



Application for the Degrees of Freemasonry to
Ezekiel Bates Lodge A.F. & A.M.
 71 North Main Street Attleboro, Massachusetts 02703



The application of the subscriber, _____ respectfully shows that I entertain a favorable opinion of your ancient institution and desire to be admitted a member thereof, and that I believe in the existence of a Supreme Being.

Full Name (First): _____ (Middle) _____ (Last) _____

Street _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email (Required): _____

Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Street and number: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone number: e-mail _____

Date of birth: _____

Place of birth: _____

I acknowledge that I will obtain a Background Check Report and will allow the Investigating Committee of the Lodge to review the Report as a part of the investigation of my Application. The procedure of obtaining the Background Check will be provided to me as a part of the Application procedure.

(Signed) _____

(Date) _____

To be filled out by Sponsor:

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended by (please print): Brother _____

Member of: _____ Lodge

(Signed) _____ Date: _____

Before this application is accepted, the Statement of Beliefs must be signed and filed with the Secretary for permanent record with this petition for the degrees.

Statement of Beliefs



To be filed with the Ezekiel Bates Lodge Application Committee before the application is accepted.

To Applicant for Membership:

You may know very little about Freemasonry, so before a lodge accepts your signed membership petition, it must inform you of certain aspects of the institution that may affect your decision to seek membership in the Masonic fraternity.

1. Freemasonry has always required that a man should apply for membership entirely of his own free will and accord. You should not apply as a result of any curiosity about the fraternity, but because you have a favorable opinion of Freemasonry, a desire for knowledge and a sincere commitment to be of service to your fellowmen.
2. Freemasonry is a fellowship of friends and brothers who meet together for fraternal relations and association. This fellowship is founded upon a system of morality based on a belief in the existence of a Supreme Being; no atheist or agnostic can be made a Mason. Freemasonry teaches the Brotherhood of Man, the Immortality of the Soul and the duty every man has to his God, his house of worship, his country, his neighbor and himself. It interferes with neither religion nor politics, but endeavors to bring out man's highest and noblest qualities. The aim of a true Mason is to promote a brotherly feeling among men and to help the distressed and afflicted to the best of his ability.
3. The purpose of Freemasonry is moral and spiritual improvement, not the gaining of any material advantage. It should be clearly understood and remembered that a man should not seek membership in Freemasonry in the hope of material gain or advancement; admission must not be sought for mercenary or selfish motives. A man who joins for those reasons will be disappointed.
4. It cannot be emphasized too strongly that Freemasonry is not a benefit society. Membership will not confer upon any member the right to sick benefits, death benefits, burial expenses, education of your children or support of your dependents. Failure to understand this has sometimes caused families to hold false impressions of the benefits of membership that have led to disappointment, misunderstanding and embarrassment. The practice of charity is, however, a fundamental virtue taught in Freemasonry, limited in its practice by the means available to the individual member and Masonic organization.
5. Lodge members bear the responsibility for financially supporting the cost of lodge operations and functions. An applicant must, therefore, be in a position to meet his obligations for the degree fees and the annual dues without material handicap or detriment to his family or dependents.
6. Loyalty to one's country is an essential qualification in Freemasonry, and only those men who cheerfully conform to the laws of his country, state and community may join the fraternity. Disloyalty to the country and its laws, in any form, is inconsistent with Masonic teachings.
7. The aims of Freemasonry are noble and unselfish. The fraternity deserves and expects of each member a sincere interest and faithful service to Freemasonry of its members. Membership will make certain demands upon your time and energies. Attendance at Masonic meetings and contributing to Masonic operations and charitable initiatives should be considered a duty and a privilege.
8. Each member is required to obligate himself to secrecy in purely Masonic matters, such as ritual, means of recognition, names of candidates and the results of balloting on membership petitions. If after serious consideration of the foregoing you feel sincerely disposed to seek membership in the Masonic fraternity, sign this statement of personal beliefs, after which the senior officers of the Masonic lodge may accept your petition for membership and begin the process of bringing your petition to the full membership of the lodge.

I have read, understood and accept the foregoing.

(Signed) _____ (Date) _____

Applicant Information Questionnaire



To Applicant for the Degrees in Ezekiel Bates Lodge A.F. & A.M.

For the protection of the fraternity, it is necessary that careful inquiries be made concerning all applicants for admission.

To facilitate such inquiries, you are requested to fill out this form and return it to the lodge secretary.

1. My full name (first) _____ (Middle) _____ (Last) _____

2. I ___ have / ___ have not served in the US military (if so, indicate branch, grade and years of service):

3. I ___ have / ___ have not been convicted of a felony or other offense other than a minor traffic violation.

4. I ___ have / ___ have not ever before applied for initiation in this or any other Masonic jurisdiction?

(If so, state the name and location of lodge or lodges, and in what year.) _____

5. I ___ have / ___ have not ever appeared before an application committee in this or any other Masonic jurisdiction? (If so, state name and location of lodge or lodges, and in what year.) _____

6. I ___ have / ___ have not ever been refused an application for initiation in this or any other Masonic jurisdiction?

(If so, state name and location of lodge or lodges, and in what year.) _____

7. I have lived at the following address(es) over the past five years. (Give number of years and dates of residence at each location.) _____

8. I am ___ / am not ___ married. Name of spouse: _____ Birth Date _____

9. I have ___ children. Names and ages of children: _____

10. I am a member/officer of the following professional / civic / fraternal organizations: _____

11. I am ___ / am not ___ a member, of _____ house of worship.

12. I was educated at the following schools / colleges. (Give the degree, number of years, and dates at each institution.)

13. My business or professional experience is as follows. (Give names of employers, character of employment, and dates of service with each. If self-employed, give the nature of your profession, with locations and dates.)

14. My reason for desiring to become a Mason is: _____

15. I heard about Ezekiel Bates Lodge from: _____

16. I was ____/____ was not a member of DeMolay when I was younger

I refer the lodge to the following neighbors and school / business associates for further information. (If the applicant has been out of school for more than ten years, names of school associates may be deferred in favor of more contemporary references.) Please provide at least six references.

Name	Address	Telephone #	e-mail	Address
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1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

I agree to allow the Investigating Committee to review the Background Check Report.

(Signed) _____

(Date) _____