



**Policy:**       **Torah Scroll Rental**

**Date Approved:**     September 20, 2018  
(Replaces Previous Policy Dated:     November 25, 2014)

**Approved By:**       Board of the Shaar Shalom Congregation

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## **Policy Statement**

There are circumstances when a Torah scroll will be provided by the Shaar Shalom Synagogue to celebrate a simcha outside the synagogue. This policy has been developed to describe the circumstances under which the synagogue will loan a Torah scroll and the rental fee that will be charged.

## **Definitions**

**Member** – an individual included in one of the following three classes of membership:

1. Single – a Jewish person over the age of eighteen (18) years who is not otherwise included in a Family Membership.
2. Family – includes:
  - A single Jewish adult with one or more dependent Jewish children; or
  - Cohabiting Jewish adults, with or without dependent Jewish children; or
  - Such other definition as designated by the Board.
3. Such other classes as may be designated by the Board from time to time

The synagogue office retains a list of the specific individuals covered under each class of membership.

## **Policy Objectives**

The objective of the policy is to describe:

1. The process to request to borrow a Torah scroll;
2. Halacha related to the transportation and use of a Torah scroll; and

3. The rental fee charged.

## **Policy Application**

Requests to borrow a Torah scroll must be made in writing to the Executive of the Board of Directors of the Shaar Shalom. Requests must include:

- Who is renting the scroll;
- The purpose for which the scroll is being rented;
- Where the scroll is being transported (destination);
- Who will transport the scroll and by what means;
- When the scroll will be picked up; and
- When the scroll will be returned.

If the request is approved by the Executive, the Rabbi/Spiritual leader then determines whether the request is consistent with the respect and honour that must be shown in the presence of a Torah scroll. Once this is confirmed, the Rabbi/Spiritual leader instructs the borrower about Halacha related to the transportation and use of the Torah scroll. The borrower must agree to abide by these instructions and to return the Torah scroll on the specified date.

The Torah scroll rental fee is \$720 and must be paid at the time the scroll is picked up at the synagogue.

Requests from members to borrow a Torah scroll will always take priority over requests from non-members.

## **Policy Exceptions**

None identified.

## **Policy Monitoring**

None identified.

## **Forms Included with this Policy as Attachments**

None