

Principles for Dues Calculation

OPT financial matters are established in the context of Jewish values, principles and ethics.

- Oak Park Temple is a community that is open and accessible to any Jew and his or her family.
- While Judaism itself can thrive without reference to finances, a community of Jews who are committed to the purposes of the synagogue – learning, worship, and fellowship – does need financial resources to help each other and themselves.
- All members contribute financially; ideally, all members also contribute time, energy and talent to the congregation.
- Honest and ethical financial behavior is among the core values of Judaism.
- An appropriate dues structure reflects shared support of a vital community to preserve Jewish heritage and to support and develop Jewishly knowledgeable and observant families and households.
- Dues structures are not designed to reflect “fee for service” or program usage for any given household but rather to meet the needs of all the community.
- Dues calculations are progressive, not regressive. Those who can contribute more are asked to do so.
- Dues calculations reflect sensitivity to special needs of each household, informed by guidelines based on the community’s needs.
- Dues are calculated voluntarily.
- Dues are managed to ensure that everyone feels appreciated for their appropriate and fair contribution.
- Dues are structured for efficient, predictable, fair, confidential administration