

COMMON GROUND

Bridging divides and defeating antisemitism – together

Apply Now

Who We Are

Program of Allied Voices for Israel (AVI), Common Ground is a movement that aims to build bridges between Jewish/Zionist students and their allies on campus to eradicate antisemitism and hatred – together.

Through our *Common Ground Ambassadors* program, which begins with a partially subsidized trip to Israel, Canadian students will be exposed to peace efforts between Israelis and Palestinians and learn about the robust diversity and democracy of the State of Israel. By uniting students against antisemitism, we will change the narrative around Israel on campus – one ally at a time.

At Common Ground, we believe in peace and prosperity for those who believe in it. We will empower students to build a framework on how to establish meaningful relationships with their peers, challenge hateful and divisive narratives, and foster a campus environment that allows for freedom of thought and diversity of opinions without fomenting any forms of bigotry or prejudice. We will educate students about Zionism as the indigenous success story of the Jewish People.

In our view, the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement works to the detriment of Israelis and Palestinians alike. On campus, it leads to the targeting and demonization of Jewish students and supports using Palestinians as pawns to promote a corrupt political agenda. By joining Common Ground, students will serve as advocates for peace for Israelis *and* Palestinians, thereby denouncing terrorism and violence, and educating others that in the fight for equality, we must respect human rights for *all*.

When our Ambassadors return to campus, they feel inspired to make a difference. Our staff work with these student leaders to establish Common Ground on their respective campuses and expose their peers to a narrative that is *not* "anti-Israel" or "anti-Palestine" – but one that encourages dialogue and a path forward.



What To Expect

- Meet with a diverse set of citizens including Palestinians, Arab Israelis, Jewish Israelis,



- Druze, Christians, Ethiopian-Israelis, and many others.
- Visit strategic destinations such as the borders of Gaza, Lebanon and Syria to gain a better understanding of the challenges and threats facing Israel.
- Workshops on exposing the BDS movement, how to build coalitions with other students: how to understand the nuances of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and more.
- Discover how Israel uses high-tech and drip irrigation systems to foster relationships with countries in Africa and the Middle East.
- Hear from human rights activists, politicians, journalists, and educators.
- Explore the diversity of the Old City of Jerusalem during a tour of the Four Quarters.
- Learn about coexistence efforts between Israelis and Palestinians.

Requirements on Campus

- Two semesters left on campus upon returning home from the program.
 - Responding to or writing op-eds in student papers that promote the messaging of peace and prosperity for Israelis and Palestinians (and as a methodology that can be worked with similar issues).
 - Attending campus events that support the methodology of Common Ground and celebrate coexistence and peace.
 - Participating in an event/webinar that educates students about the Arab-Israeli conflict from a neutral, balanced and apolitical lens.
 - Tabling campaigns on campus that urge students to find each other's Common Ground.
 - Educating students about Common Ground and how the anti-Israel movement is antithetical to peace and is to the detriment of Palestinians.
 - Promoting awareness of other issues that are important to you.
- *Students can choose four of six requirements to complete their Ambassadorship.*



Selection Process and Pricing

All students, regardless of background, are encouraged to apply. Due to the competitive nature of the program, only highly recommended students involved in advocacy on campus will be accepted to become a Common Ground Ambassador. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. We will contact you if you are selected for an interview.

The program cost is \$449 CAD plus a \$249 refundable deposit that is returned to the Ambassador after the successful completion of two semesters of advocacy on campus. The program cost is generously subsidized by Common Ground.

Selected students will be participating in our July 17-July 27 cohort.

**JOIN THE MOVEMENT
TO FIND OUR
COMMON**

Name *	Pronouns
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Phone *	Email *
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



University/College *	Major *
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Expected Graduation Year *	Who referred you to Common Ground?
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Add a referral"/>

Why do you want to be a Common Ground Ambassador? *

Type your answer here...

What do you hope to contribute when you are on campus? *

Type your answer here...

Submit



info@commongroundtrips.org

Follow our journey

