

CONFIDENTIAL



Application for Scholarship
Year 12

Murray Bridge Combined Masonic Lodges Scheme
Supported by the Masonic Foundation Inc.



To be completed in ink, in the applicant's own handwriting.
In the first instance, applications must be lodged with:

Scholarship Coordinator –

Mr B Watts
PO Box 1069
Murray Bridge
SA 5253

No later than FRIDAY 18th October 2024



Introduction

Freemasonry is one of the oldest fraternal societies.

It is made up of men who are concerned with moral and spiritual values and who pursue a way of life that complements their religious, family and community affiliations. They seek a better way of life and treat all men as equal regardless of race, religion or social standing.

Freemasonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. It is a school of instruction and a system of moral and spiritual philosophy that strives to make good men better.

Freemasons share a common belief in a Supreme Being, but if anything, Freemasonry goes beyond religious boundaries, bringing together men of every country, sect and opinion in peace in opinion in peace and harmony.

Because religion and politics are issues that have divided men in the past, neither issue is discussed within the Lodge, but that does not mean that religion plays no part in Freemasonry. Masonic meetings open and close with a prayer, although no Mason is told how he should pray or what he should pray for. He must find the answers to these questions in his own faith, in his own church, synagogue or other place of worship.

Freemasons cover the broad spectrum of religious and political beliefs and are encouraged to be:

WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?

- religious without advocating a particular religion; and
- active in the community without advocating a political point of view

Every true Freemason:

- shows tolerance and respect for the opinions of others and behaves with kindness and understanding to his fellow creatures.
- practices charity and care for the community as well as his own family, through charitable giving and by voluntary work.; and
- strives for the truth, requiring high moral standards and aiming to achieve them in his own life.

Freemasons believe these three principles represent a way of achieving higher standards in life.

The Essential Qualification for Membership.

The essential qualification for admission and continuing membership of Freemasonry is a belief in a Supreme Being and a desire to strive for:

- high moral standards;
- kindness in the home;
- courtesy in society,
- honesty in business; and
- fairness in all dealings.

What do Freemasons do?

Freemasons are deeply involved in helping other people.



They hold Lodge meetings once a month to share each other's company and follow their pursuit of a better way of life.

From its earliest days, charity has been the most visible Masonic activity, with Freemasons concerned with the care of orphans, the sick and the aged. Large sums are given to national and local charities, with Masons around the world giving away millions of dollars to various charities each day. They are also actively involved in a great deal of community volunteer work. In South Australia, the charitable works of Freemasons are conducted through the Masonic Foundation.

Freemasons are also very significant supporters of medical research, through the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health.

Origin of Freemasonry

Freemasonry takes its origin the ancient association of operative stonemasons, primarily the Cathedral builders of Europe. Later, men of good standing who were not operative masons were accepted stonemasons' Guilds or Lodges as they learned of the moral teachings from the mason's working tools which formed part of the education of apprentices.

These tools and the principles of architecture are used in a symbolic way to teach basic moral truths and to impress on members the value of a wide range of virtues.

The criteria for the award of the Murray Bridge Masonic Scholarship are:

- ❖ Scholastic achievement
- ❖ Participation in activities which indicate good citizenship
- ❖ A demonstrated need for financial assistance to continue your studies.

The purpose of the application is to provide the selection panel with evidence that it can use to make a determination with respect to the criteria listed above. The selection panel will consist of the Worship Master (President) of each lodge and the Scholarship Co-ordinator.

A staff representative of the student's school may also attend should the applicant choose.

Please ensure that the following are attached to the completed application:

- (1) Your Year 12, Mid-year AND Term 3 Reports.
- (2) Two references, one of which must be from a teacher who knows your work.

Please ensure that you bring your supporting portfolio with you to the interview, which will be convened at - Freemason's Hall, Mulgundawah Road, Murray Bridge on Saturday 26th October at a time to be advised.

Applicants cannot be considered unless all the necessary information is provided.

Please be prepared to respond to the following questions at the interview,

1. a) Why did you apply for the scholarship?
b) Should you be successful, how would you use this grant?
2. a) What is your understanding of Community Service?
b) To what extent are you involved in Community Service?
3. What is your understanding of Freemasonry and its involvement in the Community?
4. What are your ambitions (tertiary and career aspirations) for the future?

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM IN INK OR BIRO

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Surname _____ Mr / Miss

Given Name(s) _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth / / Telephone _____

Place of Birth (Town, State, Country) _____

Father's Occupation _____

Name of Employer: _____

Mother's Occupation _____

Name of Employer _____

Family Structure: Number of brothers and/or sisters and their respective ages.

Brothers _____ Sisters _____

The Murray Bridge Freemasons Lodges

acknowledge with grateful thanks

the sponsorship of the

MURRAY VALLEY STANDARD

to promote the

2024

Murray Bridge Combined Masonic Lodges Scholarship Scheme