

Form **990-PF**

**Return of Private Foundation
or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation**

OMB No 1545-0047

2019

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.
▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990PF for instructions and the latest information.

Open to Public Inspection

For calendar year 2019 or tax year beginning 10/31, 2019, and ending 12/31, 2019

Howard Amster Foundation
23811 Chagrin Blvd Suite 200
Beachwood, OH 44122

A Employer identification number
84-3549980

B Telephone number (see instructions)
(216) 595-1047

C If exemption application is pending, check here.

D 1 Foreign organizations, check here
2 Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation

E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here

F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here

G Check all that apply: Initial return Initial return of a former public charity
 Final return Amended return
 Address change Name change

H Check type of organization: Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation **04**
 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust Other taxable private foundation

I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, column (c), line 16)
\$

J Accounting method: Cash Accrual
 Other (specify) _____
(Part I, column (d), must be on cash basis.)

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see instructions))		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received (attach schedule)	3,000.			
	2 Check <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments				
	4 Dividends and interest from securities				
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)				
	8 Net short-term capital gain				
	9 Income modifications				
	10a Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b Less Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)					
11 Other income (attach schedule)					
12 Total Add lines 1 through 11	3,000.	0.	0.		
Operating and Administrative Expenses	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc	0.			
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a Legal fees (attach schedule)				
	b Accounting fees (attach sch)				
	c Other professional fees (attach sch)				
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes (attach schedule)(see instrs)				
	19 Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
	20 Occupancy				
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings				
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses (attach schedule)				
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23				
	25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid Stmt 1	300.			300.
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25	300.	0.	0.	300.	
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:					
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements	2,700.				
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)		0.			
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)			0.		

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Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions)			
		Beginning of year (a) Book Value	End of year (b) Book Value (c) Fair Market Value		
Assets	1	Cash – non-interest-bearing		2,700.	
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			
	3	Accounts receivable			
		Less allowance for doubtful accounts			
	4	Pledges receivable			
		Less allowance for doubtful accounts			
	5	Grants receivable			
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see instructions)			
	7	Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule)			
		Less allowance for doubtful accounts			
	8	Inventories for sale or use			
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			
	10a	Investments – U.S. and state government obligations (attach schedule)			
		b Investments – corporate stock (attach schedule)			
		c Investments – corporate bonds (attach schedule)			
	11	Investments – land, buildings, and equipment basis			
	Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)				
12	Investments – mortgage loans				
13	Investments – other (attach schedule)				
14	Land, buildings, and equipment basis				
	Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule)				
15	Other assets (describe)				
16	Total assets (to be completed by all filers – see the instructions. Also, see page 1, item 1)	0.	2,700.	1X0.	
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			
	18	Grants payable			
	19	Deferred revenue			
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, & other disqualified persons			
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule)			
	22	Other liabilities (describe)			
	23	Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)	0.	0.	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Foundations that follow FASB ASC 958, check here and complete lines 24, 25, 29, and 30. <input type="checkbox"/>				
	24	Net assets without donor restrictions			
	25	Net assets with donor restrictions			
	Foundations that do not follow FASB ASC 958, check here and complete lines 26 through 30. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
	26	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds			
	27	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg, and equipment fund			
	28	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds		2,700.	
	29	Total net assets or fund balances (see instructions)	0.	2,700.	
30	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see instructions)	0.	2,700.		

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances		
1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year – Part II, column (a), line 29 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1 0.
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2 2,700.
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize)	3
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4 2,700.
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize)	5
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5) – Part II, column (b), line 29	6 2,700.

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (for example, real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs. MLC Co.)		(b) How acquired P — Purchase D — Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo, day, yr)	(d) Date sold (mo, day, yr)
1 a N/A				
b				
c				
d				
e				
(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) ((e) plus (f) minus (g))	
a				
b				
c				
d				
e				
Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69				(l) Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col (h))
(i) FMV as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col (i) over col (j), if any		
a				
b				
c				
d				
e				
2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss). [If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7]			2	
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6) If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c). See instructions. If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8]			3	

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income)

N/A

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank

Was the foundation liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period?

Yes

No

If 'Yes,' the foundation doesn't qualify under section 4940(e) Do not complete this part.

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year, see the instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col. (b) divided by col (c))
2018			
2017			
2016			
2015			
2014			

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2	
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period — divide the total on line 2 by 5.0, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3	
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2019 from Part X, line 5	4	
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5	
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6	
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7	
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4	8	

If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions.

Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948 – see instructions)

1 a Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 'N/A' on line 1. Date of ruling or determination letter _____ (attach copy of letter if necessary – see instructions)		
b Domestic foundations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here. <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b	1	0.
c All other domestic foundations enter 2% of line 27b Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col. (b)		
2 Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only, others, enter -0-)	2	0.
3 Add lines 1 and 2	3	0.
4 Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only, others, enter -0-)	4	0.
5 Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-	5	0.
6 Credits/Payments		
a 2019 estimated tax pymts and 2018 overpayment credited to 2019	6 a	
b Exempt foreign organizations – tax withheld at source	6 b	
c Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6 c	
d Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6 d	
7 Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d	7	0.
8 Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached	8	
9 Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9	0.
10 Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid	10	
11 Enter the amount of line 10 to be Credited to 2020 estimated tax <input type="checkbox"/> Refunded <input type="checkbox"/>	11	

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1 a During the tax year, did the foundation attempt to influence any national, state, or local legislation or did it participate or intervene in any political campaign?		X
b Did it spend more than \$100 during the year (either directly or indirectly) for political purposes? See the instructions for the definition. If the answer is 'Yes' to 1 a or 1 b , attach a detailed description of the activities and copies of any materials published or distributed by the foundation in connection with the activities.		X
c Did the foundation file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
d Enter the amount (if any) of tax on political expenditures (section 4955) imposed during the year (1) On the foundation ▶ \$ 0. (2) On foundation managers ▶ \$ 0.		
e Enter the reimbursement (if any) paid by the foundation during the year for political expenditure tax imposed on foundation managers ▶ \$ 0.		
2 Has the foundation engaged in any activities that have not previously been reported to the IRS? If 'Yes,' attach a detailed description of the activities		X
3 Has the foundation made any changes, not previously reported to the IRS, in its governing instrument, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, or other similar instruments? If 'Yes,' attach a conformed copy of the changes		X
4 a Did the foundation have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		X
b If 'Yes,' has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?		N/A
5 Was there a liquidation, termination, dissolution, or substantial contraction during the year? If 'Yes,' attach the statement required by General Instruction T.		X
6 Are the requirements of section 508(e) (relating to sections 4941 through 4945) satisfied either • By language in the governing instrument, or • By state legislation that effectively amends the governing instrument so that no mandatory directions that conflict with the state law remain in the governing instrument?	X	
7 Did the foundation have at least \$5,000 in assets at any time during the year? If 'Yes,' complete Part II, col. (c), and Part XV		X
8 a Enter the states to which the foundation reports or with which it is registered. See instructions OH		
b If the answer is 'Yes' to line 7, has the foundation furnished a copy of Form 990-PF to the Attorney General (or designate) of each state as required by General Instruction G? If 'No,' attach explanation		N/A
9 Is the foundation claiming status as a private operating foundation within the meaning of section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5) for calendar year 2019 or the tax year beginning in 2019? See the instructions for Part XIV. If 'Yes,' complete Part XIV		X
10 Did any persons become substantial contributors during the tax year? If 'Yes,' attach a schedule listing their names and addresses		X

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required (continued)

5a During the year, did the foundation pay or incur any amount to

(1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))? Yes No

(2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955), or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive? Yes No

(3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes? Yes No

(4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 4945(d)(4)(A)? See instructions Yes No

(5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals? Yes No

b If any answer is 'Yes' to 5a(1)–(5), did any of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance? See instructions Yes No

Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance, check here

c If the answer is 'Yes' to question 5a(4), does the foundation claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant? Yes No

If 'Yes,' attach the statement required by Regulations section 53.4945-5(d). N/A

6a Did the foundation, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract? Yes No

b Did the foundation, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract? Yes No

If 'Yes' to 6b, file Form 8870. 6b X

7a At any time during the tax year, was the foundation a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? Yes No

b If 'Yes,' did the foundation receive any proceeds or have any net income attributable to the transaction? Yes No

8 Is the foundation subject to the section 4960 tax on payment(s) of more than \$1,000,000 in remuneration or excess parachute payment(s) during the year? Yes No

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, and foundation managers and their compensation. See instructions.

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
Howard Amster 23811 Chagrin Blvd Suite 200 Beachwood, OH 44122	President 0	0.	0.	0.
James Goldsmith 23811 Chagrin Blvd Suite 200 Beachwood, OH 44122	Vice Presiden 0	0.	0.	0.
William Costaras 23811 Chagrin Blvd Suite 200 Beachwood, OH 44122	Secretary 0	0.	0.	0.
Gila Nussbaum 23811 Chagrin Blvd Suite 200 Beachwood, OH 44122	Treasurer 0	0.	0.	0.

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1 – see instructions). If none, enter 'NONE.'

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
None				

Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000 0

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors (continued)

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services. See instructions. If none, enter 'NONE.'

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None ----- -----		
----- -----		
----- -----		
----- -----		
----- -----		
Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services		0

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc	Expenses
1 N/A ----- -----	
2 ----- -----	
3 ----- -----	
4 ----- -----	

Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments (see instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2	Amount
1 N/A ----- -----	
2 ----- -----	
All other program-related investments. See instructions 3 ----- -----	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3	
	0.

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Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see instructions.)

1 Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes.		
a Average monthly fair market value of securities	1 a	
b Average of monthly cash balances	1 b	
c Fair market value of all other assets (see instructions)	1 c	
d Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1 d	0.
e Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1 e	
2 Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2	
3 Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	
4 Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	
5 Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	0.
6 Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5 Short Year Modified Percentage 0.8493 %	6	0.

Part XI Distributable Amount (see instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations, check here and do not complete this part.)

1 Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6		1	
2a Tax on investment income for 2019 from Part VI, line 5	2 a		
b Income tax for 2019. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2 b		
c Add lines 2a and 2b		2 c	
3 Distributable amount before adjustments. Subtract line 2c from line 1		3	
4 Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions		4	
5 Add lines 3 and 4		5	
6 Deduction from distributable amount (see instructions)		6	
7 Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1		7	0.

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see instructions)

1 Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes		
a Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc. — total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1 a	300.
b Program-related investments — total from Part IX-B	1 b	
2 Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2	
3 Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the		
a Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3 a	
b Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3 b	
4 Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4	300.
5 Foundations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b. See instructions	5	
6 Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6	300.

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2018	(c) 2018	(d) 2019
1 Distributable amount for 2019 from Part XI, line 7				0.
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2019				
a Enter amount for 2018 only			0.	
b Total for prior years 20 __, 20 __, 20 __		0.		
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2019				
a From 2014				
b From 2015				
c From 2016				
d From 2017				
e From 2018				
f Total of lines 3a through e	0.			
4 Qualifying distributions for 2019 from Part XII, line 4 ▶ \$ <u>300.</u>				
a Applied to 2018, but not more than line 2a			0.	
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required – see instructions)		0.		
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required – see instructions)	0.			
d Applied to 2019 distributable amount				0.
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus	300.			
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2019 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)	0.			0.
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e. Subtract line 5	300.			
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b		0.		
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed		0.		
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b Taxable amount – see instructions		0.		
e Undistributed income for 2018 Subtract line 4a from line 2a Taxable amount – see instructions			0.	
f Undistributed income for 2019. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2020				0.
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(F) or 4942(g)(3) (Election may be required – see instructions)	0.			
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2014 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see instructions)	0.			
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2020. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a	300.			
10 Analysis of line 9.				
a Excess from 2015				
b Excess from 2016				
c Excess from 2017				
d Excess from 2018				
e Excess from 2019	300.			

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Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
<i>a Paid during the year</i>				
Total				▶ 3 a
<i>b Approved for future payment</i>				
Total				▶ 3 b

Statement 1
Form 990-PF, Part I, Line 25
Contributions, Gifts, and Grants

Cash Grants and Allocations

Class of Activity:	General Operations		
Donee's Name:	Yeshiva Derech Hatorah		
Donee's Address:	1518 Warrensville Center Road		
	Cleveland Heights OH 44121		
Relationship of Donee:	None		
Organizational Status of Donee:	Exempt		
Amount Given:		\$	300.
		Total \$	<u>300.</u>