



WISCONSIN FREEMASONRY

A Way of Life

Petition for the Mysteries 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, Masonry will not go, and discussion of religion in the 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, Masonry takes no position on political issues, and the discussion of politics in the Lodge is also strictly forbidden.

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 Mysteries 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, and we require that you complete a background examination. These questions and the background examination 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 interest just as if they were our own. This completed petition and background check, 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 glad you are interested in the Masonic Fraternity, and we look forward to the chance to know you as Brother.

The Executive Committee
Grand Lodge of Wisconsin

To the Master, Wardens & Members of:

Lodge No. OF

WISCONSIN

The Undersigned, unbiased by the solicitation of friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary or other improper motives, believing in God, the Supreme Being, and having long entertained a favorable opinion of the Ancient and Honorable Society of FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, freely and voluntarily offers himself as a candidate for the Mysteries 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.

PETITIONER'S INFORMATION

Full Name (print or type) First Middle Last

Place of Birth City State County Date of Birth Month / Day / Year Age

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

Home Address Mailing Address City Zip Code

Preferred Phone Home Cell Alternate Phone Home Cell

Preferred Email Home Work Alternate Email Home Work

Social Media: Facebook Screen Name Twitter @ Account Name None Other

Present Occupation or Trade Employer Name

Employer Address Mailing Address City Zip Code

Length of Present Employment years or months Employer telephone

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

List Your Hobbies:

How long have you lived in the State of Wisconsin? lifetime or years or months Previous state of residence

Have you previously petitioned THIS or ANY OTHER Lodge of Masons? yes no If Yes, list Lodge, location, date and all particulars:

REFERENCES

Each Petitioner is required to furnish the names of three persons as references OTHER THAN THE RECOMMENDERS.

Table with 3 columns: Name, Address, Telephone or Email

RECOMMENDER'S INFORMATION

We recommend, pursuant to the Laws of Masonry (WI Masonic Code Chapters 66 & 68), 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.

Signature Member of Lodge, No.

Print Name First Middle Surname Dues Card No. M. Found on the front of your dues card

I have know the petitioner years, months.

Signature Member of Lodge, No.

Print Name First Middle Surname Dues Card No. M. Found on the front of your dues card

I have know the petitioner years, months.

(AT LEAST 1 RECOMMENDER MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE LODGE TO WHICH THIS PETITION IS SUBMITTED.)

INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETE

PETITIONER'S INFORMATION

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

Are you married? [] Yes [] No Wife's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ Dependent children? [] Yes [] No
If yes, list names and ages of children: _____
Month Day

Have you ever been convicted of a crime or misdemeanor? [] Yes [] No Ever granted a diversion/deferred prosecution? [] Yes [] No
If the answer is YES to either question, fill out the following:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Charge, Result. Includes checkboxes for Felony, Misdemeanor, Convicted, Diversion/Deferred Prosecution and a note to use a separate sheet for additional information.

Have you ever been party to a lawsuit in Civil Court? [] Yes [] No If YES, list nature of the case _____

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

PROVIDE THE ADDRESSES OF PLACES YOU HAVE RESIDED FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS:

Form for providing addresses of places resided for the past 10 years, including fields for From Year, to Year, Address, and City and State, with a note to use a separate sheet for additional information.

PROVIDE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF YOUR EMPLOYERS THE PAST 10 YEARS:

Form for providing names and addresses of employers for the past 10 years, including fields for From Year, to Year, Address, and City and State, with a note to use a separate sheet for additional information.

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 to receive the degrees of Freemasonry a holy book will be open in the Lodge as you take the degrees. Which sacred book do you wish?

[] Holy Bible [] Holy Quran [] Tanakh [] Sri Guru Granth Sahib [] Dhammapada [] Zenda Avesta [] Holy Bhagavad Gita [] Other _____

PETITIONER'S AUTHORIZATION

I hereby Authorize the Masonic Lodge to which I have submitted this petition, its members, and the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, 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. 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;

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

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, completing your background investigation, and giving both to a Mason in a sealed envelope to be taken to the Lodge, 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 *unanimous ballot*, the Lodge will contact you to set a date for your initiation – the Entered Apprentice degree.

A degree is a ritual in the form of a play, a solemn and beautiful ceremony, and you should dress accordingly, avoiding excessively casual clothes, shorts or flip flops. Masonic rituals contain nothing whatever of 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 (Fellow Craft) and then the Third (Master Mason). Upon attaining the Third Degree, you will become a full member of the Fraternity.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

As a part of our membership process, the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin requires that you complete a background investigation before your petition may be accepted by the Lodge. Please read and sign the consent (below) and refer to the Background Investigation Supplement attached to this petition.

Consent to Background Investigation

By signing this consent form, I acknowledge that I will be subject to a comprehensive criminal background check and I authorize the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, its members, employees, agents and assigns, as well as the Lodge to which I submit this petition, its members, employees, agents and assigns to investigate my background. I understand that this investigation will be used to determine my suitability for membership in the Masonic fraternity, and in exchange for consideration of membership, I consent to this background investigation and agree to hold harmless the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, its members, employees, agents and assigns, as well as the Lodge to which I submit this petition, its members, employees, agents and assigns, from any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs, expenses, or any other action arising from searching for, retrieving, or reviewing any information obtained, and further that I hereby waive my right to bring any cause of action against the Lodge, its officers, members, the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, its officers or members, for defamation, invasion of privacy, or any other cause of action arising from their investigation and/or decision.

Wherefore, having read and fully understood the above, I hereby signify my agreement and consent with my signature,

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

THIS PETITION SUPERSEDES ALL PRIOR PETITIONS

GRAND LODGE EDICT REQUIRES USE OF THIS PETITION FOR ALL CANDIDATES AFTER JANUARY 20, 2014

RECOMMENDATION OF COMMITTEE

FEES FOR DEGREES

Petition\$ _____
E.A. \$ _____
F.C. \$ _____
M.M. \$ _____
George Washington Memorial .. \$ 5.00
Total\$ _____

The undersigned committee, to whom was referred the above petition, after due consideration, report the same back to the Lodge and recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be: granted / not granted.

(CIRCLE ONE)

Dated

MONTH _____ DAY _____ YEAR _____

NAME _____

DUES CARD No. M _____

NAME _____

DUES CARD No. M _____

NAME _____

DUES CARD No. M _____