



Introducing the  
**Certificate in Synagogue  
Executive Leadership**  
from NATA & Spertus Institute

## **CSEL Info Session**

National Association for Temple Administrators &  
Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership  
September 4, 2025



# Welcome!

## In the chat, please share:

- ▶ Name
- ▶ City
- ▶ Congregational affiliation

## Today's Speakers:

- ▶ Alison Siegel Lewin, *Executive Director, NATA*
- ▶ Danny Glassman, *VP Education, NATA*
- ▶ Dr. Dean P. Bell, *President & CEO, Spertus Institute*
- ▶ Dana Kresel, *Director of Center for Jewish Leadership, Spertus Institute*



# Agenda

- ▶ Introductions
- ▶ NATA
- ▶ Spertus
- ▶ Certificate in Synagogue Executive Leadership (CSEL)
- ▶ Q&A

# National Association for Temple Administrators (NATA)

- ▶ NATA's Mission
- ▶ History of Professional Development

# Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership



Spertus Institute  
is proudly based  
in Chicago, with  
students and  
participants  
worldwide.

spertus.edu



# Spertus Institute, Center for Jewish Leadership

- ▶ MA in Jewish Professional Studies
- ▶ Executive MA in Jewish Professional Studies
- ▶ Certificate programs:
  - ▶ Certificate in Jewish Leadership *presented in partnership with Northwestern University*
  - ▶ Leadership Certificate in Combating Antisemitism for Professionals
  - ▶ Leadership Certificate in Combating Antisemitism for Lay Leaders
  - ▶ **NEW!** Certificate in Synagogue Executive Leadership *presented in partnership with NATA*



# Certificate in Synagogue Executive Leadership (CSEL)

**Program modules will be organized around three themes:**

- ▶ *Manhigut*: Jewish Communal Leadership
- ▶ *Maintaining the Mishkan*: Strategic Budgeting & Management
- ▶ *Panim al Panim*: Executive Leadership & People Management

## CSEL (Cont.)

### Participants who complete this program will gain:

- ▶ Advanced non-profit training combining Jewish wisdom with real world strategy
- ▶ Skills tailored for synagogue executives, taught in a hybrid format
- ▶ A supportive peer network of synagogue leaders with opportunities to leverage each other's talents, resources, and support
- ▶ A nationally recognized credential offering leadership and expertise



# CSEL Program Components

- ▶ **November 16-17, 2025**
  - ▶ In-person immediately preceding the NATA Conference in Tucson, AZ
- ▶ **January - March 2026**
  - ▶ Synchronous, online sessions on Tuesday evenings (Several weekly sessions, 2 hours each)
- ▶ **April 26-29, 2026**
  - ▶ In-person concurrent with NATA meetings at Spertus in Chicago, IL

# Application Logistics

## Application Dates

- ▶ September 10 – Priority Application Deadline
- ▶ September 30 – Final Application Deadline
- ▶ Interviews throughout September and October

## Cost

- ▶ Program Cost: \$4,000
- ▶ Participant Responsibility: \$1,500 for the first cohort
  - ▶ Includes tuition, materials, technology, and all meals during the program.
  - ▶ Participants will be responsible for airfare and hotel costs for the in-person sessions.

# Applications

- ▶ A bachelor's degree or the equivalent
- ▶ 5 years of professional experience
- ▶ The ability to do graduate-level academic work
- ▶ A strong commitment to developing and fulfilling their professional potential
- ▶ Active regular or associate NATA Membership for 2025-2026 program year

<https://www.spertus.edu/csel-program/> OR

<https://www.natanet.org/cse-program/>



# Questions and Answers

What questions do you have?

Alison Siegel Lewin: [alewin@natanet.org](mailto:alewin@natanet.org)

Dana Kresel: [dkresel@spertus.edu](mailto:dkresel@spertus.edu)