



PETITION FOR THE DEGREES OF FREEMASONRY

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of New Mexico

Dear Sir:

As you have expressed the desire to become a Freemason, we ask you to consider the following information which may affect your decision:

Freemasonry, or simply Masonry, is not a religion, but no atheist can be a Freemason. We have at our foundation a belief in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, and we strive to teach a man the duty he owes to God, to his neighbor, and to himself. Men of many faiths meet together as Masons in a spirit of mutual respect and tolerance. Although the Holy Bible is open during every New Mexico Lodge meeting, Lodges have the flexibility to add other Sacred Books which reflect the membership of the Lodge. Questions on this subject should be addressed to a knowledgeable member of the Lodge.

Masonry is not a political organization, but loyalty to one's country is considered an essential qualification for membership, along with cheerful obedience to lawful authority. Beyond that, religion and politics are not discussed in the Lodge.

Masonry is not a benefit society and does not offer insurance. Those who join our organization for personal financial gain will be disappointed.

Masonry has always required men to come to its doors of their own free will, prompted by a favorable opinion of the fraternity and its members. Those who come desiring to make their lives better will find much of value.

Eligibility requirements:

- Be at least 18 years old.
- Believe in a Supreme Being or Deity.
- Be able to speak, read and write the English language.
- Be of good moral character.
- Have legitimate means of support for yourself and family.
- Be a New Mexico resident for six consecutive months, immediately preceding the date of the petition. (*An exception may be available for active duty military residing in New Mexico.*)
- Be willing to submit to a thorough background investigation.
- Be recommended by two New Mexico Master Masons, one from this Lodge.

There are three degrees; Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. After each degree you will be assigned to meet regularly with a coach to learn a required proficiency lecture. A considerable amount of time is required during the degree and proficiency process. The goal is to assist you become a knowledgeable member of the fraternity.

Membership will entail certain financial obligations which you should be able to fulfill without detriment to yourself or family. In addition to a fee for the degrees and annual dues, you may from time to time be asked to support the charitable work of the Lodge. The fees and dues are set by each Lodge and are occasionally changed. The current fee for the degrees for this Lodge is \$ _____ and annual membership dues are \$ _____.

After you submit a completed petition with the fee for the degrees, a background check will be initiated. At the next business meeting, the Lodge will assign a committee to visit with you and your family, complete the investigation and make a recommendation to the Lodge. You will be notified of the result, and if accepted, the Entered Apprentice (initiatory) degree will be scheduled.

You may withdraw your petition before you are accepted. Should you withdraw or be rejected, the unexpended portion of your entrance fee is reimbursable.

_____ Please initial here to signify that you have read and understand the above points before proceeding to the next page. You should retain a copy of the completed petition for your records.

Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry, Continued

The petitioner is urged to consult with some Freemasons when filling out this form in order that he may have a full understanding of all the questions.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____:

The undersigned respectfully makes application for the Degrees of Freemasonry and submits the following information regarding himself as evidence of his qualifications for acceptance into the Fraternity. **(Please print or type)**

1. Full Name _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

2. Born at _____ on _____ Age _____
(City, State) (Date of Birth – MM/DD/YYYY)

3. Citizen of _____ Social Security No. _____ - _____ - _____
(Country) (The SSN will be struck after the background check is completed)

4. Home Address _____, _____, New Mexico, _____
(Number and Street) (City) (Zip Code)

5. Mailing Address _____, _____, New Mexico, _____
(If different than home address) (Number and Street / P.O. Box) (City) (Zip Code)

6. Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

7. Email Address _____

8. Residence(s) for the Past Five Years:

From _____ To _____
(Year) (Year) (Address, City, State)

From _____ To _____
(Year) (Year) (Address, City, State)

From _____ To _____
(Year) (Year) (Address, City, State)

From _____ To _____
(Year) (Year) (Address, City, State)

9. Present Occupation or Trade _____ Employer Name _____
 Employer Address _____, _____, _____, _____
(Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Employer(s) for the Past Five Years:

From _____ To _____
(Year) (Year) (Name) (City, State)

From _____ To _____
(Year) (Year) (Name) (City, State)

From _____ To _____
(Year) (Year) (Name) (City, State)

10. Full Name of Wife _____

11. Minor Dependents:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <small>(Name)</small> | <small>(Age)</small> | <small>(Name)</small> | <small>(Age)</small> |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <small>(Name)</small> | <small>(Age)</small> | <small>(Name)</small> | <small>(Age)</small> |

12. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or are you currently under indictment or preliminary hearing bind-over for a felony? (If yes, please provide details below.) _____

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <small>(Charge)</small> | <small>(City/State)</small> | <small>(Final Disposition)</small> |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <small>(Charge)</small> | <small>(City/State)</small> | <small>(Final Disposition)</small> |

Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry, Continued

- 13. Do you believe in a Supreme Being or Deity? _____
- 14. The degree ceremonies consist of three degrees followed by a proficiency lecture after each degree. Will you be able to spend time with a coach to learn each proficiency lecture? _____
- 15. Do you understand that if you are rejected, or if you withdraw your petition, only the unexpended portion of your fee for the degrees will be refunded? _____
- 16. Have you ever petitioned or been rejected by this or any other Lodge of Freemasonry? _____
If so, when and where? _____
- 17. Have you any limitations or infirmities that would prevent you from participating in light physical activities? _____
If so, describe briefly. _____
- 18. To what other fraternal organizations or societies do you belong? _____

- 19. What motive prompted this petition? _____

20. Provide at least three character references: (*Other than immediate family or the Masons recommending you for membership. You may attach additional letters of reference from family members and others as you desire.*)

| | | | |
|----|-----------|---------|----------------|
| 1) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| | (Name) | (Phone) | (Email) |
| | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| | (Address) | | (Relationship) |
| 2) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| | (Name) | (Phone) | (Email) |
| | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| | (Address) | | (Relationship) |
| 3) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| | (Name) | (Phone) | (Email) |
| | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| | (Address) | | (Relationship) |

21. With the understanding that all information obtained shall be treated as confidential, I consent to a full background investigation.

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| (Signature) | (Printed or Typed Name) | (Date) |

Recommended by one member of the Lodge and by one member of any New Mexico Lodge:
I certify that I have known the petitioner for _____ years, _____ months and deem him worthy of initiation.
Signature _____ Printed Name _____

I certify that I have known the petitioner for _____ years, _____ months and deem him worthy of initiation.
Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Received:
A fee of \$ _____ accompanies this petition. Balance due (*if any*) \$ _____
Secretary _____ Date _____

The Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry and reports thereon may only be modified by the Grand Lodge, Code 96.