 

## United Synagogue Job Description

**JOB TITLE:**  Rabbinical Certification Coordinator

**LOCATION:** North Finchley, 305 Ballards Lane, London N12 8GB

 **HOURS**: Full Time – permanent - 35 hours per week

On rare occasions there may be a need to work during evenings or weekends.

**REPORTS TO:** Director of Admin & Kashrut Finance

**BENEFITS:** 20 days holiday, plus 8 Bank Holidays

 Jewish festivals when they fall on a normal working day

 Auto-Enrolled Pension

## Vision

Our vision for the United Synagogue is of a modern and united family of communities with members connected to vibrant Jewish life and Torah values.

## Mission

The mission of the US Executive Office is to serve our communities and to lead the organisation by

1. Initiating, developing and supporting communities and helping them provide relevant and high quality services to their members.
2. Providing the infrastructure for Jewish religious life.
3. Developing creative programmes, which involve members and potential members in Jewish life and values.
4. Recruiting, developing and maintaining outstanding Rabbis and other Professional staff, lay leaders and volunteers.

## Values

The values that lie at the heart of the United Synagogue are embodied in the principles of Torah and Halachah.

These values are:

* The welcoming of every Jew
* Creating a sense of belonging
* Lifelong Jewish learning
* Spiritual growth and practice
* Mutual responsibility
* The centrality of Israel in Jewish life.

The purpose of the United Synagogue is to create communities committed to the principles of Torah and *Halachah* and inclusive of every Jew.

1. **MAIN PURPOSE OF JOB**

Working within the office based Kosher Certification team, the Rabbinical Certification Coordinator will collect and supply kosher auditors with preparatory data in advance of their visits to companies certified by the KLBD. Following these audits, he must highlight any outstanding kashrus issues at the companies and respond to the concerns raised by the auditors. He will need to liaise with senior KLBD rabbinical staff and those of the client companies to ensure that the kashrus standards set by the London Beth Din are maintained.

**2 POSITION IN ORGANISATION**

Responsible to their appointed line manager, to be confirmed upon appointment.

**3 DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

**1.** Certification:

1.1. Factory Inspections:

* Ensuring that the existing kosher certified factories are visited and inspected regularly.
* Liaising with the Rabbinic Coordinator and Factory Inspectors, handling the reports from the Inspector after the regular inspections and following up on actions needed.
* Ensuring all paperwork i.e. Factory reports/batch production forms, Checklists and kosher certificates are submitted by the Inspectors.
* Follow up with the companies to ensure a good relationship is maintained with the company and that they are satisfied with the service provided.

1.2. Applications from Potential Clients:

* Liaising with companies and explaining kashrus requirements.
* Liaising with Rabbinic Inspectors pre and post initial inspections.
* Handling the factory reports and following through the certification process.
* Discussing with the Rabbinic Coordinator and the Director of Certification the details of the factory in question and ensuring the accuracy of the information for the final legal contract.
* Assisting in the drawing up of the kosher contract and in the issuing of the kosher certificate.

1.3. Applications from current companies:

* Assessing new kosher ingredients and kosher product applications.
* Advising companies of potential issues that must be addressed e.g. ingredients that require Kosher certificates to be approved; shared used of equipment with problematic ingredients.
* Handling enquiries from existing certified factories and directing them to the appropriate Rabbinic Coordinator.
* Dealing with enquiries from other parties - the trade, the public, or other kosher agencies - on the status of any kosher certified products.

**4 ABILITIES AND EXPERIENCE**

## Essential

* Thorough knowledge of Kashrut and related Jewish customs and practices.
* Strong computing skills and substantial experience of using Microsoft Word, Excel, outlook and databases.
* Excellent interpersonal and written communication skills.
* Ability to collate, assess and evaluate data, and identify problems.
* Self-motivated and consciousness worker, who is able to work unsupervised and to manage own workload and deliver results under pressure and to tight deadlines and objectives.
* To work in a professional manner and developing effective working relationships with colleagues and external clientele at all times.

**Preferable Skills**

* Semicha that includes הל' מאכלי עכו''ם
* Practically minded.
* Familiarity with various machinery and electric appliances.
* Scientific knowledge, particularly in Food Chemistry.
* Creative thinking in finding and presenting solutions to resolve kashrus problems.
* Ability to speak foreign languages.

**5 Quality and operational standards**

* Ensure that work produced is of a high standard and meets the department’s key performance indicators.
* Report on key performance indicators to the Director of Certification or other team members as required.

**6 Builds the credibility of the Kashrus department to empower staff and managers to fulfil their roles effectively**

* Share with others within the Kashrus Department and communicate success stories.
* Personally demonstrate the organisation’s values, building trust with managers and staff within United Synagogue and proactively contributing to the organisation’s success.
* Be proactive in identifying opportunities for own professional development.

**7 Commitment**

* Must share the ethos of the United Synagogue.

**8 OTHER**

You will be expected in undertaking the above role to comply with any policies and procedures that United Synagogue may issue.

Any other reasonable duty as may be assigned that is consistent with the nature of the job and its level of responsibility.

This job description is not prescriptive; it merely outlines the key tasks and responsibilities of the post. These key tasks and responsibilities are subject to change. Any changes will be made in consultation with the post holder.

**GENERIC DUTIES**

* Committed to the aims of the United Synagogue and act as an ambassador for the organisation
* Comply with The United Synagogue’s policy and procedures and code of expectations
* Bring to the attention of senior staff any health and safety requirements, which become obvious. In the event of any immediate danger, to take the appropriate action to reduce risk to physical danger to employees, members, contractors, volunteers, children, parents, visitors or staff
* Work collaboratively with other colleagues across the organisation to ensure the United Synagogue can achieve its vision, mission, and strategy
* Undertake appropriate training as requested by your line manager in conjunction with the Human Resources Department and be committed to own continuous professional development
* Carry out any other reasonable duties as requested by the Chief Executive or other designated senior staff/undertaking such other duties that occasionally fall within the purpose of the post
* Maintaining high levels of discretion and confidentiality at all times
* This job description and person specification is not prescriptive; it merely outlines the key tasks and responsibilities of the post and the key tasks and responsibilities are subject to change, any changes will be made in consultation with the post holder
* This Job Description is subject to alteration in response to the changes in legislation or The United Synagogue’s operational procedures
* **Due of the nature of the work for which you are applying, this post is exempt from the provisions of Section 4(2) of the Rehabilitation Act, 1974, by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, 1974, (Exceptions) Order 1975**
* **Accordingly, a valid and current enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate (formerly CRB) that is satisfactory to the United Synagogue will be required; please ensure that you complete the United Synagogue Application Form Part 2 appropriately**