



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



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 _____
Are you a Senior DeMolay? Yes No Specify

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

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

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 _____ to _____ _____
Year Year Address City and State
From _____ to _____ _____
Year Year Address City and State
From _____ to _____ _____
Year 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 Name of Spouse _____ If yes, do you live with your spouse? Yes No

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

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

Present Occupation or Trade _____ Employer Name _____

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

Length of Present Employment: _____ years or months.

PROVIDE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF YOUR LAST THREE EMPLOYERS:

From _____ to _____ _____
Year Year Employer City and State
From _____ to _____ _____
Year Year Employer City and State
From _____ to _____ _____
Year 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 _____]