

RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA – MONTREAL REGION  
*CONVERSION PROGRAMME*

*Geirut Committee:*  
Rabbi Sidney Shoham  
Rabbi Mordecai Zeitz  
Rabbi Moshe Jablon  
Rabbi Michael Whitman

*Administrator:*  
Edward Shostak

**GEIRUT STANDARDS**

*In order for candidates to be considered for conversion, they must be admitted to the Conversion Programme and fulfill the following criteria:*

1. A candidate must have attended a minimum of 12 months of classes, and all topics of the curriculum were completed. (There are no classes in July and August). Attendance at these classes is mandatory. Candidates must live a Jewish lifestyle and adhere to traditional Jewish law and practice. Candidates must have the knowledge and experiences to be able to commit to observing all of the laws of Judaism. Candidates must be able to read Hebrew. Completion of the program does not automatically necessitate the candidate's conversion. The duration of the programme is dependent on the rate of progress of the candidate as deemed by the Bet Din.
2. A candidate must be living in a Jewish community, and within walking distance from an Orthodox synagogue.
3. A candidate must have a sponsoring Rabbi and a supporting family that are deemed appropriate by the Bet Din. A candidate will celebrate a number of Shabbatot and Yomim Tovim in their homes. This will be arranged by the administrator of the program.
4. A candidate must observe kashrut in and out of the home. A candidate must submit the name of the approved person who koshered the home.
5. Couples living together must separate for a period of time prior to the completion of conversion. It is the candidate's responsibility to inform the Bet Din of the arrangements for separation, i.e. addresses, date of separation.
6. A single candidate who is involved with, or who becomes involved with a Jewish partner must immediately notify the Bet Din.
7. A reference letter from both the sponsoring Rabbi and the support family or families will be requested prior to the Bet Din considering a conversion.

8. The candidate and partner must have a minimal Jewish library (see required book list), kosher Tefilin (for men), and kosher Mezuzot.
9. A candidate will meet the Bet Din a minimum of 3 times during the conversion process.
10. Following the conversion, follow-up classes and events relating to pertinent topics in Judaism will be offered.
11. There is a 90-day waiting period after conversion of a woman before marriage can take place.
12. All programme standards apply to the candidate as well as to a Jewish partner.
13. Fees for conversion program:
 

Single candidate:	\$2000
Couple:	\$2200

*All payments must be made in advance through monthly post-dated cheques.*

Private tutoring may be required, as needed, at the expense of the candidate.
14. Upon conversion, there will be a \$150 Mikveh charge.
15. Throughout the conversion process the candidate will have an opportunity to attend a variety of special events and programs, including festive dinners, weekend Shabbatons and life cycle events. You will also have opportunities to meet with others who have completed the conversion program. These activities are designed to provide you with additional experiences to assist in your integration into the Jewish community. Your attendance is expected and additional fees may be charged to defray the costs of these programs.

I have read the statement and understand the above.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of candidate