

Grand Master's Excellency Award for 2010-2011

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 and increase their visibility and activity within their community. The Grand Masters Excellency Award will be presented at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in October of 2011 to those lodges that meet nine of the eleven requirements from September 2010 through August 15, 2011.

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 must be received by the Grand Lodge Office by August 30, 2011. The requirements for this award are weighty.

1. Widows Initiative: (REQUIRED)

Your lodge must follow the Grand Master's Widows Initiative, or a variation that may work for your particular Lodge. The program is on the Grand Lodge website along with supporting forms for your use. The minutes of the Lodge must reflect all reports made on our Masonic Widows and to what extent their well being is.

2. Degree Work:

Your Lodge MUST perform all three degrees (ALL SECTIONS) with Elected and Appointed officers of said lodge during the year, even if they have to be MOCK initiations. A Keeper of the Work may assist in the performance of the degrees. A copy of your minutes stating the date and officers delivered the degree work.

3. Open Installation of the Lodge (REQUIRED)

All elected and appointed officers of the lodge must be present at their own Open Installation of the Lodge. ***Note: If an officer is unable to attend due to extenuating circumstances, the lodge may apply to the DDGM & Area Officer to be excused.

4. Community Service:

Your lodge must work with another lodge within your district in a Community Service Project.(Blood Drive, Drug Awareness, Scholarship Program) Sponsor or be involved together in a parade, or other community function that would serve your county or area. This must be documented.

5. Officers Proficiency: (REQUIRED)

All officers of the lodge consisting of the Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward and Tiler must have a Certificate of Proficiency issued by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. If they are not in possession of one, they must have been examined and be recommended for a Certificate of Proficiency from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky by June 30, 2011.

6. Bluegrass Ritualist: (REQUIRED)

Each Lodge must have at least two members who have attained the honor of a Kentucky Bluegrass Ritualist within their Lodge.

7. Constitution Research Quiz: (REQUIRED)

The quiz must be taken by The Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden. Then reported to the Leadership Committee by July 30, 2011.

This may be obtained thru the Grand Lodge Website, or thru the leadership committee.

8. Other Lodge Visitations:

The Master and two of his principal officers (Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, or Secretary) plus 3 members must make a minimum of six 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. This is to be done with three visits within your District and three visits outside your District.

9. DDGM Official Visit:

All elected and appointed officers of the lodge must be present at the DDGM official visit. IF the District Deputy is a 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.

10. Masons Helping Masons Fund:

The lodge contributes an amount equal to or greater tha \$2.00 per member to the Masons Helping Masons Fund. Amy lodge contributing \$2.00 or more per member will receive recognition by the Grand Lodge. This cannot be an assessment, but it may be from lodge funds, passing the hat, donations or a fund raiser. *(To be used for future relief of lodges that may have been hit by disaster, and not enough insurance, or to just help etc...)*

11. Visit a Masonic Youth Group

The Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden plus four other members make a visit, as a group to a Chapter, Assembly and or Bethel meeting during the qualifying period or have a representative of one of the Youth Groups come to their lodge and speak on behalf of their organization at a dinner. (Show time and date of function).