teacher Leader Position,**

**Middle School and High School (Multiple Positions Available),**

**2017-2018 Year**

## DENVER ACADEMY OF TORAH

### Overview of Position

Denver Academy of Torah is a co-ed modern orthodox, religious Zionistic school in Denver, Colorado. The right candidate for our school will be part of a faculty team that works together to ensure student success and exceptional learning experiences based on active learning best practices. Equally important to content knowledge, we are looking for a person capable of nurturing a passion for Judaism that permeates school life and culture in and beyond the classroom. Teachers at DAT will have the opportunity to be full time classroom teachers or take on leadership positions in addition to part time or three quarter time teaching.

### Working at DAT

Educators who work at DAT can expect

- **An intimate learning environment:** With class sizes ranging from 8-20 students, teachers have a chance to get to know students' interests, learning-styles, strengths, and areas for growth and have the luxury of taking the time necessary to ensure students master essential content and skills.
- **An adventurous, hands-on environment based on best practices of active learning:** DAT emphasizes hands-on, experiential, and technology supported learning opportunities that are as varied as the interests of our students. Teachers help facilitate, and frequently participate, in student-directed learning experiences. DAT students and faculty are typically innovative, creative, and intellectually restless, never satisfied with the conventional way of doing things, always eager to cross boundaries and to experiment with new approaches to solving problems.
- **A culture of high expectations:** Helping students attain the highest levels of success in academic, social, and personal ventures drives instruction, ensuring that students will have the opportunity to pursue the most challenging post-secondary path they choose, whether Yeshiva, Seminary, college, or vocational opportunities.
- **A supportive team:** DAT supports each one of its team members both in their professional and personal lives in a highly collaborative environment. Instead of working in isolation behind closed classroom doors, teachers collaborate closely with colleagues, family, and community members. This environment and collaboration ensures rich and high quality experiences for students and significant professional growth for teachers.

## ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Denver Academy of Torah is seeking highly motivated Judaics teachers and/or teacher leaders for the 2017-2018 school year in grades 5-12. Positions are open for full time teachers and for part time teachers who also take on leadership responsibilities in the school.

### Overview:

- Guides students to develop both text and skills based mastery in students while nurturing a passion for Judaism that permeates student life and culture in school and beyond the classroom.
- Conduct classes so that students are actively engaged in learning, while being willing being open to implementing experiential learning components.
- Demonstrate a relentless drive to improve the minds and lives of our students in and out of school.
- Help students cultivate a passion of and love for a Torah observant life.
- Demonstrate a commitment to creative exploration and the highest standards in one's own work and that of the students.
- Take holistic accountability for student success and failure.
- Live and model the school's core values with colleagues, students, parents, and the larger community.

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- Demonstrate flexibility and willingness to try new things to meet student needs.

**Teaching responsibilities:**

- Teach Judaic Studies (Gemara, Halacha, Chumash, and/or Navi) classes in a differentiated classroom.
- Structure and assess Bekiut programs for content areas as needed.
- Prepare and develop activities, materials, and lessons to meet the curriculum and student needs.
- Use assessment data to adapt curriculum and instructional practices to help student's meet grade level expectations and personal performance standards. Data driven instruction should result in re-teaching content in new ways as necessary, spiraling skills, and changing daily instruction to meet student needs.
- Develop and maintain a well-managed classroom where students are engaged, consistently challenged, and supported. Classroom policies should be consistent with and supportive of school policies.
- Engage families in their children's education and communicate both regularly and effectively with both students and families.
- Exhibit mastery of and enthusiasm for the assigned academic areas and classes.
- Meet with Head of School on a regular basis (minimum once every two weeks) to review and brainstorm lesson plans, identify and design plans for concerns with students, and to support the teacher in striving for excellence in his/her craft.

**Team and/or leader responsibilities:**

- Participate in planning overall Judaic curriculum, coursework, and vision.
- Organize, run, and attend daily *Shacharit* and *Mincha minyanim* helping make *tefilla* meaningful for students.
- Co-plan and run student programming around *Shabbatonim*, *Chaggim*, and overall school *avira*. Be willing to run and participate in activities over *Shabbat* and outside of school hours.
- Co-plan and lead content on aspects of experiential learning. Be willing to participate in experiential programs, possibly including multi-day Immersion trips.
- Share responsibilities for ensuring the smooth operation and functioning of the school.
- Communicate with Head of School about classroom, student, and school needs.
- Leadership positions available as per interest, passion, experience, and interests. For example, a teacher could work to become the Director of a specific area. The school operates on a teacher-leader collaborative model.
- Manage budget for programming as related to job role.

**Duties and deliverables**

- Attend all Professional Development sessions and devote the necessary time and energy required to master the art of teaching.
- Actively participate in the school's professional development programs including data analysis and planning, leading and participating in best practice sessions, peer and mentor coaching, and attending conferences.
- Provide weekly lessons plans that reflect thoughtful development of individualized activities and assessments related to each student's course of study.
- Submit homework, assessments, assignments, and graded student work for review when requested.
- Provide a formal written progress report and report card two times a year for each student for each class.
- Fulfill assigned supervision and other duties as needed.
- Maintain an updated grade book and calendar of lesson plans, events, projects, and deadlines using the Renweb platform.

**Reports to**

Naomi Lev, Head of School

**QUALIFICATIONS****Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

- Expert level knowledge of and passion for subject and content matters.
- Enthusiastic and positive in tone of communication and connection to students, colleagues, administration, parents, and wider community.
- Demonstrated excellence in teaching.
- Knowledge of grade level curriculum, assessment and instruction.

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- Demonstrate a willingness to share resources, materials and expertise and to learn the same from peers and other educators in the field.
  - Knowledge of and ability to apply best practices for instructional strategies, classroom management and behavior management; commitment to continually improve professional knowledge base on best practices.
  - Demonstrated interpersonal skills and ability to work as a contributing member of a team. Excellent facilitation, organizational and oral and written communication skills.
  - Ability to work well with students, teachers, families and school leaders and committed to collaboration with all stakeholders for the benefit of students.

### **Essential Experience**

- Strong character, passion for excellence, relentless commitment to student achievement, willingness to take risks, a desire to be model learners, the ability to be flexible and creative, and the capacity to work very hard to support exceptional student achievement.
- A Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited university. Candidates should have a 3.0 GPA or higher. Previous teaching experience, minimum 3 years, strongly preferred.

### **COMPENSATION**

Denver Academy of Torah full time teacher and teacher leader salaries are commensurate with experience, plus 100% health insurance for the employed and 50% for spouses and families. Full and part time teachers receive tuition discounts for children attending DAT. Contribution to a 403b plan is also available.

### **TO APPLY**

Please send a cover letter detailing the position for which you are applying and your interest in working at DAT, a statement of educational philosophy, and resume or CV to: Naomi Lev, Head of School, Denver Academy of Torah at [nlev@datcampus.org](mailto:nlev@datcampus.org)