EXPLANATION OF HOLIDAYS

ROSH HASHANAH
Marks the beginning of the Jewish year and the period considered the High Holy Days.

YOM KIPPUR
Day of Atonement and the holiest day of the Jewish year.

SUKKOT
Eight-day harvest and thanksgiving festival.

SHEMINI ATZERET
Eighth and final day of Sukkot.

SIMCHAT TORAH
Celebrates the completion of the yearly cycle of reading the Hebrew Bible (Torah) and the beginning of the next cycle.

CHANUKAH*
Eight-day festival of lights.

PURIM*
Festive holiday celebrates the rescue of the Jewish community recounted in the Book of Esther.

PASSOVER
Eight-day festival commemorates the exodus of Jews from slavery in Egypt. The first two and last two days are observed as holy days.

SHAVUOT
Commemorates the receiving of the Torah by the Israelites on Mt. Sinai.

SHABBAT
The Jewish Sabbath is observed every Saturday. It reflects God’s rest on the seventh day and is considered to be a day dedicated to prayer, reflection and rest. Observant Jews are unable to participate in secular events occurring between sunset on Friday and sunset on Saturday.

Dates in red are High Holy Days.
Dates in blue are Holy Days.

*It is permissible to work and attend school on these holidays.

VISION AND MISSION
The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation envisions a just community that reflects American and Jewish values.

Its mission is to speak as the representative of the Jewish community on issues of public affairs and public policy by convening and mobilizing the Jewish community through education, advocacy, social justice and support for Israel.

To learn more about Jewish holidays, culture or the Jewish community, contact the Jewish Community Relations Council. 414-390-5781 • JCRC@MilwaukeeJewish.org
## 5-Year Calendar of Major Jewish Holidays & Religious Observances

During observance of these major holidays, work is traditionally prohibited. As a result, Jewish individuals may be absent from work and school.

**Red dates are HIGH HOLY DAYS:** Expect virtually all Jewish students and staff to be absent. **Blue dates are HOLY DAYS:** Expect some Jewish students to be absent. Jewish holidays begin at sunset on the evening preceding the holiday.

- **SHABBAT**
  - The Jewish Sabbath
  - Every Friday eve through Saturday eve

- **FALL**
  - September 19, 20
    - Sat. & Sun.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 18)
  - September 7, 8
    - Tues. & Wed.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 6)
  - September 26, 27
    - Mon. & Tues.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 25)
  - September 16, 17
    - Sat. & Sun.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 15)
  - October 3, 4
    - Thurs. & Fri.
    - (begins at sunset Oct. 2)
  - October 10, 11
    - Mon. & Tues.
    - (begins at sunset Oct. 9)
  - September 30, October 1
    - Mon. & Tues.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 29)
  - October 17, 18
    - Thurs. & Fri.
    - (begins at sunset Oct. 16)
  - October 24, 25
    - Thurs. & Fri.
    - (begins at sunset Oct. 23)
  - November 29–December 6
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Nov. 28)
  - December 8–15
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Dec. 7)
  - December 26–January 2
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Jan. 1)

- **SUkkOT**
  - Feast of Tabernacles
  - October 3, 4
    - Sat. & Sun.
    - (begins at sunset Oct. 2)
  - September 21, 22
    - Tues. & Wed.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 20)
  - October 10, 11
    - Mon. & Tues.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 9)
  - October 23, 24
    - Thurs. & Fri.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 22)
  - October 26, 27
    - Mon. & Tues.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 21)
  - November 21–22
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Nov. 20)
  - December 8–15
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Dec. 7)

- **SHEMİNİ ATZERET & SIMCHAT TORAH**
  - Closing of High Holidays
  - October 10, 11
    - Sat. & Sun.
    - (begins at sunset Oct. 9)
  - September 28, 29
    - Tues. & Wed.
    - (begins at sunset Sept. 27)
  - October 17, 18
    - Mon. & Tues.
    - (begins at sunset Oct. 16)
  - October 24, 25
    - Thurs. & Fri.
    - (begins at sunset Oct. 23)
  - December 8–15
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Dec. 7)

- **CHANUKAH* **
  - Festival of Lights
  - December 11–18
    - Fri.–Fri.
    - (begins at sunset Dec. 10)
  - November 29–December 6
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Nov. 28)
  - December 19–26
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Dec. 18)
  - December 26–January 2
    - Mon.–Mon.
    - (begins at sunset Jan. 1)

- **SPRING**
  - February 26
    - Friday
    - (begins at sunset Feb. 25)
  - March 17
    - Thursday
    - (begins at sunset March 16)
  - March 7
    - Tuesday
    - (begins at sunset March 6)
  - March 24
    - Sunday
    - (begins at sunset March 23)
  - April 6–13
    - Thurs.–Thurs.
    - (begins at sunset April 5)
  - April 23–30
    - Tues.–Tues.
    - (begins at sunset April 22)
  - April 13–20
    - Sun.–Sun.
    - (begins at sunset April 12)

- **PASSOVER**
  - The first 2 and last 2 days are holy days.
  - March 28–April 4
    - Sun.–Sun.
    - (begins at sunset March 27)
  - April 16–23
    - Sat.–Sat.
    - (begins at sunset April 15)
  - April 6–13
    - Thurs.–Thurs.
    - (begins at sunset April 5)
  - April 23–30
    - Tues.–Tues.
    - (begins at sunset April 22)
  - April 13–20
    - Sun.–Sun.
    - (begins at sunset April 12)

- **SHAVUOT**
  - Feast of Weeks
  - May 17, 18
    - Mon. & Tues.
    - (begins at sunset May 16)
  - June 5, 6
    - Sun. & Mon.
    - (begins at sunset June 4)
  - May 26, 27
    - Fri. & Sat.
    - (begins at sunset May 25)
  - June 12, 13
    - Wed. & Thurs.
    - (begins at sunset June 11)
  - June 2, 3
    - Mon. & Tues.
    - (begins at sunset June 1)

*It is permissible to go to work and attend school on these holidays. This calendar is also available online at MilwaukeeJewish.org/JCRC.*