



GRAND LODGE A.:F.: & A.:M.: OF NEBRASKA

Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry

Dear Friend,

There are a few important things you should know and consider *before* petitioning to join the Masonic Fraternity. Freemasonry is a Fraternity which teaches ethics and morality. We welcome men of every color, creed, religion, sect, and opinion, but each candidate for Freemasonry must be willing to profess his belief in a Supreme Being. No atheist can become a Mason.

Although we require that our new members publicly state their belief in Deity, we specify no religion, we offer no conception of the Almighty, and leave to each Mason what faith he should practice or what worship he should perform. Beyond this simple requirement at your entrance into the Fraternity, Freemasonry will not go, and discussion of religion in open Lodge is strictly forbidden.

Freemasonry distinguishes between patriotism and partisanship. While patriotism is encouraged as an essential virtue both in the Lodge and in society at large, Freemasonry takes no position on political issues, and the discussion of politics in open Lodge is also strictly forbidden.

Freemasonry's history is illustrated by depicting the leadership structure, code of ethics, and symbolic tools of the trade of ancient stonemason guilds, portrayed to its modern-day candidates through beautiful allegorical plays and lectures. Veiled and forgotten by the mists of time, these mysterious and consequential trade secrets of ancient stonemasonry once used in the unique construction of their magnificent structures were hidden from disingenuous eavesdroppers who sought to exploit them, no different than a business patent is today. Modern-day Freemasonry uses these ancient symbols to reveal a meaningful connection with morality that challenges its members to explore these mysteries and apply these lessons to their personal lives. These are the "hidden mysteries of Freemasonry."

The essential purpose of Freemasonry is the further development of the individual Mason as an honest, ethical, moral, sincere, caring, and charitable man, learning more about his own potential as a human being and developing his intellectual and spiritual character. A man should never enter the Fraternity in the hope of making business connections or for any other sort of professional or mercenary gain. If he does, he will be disappointed, for they will not be found there. What he will find is a group of like-minded men, who are willing to treat him as a Brother and share in a deep and rewarding fellowship with him. In the Lodge, he will find true friends and life-long companions.

We expect men who petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry (Membership) to be good men, but not to be perfect. We know that all men have limitations and weaknesses. Our questions are: does he care about others; does he feel a responsibility to improve himself; does he wish to make the lives of others better as best he can; is he willing to be open and honest with us and with himself?

Inside this petition we ask detailed questions about you. These questions are not asked of you out of idle curiosity. When we accept a man as a Brother, we make a sincere promise to him that we will trust him completely and will treat his needs and his interests just as if they were our own. This completed petition and the visit some Lodge Brothers will make with you commence the process of sharing information which is vital if both you and we are to be comfortable with one another.

We are pleased you are interested in the Masonic Fraternity, and we look forward to the chance to know you as a Brother.

Sincerely and fraternally,

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska



TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER, WARDENS & BRETHREN OF:



LODGE NO. OF , NEBRASKA:

The Undersigned, unbiased by the solicitation of friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary or other improper motives, believing in a Supreme Being, and having long entertained a favorable opinion of the Ancient and Honorable Society of ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, affirms that he is prompted solely by a favorable opinion conceived of the Institution, a desire for knowledge and a sincere wish to be serviceable to any lodge, society, or institution that shall provide as a precedent that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing, such as to his fellow man, and freely and voluntarily offers himself as a candidate for the Degrees of Freemasonry, and respectfully prays that he be admitted thereto, promising cheerfully to conform to all established usages and to yield a cheerful obedience to all requirements of the Institution.

ALL INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETED

PETITIONER'S INFORMATION

Full Name (Print or Type) First Middle Last

Place of Birth City & State Country Date of Birth Month / Day / Year Current Age

Have you ever changed your name? Yes No If so, give former name, when and where it was changed

Citizenship U.S.A. Other Language(s) Spoken: English Other

Home Address Mailing address City Zip Code +4

Months/Years at current address:

Preferred Phone Home Cell Alternate Phone Home Cell

Preferred Email: Home Work Alternate Email Home Work

PROVIDE THE ADDRESSES OF THE LAST THREE PREVIOUS PLACES YOU HAVE RESIDED:

From Year to Year Address City and State

If in current town less than 2 years, give as references the names, addresses, and phone numbers of at least 2 men, preferably Masons, at your last place of residence:

Are you married? Yes No Wife's Name If yes, do you live with your wife? Yes No

Dependent children? Yes No If Yes, list names and ages:

Social Media: Facebook Account Name Twitter @ Account Name None Other Specify Service & Screen Name

Present Occupation or Trade Employer Name

Employer Address Mailing address City State Zip Code +4 Work Phone

Length of Present Employment: years or months.

PROVIDE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF YOUR LAST THREE EMPLOYERS:

From Year to Year Employer City and State

List Any Special Skills, Technical Expertise, Professional Licenses or Specialized Training You Use in Your Job:

List Your Hobbies:

[Candidate Initials]

REFERENCES

Each Petitioner is required to furnish the names of three persons (preferably Masons) as references OTHER THAN THE PETITION SIGNERS

Name

Address

Telephone or Email

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

IMPORTANT: All questions MUST be answered before petition can be processed.

Have you ever made application to or been rejected by any lodge of Freemasons in this state or otherwise? Yes No If yes, complete the following:
On or about _____, I made application for initiation in _____ Lodge No. _____,
located at _____, and was _____ (elected/rejected) to membership.

Give names and locations of all organizations (professional or other), fraternal societies, etc. you have ever or now belong to (if none, state None):

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor? Yes No Ever granted a diversion/deferred prosecution? Yes No

If answer is YES to either question, list complete details below, including each charge, felony or misdemeanor, city and state, and result of charge:

For additional information, use a separate sheet

Military Service? Yes No If yes: Army Navy Marine Corps Air Force Coast Guard Rank on Separation? _____

Years of Service _____ Retired? Yes No Discharge? Honorable Dishonorable Medical Other _____
Specify

Are you a Senior DeMolay? Yes No

QUALIFYING QUESTIONS

Do you believe in a Supreme Being? Yes No Are you a male at least 18 years of age? Yes No

If elected, the Holy Bible will be open in the Lodge when you receive your degrees. If you wish to bring a holy book of your choice to your initiation, please inform the Lodge Secretary or Master.

What is your main objective in seeking admission to the Fraternity? _____

What financial benefits, if any, do you expect to receive from the Fraternity? _____

Are you financially able to care for yourself and those dependent upon you? _____

PETITIONER'S STATEMENT

Do you promise, upon your honor, to strictly adhere to and be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, and by the Bylaws of this Lodge? Answer: _____

Do you sincerely declare, upon your honor, that unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself as a candidate for the Degrees of Freemasonry? Answer: _____

Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Freemasonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere desire to be of greater service to your fellow man? Answer: _____

Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient established usages and customs of Freemasonry? Answer: _____

I Hereby Authorize the Masonic Lodge to which I have submitted this petition, its members, and the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, its officers and members, to contact any person or entity they deem appropriate to investigate my character, background, criminal and/or civil court history, and qualifications for membership in this Lodge and the release of any of my protected records. I consent to a Public Records Criminal History Check and understand that I will be responsible for a charge to perform such check. I further consent to their review of any and all information obtained as a result of this investigation, and I understand that any material found that is or may be associated with me that is deemed inappropriate by the Lodge as having possible adverse effects on the fraternity is justification for my immediate disqualification as a petitioner. In addition, I acknowledge that the information I have supplied on this petition is truthful, and that any deliberate misstatements, falsehoods, or omission may result in my petition being rejected;

Further, I Promise that I will not apply to any lodge, society, or institution that shall provide as a precedent that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing, such as the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Eastern Star, Shrine, etc. until I shall have passed the proficiency examination as a Master Mason;

And Further, I Certify that the information I have provided herein is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

X _____ DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20_____
SIGNATURE OF PETITIONER IN INK

PETITION SIGNERS

(Petition Signers Must be Members of The Lodge to Which This Petition is Submitted.)

We Recommend, pursuant to the Laws of Freemasonry, the above petitioner as a candidate for the degrees of Freemasonry, based upon our belief that he is of good moral character, temperate, industrious and capable of earning an honest living for himself and dependents, and we hereby certify to his physical, mental and moral fitness to the best of our knowledge.

X _____
Signature



_____ Print Name

X _____
Signature

_____ Print Name

THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A FREEMASON

You have already started the process of becoming a Mason by asking for a petition. Answering the enclosed questions completely and forwarding it to the Lodge Secretary with the requisite initiation fee in a sealed envelope is the next step. When your petition is received, the Master of the Lodge will appoint a committee to visit with you personally. After their visit with you, they will report to the Lodge and the members will vote on your petition. If the vote is affirmative by a *unanimous ballot*, the Lodge will contact you to set a date for your initiation – the Entered Apprentice degree.

A degree is a solemn and beautiful ceremony in the form of a theatrical play. You should dress accordingly, and avoid excessively casual clothes, shorts or flip-flops. Coat and tie is often the style of dress. Masonic ceremonies contain absolutely no hazing or horseplay. After you receive the first degree, you will be assigned a mentor who can help you become proficient in the material of that degree. When that is finished, you take the Second Degree. Upon attaining proficiency in all three degrees, you will become a full member of the Fraternity.

	LODGE NO. _____
	OF _____, NEBRASKA:
<p>Petition for the</p> <p>Degrees of Freemasonry</p>	
PETITION FOR INITIATION BY:	
Mr. _____	
Presented: _____, 20____	
INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE:	
Appointed: _____, 20____	

Report Due: _____, 20____	
REPORT OF COMMITTEE:	
We, the undersigned Committee on within petition, report _____ favorably.	

Date Elected: _____, 20____	
Date Rejected: _____, 20____	
MENTOR ASSIGNED:	
Name: _____	
DEGREE DATES:	
E.A. _____ Exam. _____	
F.C. _____ Exam. _____	
M.M. _____ Exam. _____	