

OFFICIAL OKLAHOMA

Petition for Degrees

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. Although it is not in any sense a religion nor a substitute for religion, we do require that men who join believe In God, in the immortality of the soul, and in the brotherhood of man. No atheist can become a Mason.

Although we require that a member believe in God, we never try to tell a man how he should conceive of God, what faith he should practice, or what worship he should follow. Those are questions of individual conscience, and the member must find those answers within his own faith and House of Worship.

Freemasonry distinguishes between patriotism and partisanship. While patriotism is encouraged as an essential virtue both within and without the Lodge, no partisan or political discussion is allowed within the Lodge.

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 monetary 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. He will find true friends and life-long companions.

We expect men who petition for the Degrees (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 and to make the lives of others better as best he can; is he willing to be open and honest with us and with himself?

We're glad that you are interested in the Masonic Fraternity, and we're willing to share it with you. Inside this Petition you will find several questions. They are not asked 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 petition, and the visit some Lodge Brothers will make with you will begin a process of sharing information which is vital to both you and we are to be comfortable in the relationship.

THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A FREEMASON

You have already taken the first step in becoming a Freemason by asking for a Petition for the Degrees. Filling out this petition and giving it to a Mason to be taken to the Lodge is the second step.

When the Lodge receives the Petition, the Worshipful Master will appoint a committee to visit with you and your family. They will report to the Lodge, and the Lodge will vote on the Petition. If the vote is affirmative, the Lodge will contact you to set a date for the first Degree--the Entered Apprentice. A Degree is a ritual in the form of a play. The Degrees are serious and beautiful. They contain nothing whatever of "horse play". After you receive the first degree, you will be assigned to a teacher, who can help you become proficient in the material in that Degree. When that is finished, you take the second Degree (Fellow Craft) and then the third (Master Mason). At that point, you are a full member of the Fraternity.



PETITION FOR DEGREES

TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER, WARDENS AND BRETHREN OF

_____ LODGE No. _____

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oklahoma

Because of my knowledge of the Masonic Fraternity and its purposes, as explained on the front of the Petition; because I believe that each man has a responsibility for personal development; and because I want to join with other men who believe in the same things and are willing to help and support each other, I am hereby Petitioning to be received into the Membership and Brotherhood of the Masonic Fraternity and this Lodge. If I am elected to Membership, I promise to follow the rules of the Fraternity. On my honor, the following information is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

1. FULL NAME _____ Age _____

PRINT Last First, Middle

2. SSN (optional) _____ Date of Birth _____

3. Born in (City) _____ State _____

4. Home Address _____

Street City State Zip

5. Mailing Address _____

Street City State Zip

6. Years at Present Address _____

7. If less than 3 years, give addresses for past 3 years

City State Zip

Dates From _____ to _____

Dates From _____ to _____

Dates From _____ to _____

8. Home Telephone (____) - _____ Cell Phone (____) - _____

9. E-mail (Personal) _____

10. E-mail (Business) _____

11. Name, Number & Location of any Lodge Previously Petitioned, noting whether you were accepted or rejected: _____

12. Present Employer _____ Bus. Tel. No. _____

13. Employer Address _____ Occupation _____
City State Zip

14. If less than 3 years at present employer, list previous employers past 3 years

Employer City State

Dates _____ to _____

Dates _____ to _____

Dates _____ to _____

15. Give names and locations of all Fraternal Societies, DeMolay Chapters and other organizations to which you now or previously belonged _____
16. List Hobbies or Special Interests _____
17. Highest level of Education _____ Field of Study _____
18. If Married, Wife's Name and Date of Birth _____
19. Names and Dates of Birth of Children _____

20. If not born in the United States, give Date of Naturalization _____
21. Have you, as an adult, been convicted of, pleaded guilty or nolo contendere (no contest) to, or received a deferred sentence for the commission of a felony or the equivalent thereof? _____
22. Has the problem been resolved? _____ If so, how? _____

QUALIFYING QUESTIONS

THE ANSWERS TO THESE ARE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT

23. Are you a male at least 18 years of age? _____
24. Do you firmly believe in the existence of the one true and living God, and in the immortality of the soul? _____ Please note that if you are elected, the Lodge will provide you with a Holy Bible containing the Old and New Testaments, which will be open on the Altar as you take the Degrees. If your faith honors a different Sacred Book, please bring a copy of the Book with you when you come to take the degrees.
25. Do you support any movement or organization whose purpose is to overthrow or change the government of the United States by violent or illegal means, rather than by use of the means of change written into the Constitution and laws of the United States? _____
26. Do you support and will you defend the Constitution of the United States? _____
27. Are you directly or indirectly engaged in the illegal manufacture or sale of amphetamines, barbiturates or other stimulant, depressant or hallucinatory drugs? _____
28. Are you directly or indirectly engaged in the illegal manufacture, transportation or sale of intoxicating liquor? _____
29. Do you know of any physical or moral reason which should prevent your becoming a Mason? _____

\$15 of the amount submitted with your Petition becomes a tax-deductible contribution to the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma. If you are not elected to receive the Degrees, the money will be returned to you.

Below is shown the fee schedule of the Lodge you are petitioning:

Signed _____ Date: _____

	Full Name
For the Degrees	\$ _____
Masonic Charity Foundation	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Payable

\$ _____	With Petition	Date Paid	_____
\$ _____	When Initiated	Date Paid	_____
\$ _____	When Passed	Date Paid	_____

REFERENCES, Preferably Masons
PRINT OR TYPE LEGIBLY
Names and addresses to be given by the petitioner

Name	Address	Telephone No.
Name	Address	Telephone No.
Name	Address	Telephone No.
Name	Address	Telephone No.
Name	Address	Telephone No.

Recommended by (2) two members of this Lodge:

We hereby certify that we are acquainted with Mr. _____ and do hereby recommend him as a worthy candidate for the Degrees of Freemasonry.

I have known Mr. _____ for _____ years _____
Signature of Member

I have known Mr. _____ for _____ years _____
Signature of Member

	Ballot Due _____
	For the Use of the Secretary
	Petition of
	Mr. _____
	For the Degrees of Masonry
	Lodge No. _____
	_____, Oklahoma
	Date Received _____, 20____
	Referred to a Committee consisting of:

	Committee reported _____ 20____
	Elected _____ 20____
	Rejected _____ 20____
	Degrees Conferred
	E.A. _____ 20____
	Examined _____ 20____
	F.C. _____ 20____
	Examined _____ 20____
	M.M. _____ 20____
	Examined _____ 20____