



The New Member Pathway

Revised 2016

In 2013, MW Bro Don Stutt envisioned the concept of the New Member Pathway as an abbreviated form of Mentorship Program. A “Quick Start Guide” that provided the core information for mentorship in an easy to understand and use format.

Under the stewardship of Bro. John Robinson as Chairman of an Ad Hoc Committee, the New Member Pathway was further developed as a framework of core requirements supplemented by several elective tasks for the New Member to select his own Pathway through his formative period in Freemasonry.

The general concept was to design a program which would be adopted by all Lodges in its core state and then adapted by each Lodge to suit the traditions, usages and customs which make each Lodge as unique as each individual Brother.

The Six Step Program already guides a Lodge through the stages of first contact through to the submission of the petition. The New Member Pathway continues the journey from Entered Apprentice to Fellowcraft, from Fellowcraft to Master Mason and beyond.

In the Canadian Work we are told that our Degrees “are not communicated indiscriminately, but are conferred on Candidates according to *Merit and Ability*”. We are also told that before being advanced, a Candidate must “give proof of his proficiency in the former Degree”. This program provides guidelines as to what constitutes that proficiency.

The New Member Pathway stands alongside, not in place of, any existing mentorship programs a Lodge may already be using. The minimum requirements for advancement in the program are as dictated by our rituals, rules and regulations. The additional elective tasks will further enhance a new Brother’s Masonic journey, by improving his knowledge of Freemasonry, widening his circle of Masonic connections, introducing him to different rituals, improving his memory-work and increasing his desire for more Masonic Light.

Prior to advancement, a New Member must complete all of the *Mandatory Requirements* for each stage and the stated number of *Additional Requirements*.

Under *Additional Requirements*, the Lodge can add other items to select from, which follow the traditions, usages and customs of the Lodge.

After The Six Steps To Initiation

"Do you seriously declare upon your honour, that unbiased by the improper solicitation of friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary or other unworthy motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself as a Candidate for the Mysteries and Privileges of Ancient Freemasonry?"

Mandatory Requirements

- 1. Pay the necessary fees
- 2. Answer the necessary questions
- 3. Review the "Seeker Material" from the Mentorship Program

Additional Requirements (Select at least 4 of 8)

- 1. Have breakfast / lunch / dinner with one Lodge member once a month
- 2. Read the "Dummies Guide to Freemasonry" or similar overview of Freemasonry.
- 3. Memorize a poem for recitation (Suggest Kipling's "If") at a Lodge social event
- 4. Select (or be assigned) a mentor as his guide along the **New Member Pathway**
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8. Any other criteria respecting the traditions, usages and customs of the Lodge

EA to FC

"... there are several degrees in Freemasonry with peculiar secrets restricted to each. These, however, are not communicated indiscriminately, but are conferred upon Candidates according to merit and ability"

Mandatory Requirements

- 1. Pay the necessary fees
- 2. Memorize and recite the answers to the EA questions "On Passing"
- 3. Memorize and recite the EA Obligation
- 4. Review the EA material from the Grand Lodge Manual of Instruction
- 5. Study an educational piece on EA Degree and review with his mentor
- 6. Provide comments on reading assignments and ask questions
- 7. Speak briefly at Festive Board on the experience of the EA Degree
- 8. Be provided with the User Name & PW for "Members Section" of GLBCY website

Additional Requirements (Select at least 5 of 10)

- 1. Have breakfast / lunch / dinner with one Lodge member once a month
- 2. Assist in setting up the Lodge prior to each meeting
- 3. Assist in clearing away after each Lodge meeting
- 4. Learn how to read the Trestle Board for visiting
- 5. Visit at least one Lodge in his District performing the same ritual as his Lodge
- 6. Visit another Lodge conferring the EA Degree in the same ritual
- 7. Assist the Stewards at the Festive Board
- 8. Attend a DDGM Official Visit to the District
- 9. Speak at the Festive Board (5 -10 mins) on his Masonic experience
- 10. Any other criteria respecting the traditions, usages and customs of the Lodge

FC to MM

“... it is first necessary that he should give proof of his proficiency in the former Degree.”

Mandatory Requirements

- 1. Pay the necessary fees
- 2. Memorize and recite the answers to the FC questions "On Raising"
- 3. Memorize and recite the FC Obligation
- 4. Review the FC material from the Grand Lodge Manual of Instruction
- 5. Study an educational piece on FC Degree and review with his mentor
- 6. Provide comments on reading assignments and ask questions
- 7. Speak briefly at Festive Board on the experience of the FC Degree.

Additional Requirements (Select at least 5 of 10)

- 1. Have breakfast / lunch / dinner with one Lodge member once a month
- 2. Assist in setting up the Lodge prior to each meeting
- 3. Assist in clearing away after each Lodge meeting
- 4. Visit at least one Lodge performing the same ritual as his Lodge in a different district (if practical).
- 5. Visit another Lodge conferring FC Degree in the same ritual
- 6. Assist Stewards at the Festive Board
- 7. Attend a DDGM visit to the District
- 8. Speak at the Festive Board (10 -15 mins) on his continuing Masonic experience
- 9. Prepare a paper for presentation in Lodge as Masonic Education on the Masonic topic of his choice.
- 10. Any other criteria respecting the traditions, usages and customs of the Lodge

MM and Beyond

"I greet you with a sure pledge of Brotherhood"

Mandatory Requirements

- 1. Memorize and recite the answers to the MM questions
- 2. Memorize and recite the MM Obligation
- 3. Take **Pledge of Adherence** and receive the Ritual Book for his Lodge "workings"
- 4. Review the MM material from the Grand Lodge Manual of Instruction
- 5. Study an educational piece on MM Degree and review with mentor
- 6. Provide comments on reading assignments and ask questions
- 7. Speak briefly at Festive Board on the experience of the MM Degree
- 8. Study the history of the Lodge

Additional Requirements (Select at least 8 of 12)

- 1. Have breakfast / lunch / dinner with one Lodge member once a month
- 2. Assist in setting up the Lodge prior to each meeting
- 3. Assist in clearing away after each Lodge meeting
- 4. Visit at least one Lodge performing the same ritual as his Lodge
- 5. Visit a Lodge performing the MM degree in the same ritual as his Lodge
- 6. Visit a Lodge conferring the EA Degree in a different ritual
- 7. Visit a Lodge conferring the FC Degree in a different ritual
- 8. Visit a Lodge conferring the MM Degree in a different ritual
- 9. Attend a DDGM Official Visit outside his District (if practical)
- 10. Speak in Lodge (15-20 mins) on his continuing Masonic experience
- 11. Attend a District or Regional Education Event
- 12. Any other criteria respecting the traditions, usages and customs of the Lodge