



Grand Master's Excellence Award Program

DISTRICT MEETING ATTENDANCE

An attendance award will be presented at Grand Lodge to those lodges that have their top five elected officers (Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary) present at your District Meeting plus six other members, or 16 total members. No make-ups will be accepted if made by officers and members other than those who were at your District Meeting.

GRAND MASTERS EXCELLENCY AWARD 20XX-20XX

The Grand Master's Excellency Award has very high achievement requirements and is the highest award a lodge can receive. Although the qualifications are set high, a lodge can choose those areas in which they currently excel and then look to the challenges that best suit the talents of their officers and members.

The award is designed to raise the overall proficiency of a lodge by encouraging it to broaden its horizons by focusing on specific challenges. The Grand Masters Excellency Award will be presented at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in October of 20XX to those lodges that meet twelve (10) of the requirements.

The time frame used by lodges seeking qualification is from September 1, 20XX through August 15, 20xx. All applications must be signed by the Worshipful Master and certified by the Lodge Secretary with his signature and the seal of the lodge. The applications will then be sent to the District Deputy and must be received by him no later than August 30, 20XX. Any presented after this date will not be eligible for review.

The District Deputy will review the applications and summarize the lodges meeting the necessary criteria for any of the award levels. This will be sent to the Deputy Grand Master for review by him no later than September 5, 20XX.

Requirements:

1. Grand Lodge Attendance: The Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens must have been present at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in October 20XX. The report must show the names of the officers attending. *** Note: If an officer is unable to attend due to extenuating circumstances, for example, sickness, death, or other valid reasons, and a proxy attends; the lodge may apply to the District Deputy Grand Master for relief. If he determines that the absence was due to justifiable reasons, the lodge will then be considered to have met the requirements for Grand Lodge attendance.
2. District Deputy Grand Masters Official Visit: All elected and appointed officers of the lodge (Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Marshal and Tiler) must be present at the District Deputy Grand Masters Official Visit.



If the District Deputy is an officer of the lodge, a member of the lodge will be substituted for him. No other substitutions will be allowed. The lodge will be opened in form on the Third Degree for the reception of the District Deputy Grand Master.

*** Note: If an officer is unable to attend due to extenuating circumstances, for example, sickness, death, or other valid reasons, the lodge may apply to the District Deputy Grand Master for relief. If he determines that the absence was due to justifiable reasons, the lodge will then be considered to have met the requirements for the District Deputy Grand Masters Official Visit.

3. Open Installation of the Lodge: All elected and appointed officers of the lodge (Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Marshal and Tiler) must be present at the Open Installation of the Lodge. No substitutions of officers will be allowed *** Note: If an officer is unable to attend due to extenuating circumstances, for example, sickness, death or other valid reasons, the lodge may apply to the District Deputy Grand Master for relief. If he determines that the absence was due to justifiable reasons, the lodge will then be considered to have met the requirements for the Open Installation of the Lodge.

4. Grand Lodge Membership Program: The lodge will successfully implement some aspect of the Grand Lodge Membership Program through effective encouragement and communication with its membership. The membership program will include the Friend-to-Friend video or other tapes that are made available.

5. Widows Communications: The lodge begins or continues an active communications program with the widows of lodge members including personal contact with them. Examples include, but are not limited to, sending holiday and birthday cards, giving holiday gifts, sending invitations to public functions of the lodge, and oversight to assure their financial health needs are met. The lodge will provide the Grand Lodge with a current list of widows including addresses and telephone numbers. The report must describe the activities and actual results obtained.

6. Candidate Education: The lodge successfully implements the Candidate Education Program for the newly elected candidates and their family. Each candidate must have a mentor assigned to work with him on the lectures and educational booklet. The report must be specific and include actual results.

7. Officers Proficiency: A minimum of eight (8) of the officers of the lodge consisting of the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward and Tiler receive a Certificate of Proficiency in their station or place. They must have been examined and be recommended for a Certificate of Proficiency from the Grand Lodge by June 30, 20XX.

8. Dinner Meetings: Have at least five dinner meetings consisting of: One or two fraternal dinners for Masons only. These may be in conjunction with a called or stated meeting and are to be solely for the purpose of promoting Masonic and fraternal fellowship, friendship, and brotherly love. Report the dates of the meetings, the topics presented at each, and number attending. One or two dinners for ladies and families that include a speaker or some type of entertainment for the family. Report the dates of the meetings and the topics presented at each. Father and Son and/or Daughter: Host a Father and Son and/or Daughter Night (grandchildren included) with a lodge meal and program.



The report must give the date, attendance, and program. Observing Past Masters Night, including a dinner and some type of special recognition for these brethren. Report the date and program. A lodge dinner for prospective candidates and their families, featuring a speaker on Freemasonry. The intention is to make prospective candidates and their families comfortable with Masonry and answer any questions they may have. The report must show the date, number of prospective candidates and their families, an outline of topics presented and number attending.

9. Grand Lodge Endowment Fund: The lodge contributes an amount equal to \$2.00 per member to the Grand Lodge Endowment Fund. Any lodge contributing \$8.00 or more per member will receive a suitable Certificate from the Kentucky Grand Lodge, even if they do not qualify for the Award of Excellence. This cannot be an assessment, but it may be from lodge funds, donations, or a fundraiser.

10. Educational Programs: The lodge offers at least three educational programs, each on a different stated meeting or special night. Examples include, but are not limited to: 1) A presentation on Masonic symbols such as the Beehive, Masonic Rods, or the Lost Word; 2) Show a Masonic video such as the “Freemasons” followed by a discussion; 3) An inspirational talk on Masonic charities or “What Masonry has Meant to Me; or 4) Hosting a College of Freemasonry Course such as “Colonial Freemasonry”. Fraternal functions with or without families can qualify here. The report for credit must show the dates of the meetings; the topics presented at each, and number attending.

11. Kentucky Masonic Homes: A lodge sponsored visit to either of the Kentucky Masonic Homes. The Master and at least five officers plus five other members must attend. The report for credit must show the dates of the meeting, where attending, and number attending by name.

12. Other Lodge Visitation: The Master and two of his principal officers (Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, or Secretary) plus four other members make a minimum of three visits, as a group, to lodges other than their own during the qualifying period. The report on the visits must show the dates, the lodges visited, and identify the officers and members who made the visits.

13. Cornerstones of Public Buildings: The lodge will secure an official invitation for the Grand Lodge to lay the cornerstone for a new church or other public building. The date of the ceremony may be after the qualification period as long as the Grand Master receives the invitation within the qualification period. The report must give the church or public building, the date of ceremony, and the date reported to the Grand Master.

14. Religious Services: Observe Saint John the Baptist Day (June 24) and Saint John the Evangelist Day (December 27) by having a lodge function or attending a religious service as a group on the Sunday closest to the respective day. The Master and at least eight other officers and members must be present at the religious service. The report must give the date of the event and program or the service attended (the church) and number attending.

15. The lodge to confer the First Section of the EA, FC, and MM Degree. The work is to be in their own lodge.

16. Scholarship Program: Implement a scholarship program with a local school. Host a lodge dinner for the recipients and their families, community leaders and teachers from the local schools. The report must show the names of scholarship recipients, date of the lodge function, and number attending.

KENTUCKY EXCELLENCE AWARD



17. The lodge host a community fund raiser or volunteer for a community project such as Hospice, Habitat, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Meals-On-Wheels, Gods Pantry.

18. The lodge successfully implements a mentoring program for the newly elected candidates and family. The mentor and the coach need to be different brothers. The report must be specific and include actual results.

19. All five elected officers of Lodge to attend the Masonic Educational Program.