

ARTIFICER AWARD

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

The Nebraska Grand Lodge is pleased to offer the “Artificer Award” as part of this jurisdiction’s ongoing commitment to membership engagement and getting our new members involved in their respective lodges.

It is the goal of this award to get our newly raised members involved in the lodge and give them a well-rounded exposure to the different things that this fraternity does, from our charity work, to the visits of the Grand Lodge Officers, to helping to support a lodge function, just to name a few.

A newly raised member of a lodge should be given the opportunity to pursue the Artificer Award starting the night he has been raised or shortly thereafter by a communication from the Master or Lodge Secretary. From this starting point the newly raised Master Mason has fourteen months to accomplish the list of requirements to achieve this award.

These requirements are:

1. Attend each of the blue lodge degrees at least once.
2. Attend at least ten stated lodge communications over the course of the fourteen months.
3. Work on at least one lodge social activity **OR** lodge charitable event.
4. Sponsor at least one friend to a Lodge function that allows the uninitiated to attend.
5. Choose a book from the Nebraska Masonic Education website beginners list, read it and present an oral report to the Lodge on that book.
6. Serve on one investigation committee.
7. Assist at least once with the preparation of candidates.
8. Assist at least once with the officers setting up of the lodge room.
9. Participate in at least four ritual/degree practices.
10. Attend a School of Instruction under the direction of the Grand Custodian.
11. Attend one of the Masonic Education Symposiums or the Masonic Education Breakfast at Annual Communication.
12. Learn a part (lecture, charge, etc.) of the ritual and present it for the Lodge as part of a degree **OR** at a regular communication as part of the Lodge’s Masonic Education program.
13. Complete **THREE** of the following four options: **1.** Attend at least one visit of a Grand Lodge Officer to a lodge in this jurisdiction; **2.** Attend at least two communications of other lodges in this jurisdiction; **3.** Attend an Area Meeting under the direction of a Grand Lodge Officer; **4.** Attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

If the newly raised Brother will be away attending college in a location which will not allow him to attend at his home Lodge conveniently, he will be allowed to attend a lodge in the same area where his college is located. It will be the responsibility of his mentor to meet with the Brother at least monthly in order to tract the requirements and help keep him on track to receive this award. Ideally this meeting will take place at a time other than the regular communication of the lodge; e-mails and phone calls may be used in cases of the Brother attending college away from his home lodge.

The future of our fraternity and our ability to continue to grow our membership is highly dependent on being able to engage and integrate our new members into the activities of the lodge. When new members become involved and active in their respective lodges they become the best prospects for new candidates for that lodge. The Artificer Award is an official means by which we can achieve these membership goals.

Once completed, submit the checklist to the Grand Lodge Office for review and approval. Once approved, the Grand Lodge will present a Certificate signed by the Grand Master and affixed with the Grand Lodge seal and an Artificer Award lapel pin.

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF NEBRASKA

ARTIFICER AWARD - CHECKOFF LIST

Applicant's Full Name: _____

Applicant's Mother Lodge: _____

Date of Raising: _____

Mentor's name: _____

Date Accomplished:

1. Attend each of the blue lodge degrees at least once. EA: _____
FC: _____ MM: _____
2. Attend at least ten stated lodge communications over the course of the fourteen months.

3. Work on at least one lodge social activity **OR** lodge charitable event.

4. Sponsor at least one friend to a Lodge function that allows the uninitiated to attend.

5. Choose a book from the Nebraska Masonic Education website beginners list, read it and present an oral report to the Lodge on that book. _____
6. Serve on one investigation committee. _____
7. Assist at least once with the preparation of candidates. _____
8. Assist at least once with the officers setting up of the lodge room. _____
9. Participate in at least four ritual/degree practices. _____
10. Attend a School of Instruction under the direction of the Grand Custodian. _____
11. Attend one of the Masonic Education Symposiums or the Masonic Education Breakfast at Annual Communication. _____
12. Learn a part (lecture, charge, etc.) of the ritual and present it for the Lodge during a degree **OR** at a regular communication as part of the Lodge's Masonic Education program.

13. Complete **THREE** of the following four options: **1.** Attend at least one visit of a Grand Lodge Officer to a lodge in this jurisdiction _____; **2.** Attend at least two communications of other lodges in this jurisdiction _____; **3.** Attend an Area Meeting under the direction of a Grand Lodge Officer _____; **4.** Attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska _____.

Sign-offs:

Mentor: _____ Date: _____

Lodge Master: _____ Date: _____

Send a completed form, along with a cover letter stating why the proposed candidate for the Artificer Award should receive this award to: Grand Lodge of Nebraska, 301 N Cotner Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68505-2315.

Lodge Seal

Lodge Secretary _____

Date: _____

On Lodge Letterhead: Artificer Award – Letter to be presented at the raising or sent within a week thereafter.

Dear Brother _____:

Welcome to the fraternity!!! Congratulations on your successful journey to becoming a Master Mason. Your Brothers and I have sat on the sidelines and watched as you made your journey, and on behalf of us here at _____ Lodge we are sincerely glad to have played a part.

Having said that however, we really hope you're not ready to stop just yet. While it is true that you have completed all of the ceremonial ritual required, we'd like to invite you to set another goal for yourself. We want you to achieve your Artificer Award, which is presented by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska to newly raised Masons who achieved a list of requirements within fourteen months of their raising. The Artificer Award has been created to encourage our new members to become involved and engaged in their lodges.

This award is designed to give you a chance to take part in lots of activities and really get to know your fellow lodge brothers in all sorts of situations – as well as let us get to know yourself better as an individual. It will help give you a voice in lodge decisions as well. We'd like you to give serious thought to completing the requirements for this Grand Lodge Award. If you do, we are confident the reward you receive in return will be "well worth your efforts." Upon completion of the requirements and the approval of the Grand Master, you will be recognized by the Grand Master (or his representative).

The requirements of this award are:

1. Attend each of the blue lodge degrees at least once.
2. Attend at least ten stated lodge communications over the course of the fourteen months.
3. Work on at least one lodge social activity **OR** lodge charitable event.
4. Sponsor at least one friend to a Lodge function that allows the uninitiated to attend.
5. Choose a book from the Nebraska Masonic Education website beginners list, read it and present an oral report to the Lodge on that book.
6. Serve on one investigation committee.
7. Assist at least once with the preparation of candidates.
8. Assist at least once with the officers setting up of the lodge room.
9. Participate in at least four ritual/degree practices.
10. Attend a School of Instruction under the direction of the Grand Custodian.
11. Attend one of the Masonic Education Symposiums or the Masonic Education Breakfast at Annual Communication.
12. Learn a part (lecture, charge, etc.) of the ritual and present it for the Lodge as part of a degree **OR** at a regular communication as part of the Lodge's Masonic Education program.
13. Complete **THREE** of the following four options: **1.** Attend at least one visit of a Grand Lodge Officer to a lodge in this jurisdiction; **2.** Attend at least two communications of other lodges in this jurisdiction; **3.** Attend an Area Meeting under the direction of a Grand Lodge Officer; **4.** Attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

The future success of your lodge really does depend on the involvement of all our members. If you have any questions on this award, please don't hesitate to contact me. Chances are, you've already completed one or more of these requirements since you have been raised. If so, please let me know so I can sign your check sheet. I will follow up with a phone call, later on, if I haven't heard from you.

Fraternally,