



**ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
THE UNITED GRAND CHAPTER OF AUSTRALIA**

Petition for Degrees

No. on UGCA Roll.....

Minute Book

Minute Book	Examined in Committee/.../.....	Page No.
Read In Chapter/.../.....	Page No.	Investigated/.../.....
Page No.	Initiated/.../.....	Page No.

TO: The Worthy Matron, Office-bearers and Members of Chapter No., on the Roll of The United Grand Chapter of Australia, Order of the Eastern Star,

I, (Full Name - Please Print) *Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms Birth Date: D: M: Y (Optional):

..... Surname Full First and Middle Names Usual First Name

Residing at Street and Suburb:

State: P/code: Phone: Email:

respectfully petition to become a member of your Chapter. If accepted, I pledge myself to a cheerful obedience to the Laws and Regulations of the Order and the Bye-laws of

..... Chapter No.,

Have you made previous application for Admission? YES / NO

If so, to what Chapter and when? Chapter No. /.../.....

Was petition accepted or rejected? ACCEPTED / REJECTED / NOT APPLICABLE

Do you believe in the existence of a Supreme Being?

Where did you hear about the Order of the Eastern Star? Eastern Star Open Meeting

Personal Contact, Website, Facebook, Other:

Petitioner Name Signature

PROPER QUALIFICATION OF PETITIONER VOUCHERED FOR BY

(Proposer must be a clear member of the Chapter; Seconder may be a clear member of another Chapter under the jurisdiction of The United Grand Chapter of Australia)

Proposer (Name) Signature

Seconder (Name)..... Signature

Seconder's Chapter (if not Chapter receiving Petition)..... No.....

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

Your Committee reportsfavourably on this Petition.

Name Signature

Name Signature

Name Signature

Initiation Fee \$ payable herewith; Annual Dues \$ payable before Initiation

Receipt Date / / Receipt No Receipt Date / / Receipt No

Annual Dues MUST be paid before Initiation. However, if Initiation occurs within 3 Months prior to Election Meeting, further Annual Dues are not payable until the Election Meeting of the following year.

*The Order of the Eastern Star is mainly founded on Christian principles,
and this should be pointed out to all applicants for admission*

*A copy of a History of the Order in Australia and a copy of the Mission Statement and Vision of the Order
are attached, to be retained by Petitioner.*

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR THE UNITED GRAND CHAPTER OF AUSTRALIA

STATEMENT OF PETITIONER'S QUALIFICATIONS to accompany PETITION FOR DEGREES

Following, for information, is a copy of law S.50 of the laws of The United Grand Chapter of Australia, setting out the Qualifications for Membership in the Order of the Eastern Star.

A Petition for Initiation shall not be accepted by a Chapter unless the Petitioner—

- (i) has attained the age of eighteen (18) years,
being male, is a Master Mason of good moral character who has received in a Lodge holden under a Grand Lodge recognised by the Grand Lodges of the States and Territories of Australia as being a part of regular Freemasonry having the authority to warrant Lodges (or similar bodies) to regularly confer the Craft degrees in Freemasonry (i.e. a Recognised Craft Masonic Authority), the following degrees:
1st Degree - Entered Apprentice;
2nd Degree - Fellow Craft; and
3rd Degree - Master Mason,
- (ii) being female is the Wife, Widow, Mother, Mother-in-law, Step-mother, Sister, Half Sister, Step-sister, Sister-in-law, Daughter, Legally adopted Daughter, Step-daughter, Daughter-in-law, Grand Mother, Granddaughter, Great Granddaughter, Niece, Great-niece, Aunt or Female Cousin of a Master Mason *or is a member of the*
 - * International Order of the Rainbow for Girls with proof of three consecutive years of membership or a majority certificate, or
 - * International Order of Jobs Daughters with Masonic relationship or with proof of three consecutive years of membership or a majority certificate, or
 - * if the female applicant does not have any of the above Masonic qualifications then she may be interviewed by a panel consisting of the Worthy Patron and two Past Worthy Matrons of the Chapter. Where there is no Worthy Patron or Past Worthy Patron then the MWGM / WGM / WDGM of the governing level of the Chapter may appoint a suitable Brother from another Chapter to assist with this interview.
A favourable report from this panel on the suitability of the applicant shall replace the Masonic qualifications on the Petition Form; and
- (iii) is prepared to hold the Holy Bible or other Holy Book and to kneel or stand at the Altar while taking the Obligation.
- (iv) Legal adoption of a son or daughter confers the necessary relationship in respect of relevant categories listed above.
- (v) It is not permissible for a person who is divorced to petition for initiation into the Order relying on her relationship to her ex-husband.
- (vi) A Chapter shall not receive a Petitioner for initiation unless such Petitioner is of good moral character.
- (vii) It is not in order for a person who is unable to repeat or affirm the Obligation to be initiated.

..... CHAPTER No.,

FULL NAME of PETITIONER

ADDRESS
..... P/Code.....

FEMALE PETITIONER

QUALIFICATIONS of
Relationship, eg Wife, Mother, Sister Full Name of Master Mason

A member of
Lodge No. Constitution

OR –Panel Report Requested on Date:

MALE PETITIONER – MASTER MASON

(Full Name of MASTER MASON)

A member of
Lodge No. Constitution

In accordance with UGCA Law S.56, the UGCA Initiate's Return Form must be submitted to the WG REGISTRAR (for the WG Secretary) within 7 days of Initiation, and must be accompanied by

- * the Petition for Initiation.
- * this Qualifications Sheet and Panel Report if relevant
- * the Return Form with cheque for the appropriate fee as indicated.

**ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
THE UNITED GRAND CHAPTER OF AUSTRALIA**

PANEL REPORT, in lieu of a Masonic Qualification, to accompany **PETITION FOR DEGREES**

..... CHAPTER No.,

FULL NAME of PETITIONER

ADDRESS

..... P/Code.....

Name and Rank of Panel Member

Chapter & Number

Appointed by:

1

2

3

PANEL REPORT:

Panel Met at Venue:

on Date: **at Time:**

Yes or No

The Petitioner answered all questions satisfactorily. _____

The Panel recommends that this Petition is presented to the Investigation
Committee _____

The following report includes the details to support the above recommendation

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Panel Names and Signatures:

_____ **Pages are attached.**

Name Signature

Name Signature

Name Signature

This Form must be attached to the Petition for Degrees and submitted to the WG Registrar (for the WG Secretary) along with the Return Form with cheque for the appropriate fee as indicated. Please attach further information if space for panel report is not sufficient.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR THE UNITED GRAND CHAPTER OF AUSTRALIA

Chapter Guidelines For Processing A Petition For Degrees For A Female Applicant Who Does Not Have A Masonic Qualification

1. The Proposer and Secunder assist the Petitioner to complete Pages one and two of the Petition Form and assist in forwarding to the Chapter Secretary with the relevant petition fee.
2. The Chapter Secretary will inform the Worthy Matron when a Petition with a request for a Panel Report is received.
3. The Worthy Matron will then appoint a Panel consisting of the Worthy Patron and two Past Worthy Matrons of the Chapter. Where there is no Worthy Patron or Past Worthy Patron then the Worthy Matron will request the assistance of MWGM / WGM / WDGM of the Governing Level of the Chapter to appoint a suitable Brother from another Chapter to assist on this Panel.
4. The Sister who was Worthy Matron most recently will chair the Panel and coordinate a suitable venue, date and time for the Interview.
5. The Panel will conduct the Interview, using the questions listed below.
6. After the Interview, the Panel will complete a written report on Page Three (3) of the Petition For Degrees Forms and indicate whether the recommendation of the Petitioner is suitable or not. Any information that does not fit on the Form can be included on attached page(s). Each Panel Member should ensure her/his name has been entered correctly on the Form and sign the form and any attached pages. The Panel Chair will submit this form to the Worthy Matron.
7. On receipt of the Panel Report (Page 3 of the Petition for Degrees Forms) the Worthy Matron will call an Investigation Committee Meeting.
8. At the Investigation Committee Meeting, the Worthy Matron will request the Secretary to read the Panel Report for the Petitioner.
9. The Worthy Matron will then continue to conduct the Investigation Meeting, with the Proposer and Secunder reporting as usual.
10. The Worthy Matron will invite the Petitioner into the meeting and, for the benefit of the committee, ask the same questions to ensure consistency.
11. The Worthy Matron will ask the Petitioner to retire and the Investigation Committee will complete its deliberations.

Questions and Discussion Topics for the Panel and the Investigation Committee

1. The Petitioner should be informed that this Order exists for the purpose of joining together in a common bond of union those who are of a good moral character, are loyal Australian Residents and have no criminal convictions against them. The Petitioner should then be asked if she can fulfil these requirements.
2. The Petitioner should be asked if she believes in the existence of a Supreme Being?
3. Discuss the reasons she has for joining our Order:
What prompted you to seek Membership in this Order? (What is there about this Order that you find more suitable to you than other organisations?)
4. Discuss the financial obligations of membership?
Do you know the amount of the joining fee and the Annual Dues?
Are you aware of the fund-raising activities of the Order and the associated financial obligations?
5. Discuss the difference between our Fraternal Organisation and that of Fraternal Benefit or Friendly Societies.
Do you understand that this is not a Benefit Society, like the Friendly Societies?
6. Discuss the attitude of the Candidate's family members towards her attending Meetings or taking part in the social functions or other work of the Order?
Are the members of your family supportive of the time and financial commitment you will be making in joining our Order?
Will some members of your family accompany you to some of our social functions?

The Petitioner should then be thanked for her interest in joining our Order and informed that in due time she will be advised, by letter, how the petition has been received by the Chapter.

INITIATES RETURN
UNITED GRAND CHAPTER OF AUSTRALIA
 Order of the Eastern Star

Return from Chapter: _____ No. _____ Held at: _____

This return must be signed by the Secretary of the Chapter and returned to the Worthy Grand Registrar (on behalf of the Worthy Grand Secretary) within seven (7) days of the Initiation of Candidates, together with the sum of \$7.00 for each Initiate.

Petition for Initiation and Qualification Details plus Panel Report (if relevant) must be attached.

RETURN FOR SISTERS													
	Dates												
UGCA Only	Exam'ed In Com'tee	Read in Chapter	Ballot	Admit	Surname	Given Names	Preferred Name	Miss Mrs Ms	Contact Address Phone No and Email	Relation	Name of Relation	Lodge Name and Constitution	Lodge No

RETURN FOR BROTHERS												
	Dates											
UGCA Only	Exam'ed In Com'tee	Read in Chapter	Ballot	Admit	Surname	Given Names	Preferred Name	Mr	Contact Address Phone No and Email	Lodge Name	Constitution	Lodge No

Secretary

Name _____ UG Roll _____

Treasurer

Name _____ UG Roll _____

Signed: _____

Cheque Enclosed: Number: _____ Amount: \$ _____