

JEWISH RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES CALENDAR



This calendar of Jewish holidays has been prepared by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington as an aid for planning and scheduling events (tests, examinations, assemblies, conferences, athletic events, tournaments, open houses, registrations, etc.) in an attempt to minimize conflicts that involve the absence of Jewish students and personnel. **Holidays marked in red indicate days when the most Jewish students will be absent/need accommodations. Holiday descriptions are on page 2.**

A FEW NOTES ON JEWISH HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES:

- All Jewish religious observances begin on the evening before the date indicated on calendars below and conclude at nightfall on the last evening.
- Jews vary in their religious practice; therefore some students and staff may be absent for religious purposes more often than others.
- The exact dates of Jewish holidays and observances differ each year because the Jewish calendar is lunar-based.

For more information, visit jcouncil.org.

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

August 2021							September 2021							October 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2
8	8	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
													31							

Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur,
Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, & Simchat Torah

November 2021							December 2021							January 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
													30	31						

Hanukkah

February 2022							March 2022							April 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Purim

May 2022							June 2022							July 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
													31							

Shavuot

2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

August 2022							September 2022							October 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
													30	31						

Rosh Hashanah

November 2022							December 2022							January 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3							1
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
27	28	29					25	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
													30	31						

Hanukkah

February 2023							March 2023							April 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4														1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
													30							

Purim

May 2023							June 2023							July 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
													30	31						

Shavuot

WIDELY OBSERVED HOLIDAYS **MAJOR HOLIDAYS** **MINOR HOLIDAYS**

JEWISH RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES CALENDAR

SHABBAT

- The weekly holy day of rest, whose strict observance is central to traditional Jews.
- One of the holiest days observed.
- Commemorates G-d's day of rest on the 7th day of creation.
- Begins at sunset every Friday and extends until sunset on Saturday.

ROSH HASHANA

Tues - Wed, Sept 7-8, 2021

Mon - Tues, Sept 26-27, 2022

- Jewish New Year, beginning a ten-day period of repentance and prayer, called the High Holidays, to signify the elevated importance of this period
- Most students will be spending a significant portion of each day(s) in prayer at synagogue.
- Almost all Jewish students and teachers will be absent on the first day, while some will choose to attend school on the 2nd day.

Avoid scheduling events on the evening before or on those days. Assignment deadlines and exams on the second day of the holiday or the day after the holiday are also problematic.

YOM KIPPUR

Thurs, Sept 16, 2021

Wed, Oct 5, 2022

- Holiest day in the Jewish year, occurring 10 days after Rosh Hashanah.
- The day is marked by fasting and prayers. People atone, asking forgiveness from both G-d and fellow humans.
- Almost all Jewish students and teachers will be absent.

Avoid scheduling events on the evening before or on those days. Assignment deadlines and exams on the day after the holiday are also problematic.

WIDELY OBSERVED
HOLIDAYS

MAJOR
HOLIDAYS

MINOR
HOLIDAYS

SUKKOT, SHEMINI ATZERET, AND SIMCHAT TORAH

Tues - Wed, Sept 21 - 29, 2021

Mon - Tues, Oct 10 - 18, 2022

- 8-day Jewish festival of harvest and thanksgiving.
- Associated with celebrations held in a temporary booth known as a sukkah.
- Ends with Simchat Torah, a festival celebrating the conclusion of the annual cycle of weekly readings from the Torah, Jewish Holy Scriptures (Old Testament).

The 1st, 2nd, 7th, and 8th days of the holidays are considered days of elevated holiness when some Jews refrain from attending work and school, and from using electronics, doing homework, or driving. A small number of students or teachers may need accommodations to complete assignments and exams.

HANUKKAH

Mon - Mon, Nov 29 - Dec 6, 2021

Mon - Mon, Dec 19 - 26, 2022

- Known as the Festival of Lights.
- Commemorates the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem;

Does NOT involve a holy day requiring students to miss school for religious observance. Family celebrations and festival-related meals take place in the evenings during the holiday.

PURIM

Thurs, March 17, 2022

Tues, March 7, 2023

- One of the most joyous and fun-filled holidays on the Jewish Calendar.
- Commemorates the Jewish people in Persia being saved from extermination.
- The central prayer service and celebration takes place in the evening of the day before the holiday.

Students observing the holiday may not be able to complete homework assignments due on the day of Purim or study for exams scheduled for the next day. Some students may miss school the next morning to attend holiday services.

PASSOVER

Sat - Sat, April 16 - 23, 2022

Thurs - Thurs, April 6 - 13, 2023

- Passover (or Pesach) commemorates the ancient Hebrews' exodus from Egyptian bondage.
- During this 8-day festival, there are dietary restrictions and matzah (unleavened bread) is eaten.
- The Seder is a ritual meal that occurs on the evenings of the first two days of Passover. The Passover Seder is the most widely observed Jewish ritual among American Jews, and is a significant marker on the annual Jewish calendar.
- Almost all Jewish students and teachers will be unavailable the first evening of Passover and many will also be unavailable the 2nd evening of Passover.

Avoid scheduling proms or special events on the evening before and the first 2 days of the holiday. As with Sukkot The 1st, 2nd, 7th, and 8th days of the holiday are considered days of elevated holiness when some Jews refrain from attending work and school, and from using electronics, doing homework, or driving. Some students or teachers may need accommodations to complete assignments and exams.

SHAVUOT

Sun - Mon, June 5 - 6, 2022

Fri - Sat, May 26 - 27, 2023

- Celebrates the covenant established at Mount Sinai between G-d and the Jewish people, and the giving of the Torah to Moses and the People of Israel.
- Many synagogues hold their high school confirmation graduation ceremonies during Shavuot services to honor the culmination of students' religious studies.

The holiday is a time of elevated holiness, when some Jews refrain from attending work and school, and from using electronics, doing homework, or driving. Avoid scheduling end-of-year or graduation-related events on days coinciding with this festival