# 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 20th October 2023



## 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.

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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 <u>portfolio</u> with you to the interview, which will be convened at - Freemason's Hall, Mulgundawah Road, Murray Bridge on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 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 an Brothers	nd/or sisters and their respective ages. Sisters	

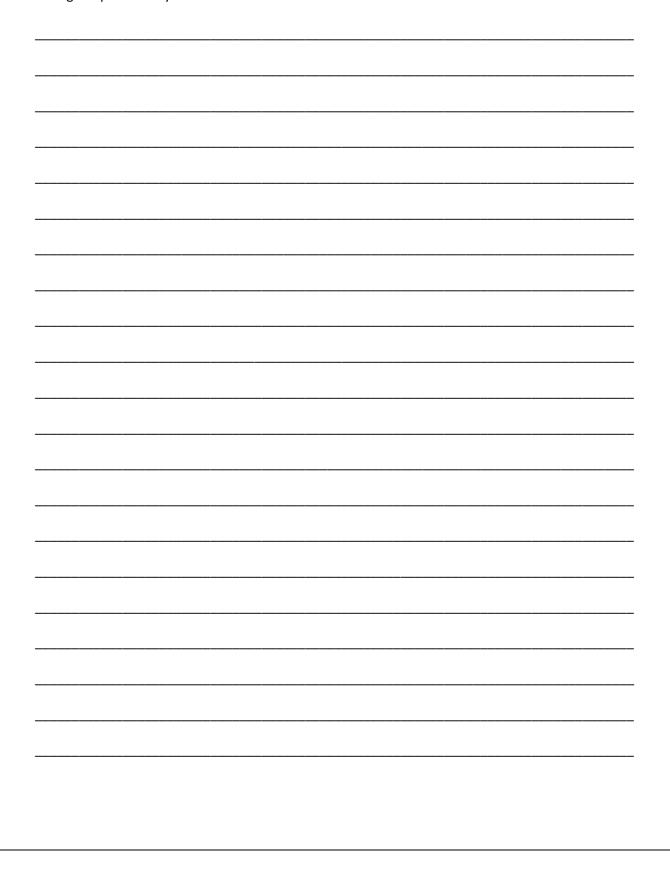
## 1) SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT:

Your school achievement is one of the sources of evidence for this section. This information is covered in your school reports; there is no need to repeat it here. However, you should describe any other evidence of your potential and achievements. eg. Achievements in the Australian Mathematics Competition, National Science Awards, Sport or awards of school prizes or certificates.

## 2) PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES WHICH INDICATE GOOD CITIZENSHIP:

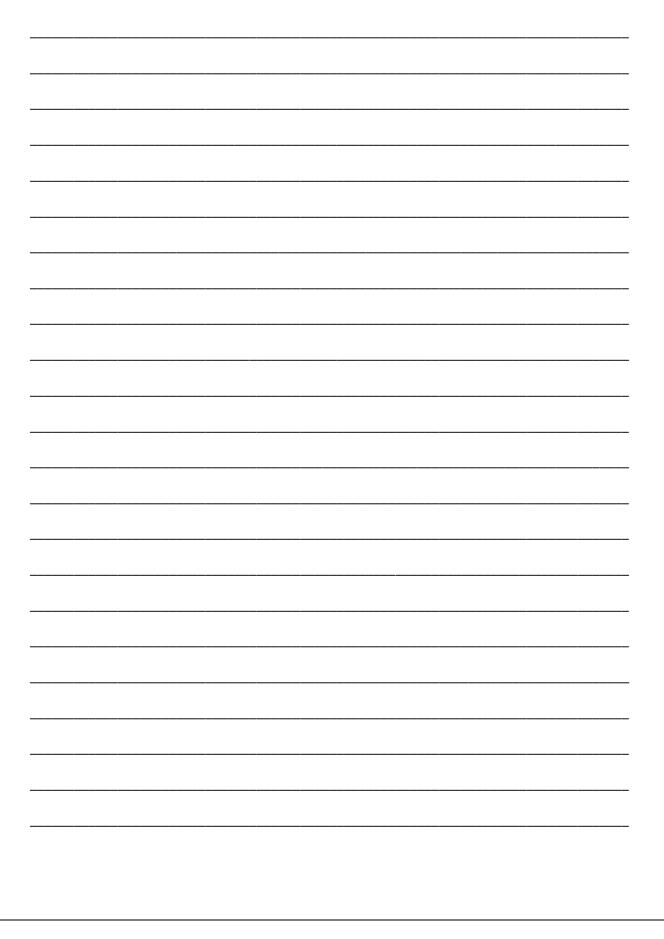
This is a very broad field. It includes service to the school or to the wider community, membership of organisations which provide character training, and leadership activities. Emphasising the following:

Involvement in the Community, Social, Cultural, Sporting or other interests. Provide evidence about all such activities in which you are currently engaged or have participated in during the past three years:



#### 3) YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS OF STUDENT ASSISSTANCE:

Outline the reasons why this scholarship will make a difference in the continuation of your studies, and any special studies you need to undertake to further your academic ambitions.



#### 4) YOUR ASPIRATIONS:

Detail your educational aspirations or occupational goals.

Detail how furthering your studies can help you achieve future ambitions.

5) IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE RELEVANT TO THE SELECTION CRITERIA, THAT YOU WOULD LIKE THE PANEL TO KNOW, WHEN CONSIDERING YOUR APPLICATION:

I acknowledge that my application for student assistance can only be assessed and granted under the benevolent guidelines of the Masonic Foundation Inc (General Fund) and the Murray Bridge Freemasons Lodges, in name: The Murray Bridge United Lodge and Mypolonga Lodge		
Signed (Student)		
Signed (Parent/Guardian) Date / /2023		
I further undertake to provide a brief report to the Masonic Foundation Inc. and the named Lodges above (providers of the support to myself and my family), at least once in		

the coming year, of my progress and how the provided support has benefited my

Address: PO Box 1069, Murray Bridge, SA 5253

educational outcomes.

The Murray Bridge Freemasons Lodges

acknowledge with grateful thanks

the sponsorship of the

## MURRAY VALLEY STANDARD

to promote the

# 2023

Murray Bridge Combined Masonic Lodges Scholarship Scheme