



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

What is Freemasonry?

The Masonic Commitment to Character

Many years ago the famous Dr. Albert Schweitzer wrote these magnificent words:

"It is not enough merely to exist...Every man has to seek his own way to make his own true worth."

Those words capture the meaning of Freemasonry. As the world's oldest and largest fraternity, our goal is to build a man's most valuable possession - his character.

We believe that the strength of the family, the church, the community and our country rests with men of strong conviction, firm ethical and moral values and a devotion to our democratic system of government. As Masons, we help each other intensify our devotion to these enduring values.

The Founding of Freemasonry

The origins of Masonry reach back to Medieval times when the great cathedrals of Europe were built. The stonemasons who created awe-inspiring Gothic structures formed craft guilds to protect the secrets of their trade and to pass on their knowledge to worthy apprentices.

In 17th century England, these guilds began accepting honorary members, men of learning and position. These new members were not working stonemasons or even associated with the building trades. As "accepted Masons," they eventually grew into a separate organization called Freemasonry, a moral and ethical society that taught the importance of education in freeing mankind from prejudice, superstition and social injustice.

Masonry Today

Masons continue to use the simple tools of the ancient stonemasons - the square and the compass, the trowel, plumb and level - as symbols to teach their ideals. A Mason is oath-bound to build his life and character with the same care and precision that stonemasons used to construct the cathedrals and temples centuries ago.

Masonic Concern for Others

Freemasonry has an outstanding record for helping others. Along with scholarships to assist young people in furthering their education, Masons support many community-based charitable projects. The Wisconsin Masonic Home provides high-quality, dignified living for mature adults. The Masonic Medical Fund of Wisconsin helps to improve the quality of life for over half the state's population, by providing matching grants which equip hospitals, fire and rescue departments with needed equipment. The Masonic Service and Assistance Fund, helps to support the Wisconsin Masonic Home, and makes contributions to disaster relief funds in times of need. One of the most important lessons a man learns in Masonry, is the spirit of charity. Wisconsin Masons help to advance that spirit every day.

Application Information

The Wisconsin Masonic Foundation and Wisconsin Freemasonry welcomes your application for a Wisconsin Masonic Foundation High School Matching Grants Scholarship.

Eligibility:

1. The recipient must be a graduating student from a Wisconsin High School, display a commendable academic record and the potential to successfully continue achievement in a post secondary college or university. This includes a Junior college or technical college when the full credit load is acceptable to a degree granting institution. The attending college may be public or private and the course of study must lead toward a baccalaureate or associate degree.
2. The academic course of study selected should be the choice of the student and not a factor in the selection process. It is deemed that the arts, letters, sciences, education, agriculture, business and etc., are all an integral part of the American way of life.
3. The recipient will have demonstrated leadership ability and service as evidenced by school, community and church or synagogue involvement.

Distribution

The recipient must initiate schooling within 8 months of receiving the award (in name only) and will receive the actual funds as follows:

- a. One-half upon receipt of proof of matriculation to college.
- b. One-half at second semester upon same proof.
- c. If the recipient does not enroll for the second semester, half of the scholarship money should be returned to the Wisconsin Masonic Foundation to be shared equally with the lodge.

If the college attended is on a 3 quarter system, the monies would be distributed in three (3) equal installments in the manner cited above.

Recipient must submit a letter of thanks to the Masonic Lodge co-sponsoring the scholarship. Mailing address is listed on the back of this application.



APPLICATION FORM

(additional pages may be added if necessary)



Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone: _____

Guidance Counselor: _____

Name of Parent or Guardian _____

Name of college you are planning to attend: _____

Degree/Program Title: _____

1. List honors and awards received (such as National Honor Society, etc.):

2. List community activities or groups you have served, offices held, or other leadership positions you have held:

3. List other activities you have participated in (sports, music community projects, church groups etc):

4. What do you feel are your academic strengths and weaknesses?

5. What are your long-term goals, both educational and career related?

6. How many other scholarships have you received? _____

Required Signature:

To the best of my knowledge, I have provided the Wisconsin Masonic Foundation full information concerning all questions on the application. I understand that failure to provide true and complete information could mean withdrawal of scholarship monies.

Applicant signature _____ Date _____

Print name _____

<p>Have you included both of these?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> One letter of recommendation from a person such as a teacher, high school counselor, minister, priest, employer or neighbor.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The completed application form.</p> <p>Please submit these materials to your guidance counselor by:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>May 1st</u></p>	<p>This scholarship is co-sponsored by:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bloomer</u> Lodge # <u>281</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>2122 16th Ave</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(address)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bloomer</u>, WI <u>54724</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(city) (zip code)</p>
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