# PETITION FOR DEGREES

Date: _____

To the Worthy Matron, Officers, and Members of _____ Chapter No. ____, (city, state, province, country) _____, Order of the Eastern Star. The undersigned respectfully petitions to receive the degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star and become a member of this Chapter. If accepted I pledge myself to a cheerful obedience of the laws of the Order. I have lived within the Jurisdiction of this Chapter (length of time) _____. I believe in a Supreme Being. I have not petitioned any other Chapter or been rejected within the past two months.

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1. Masonic relationship to a Master Mason: _____ of _____ (name), who is a Member of _____(Lodge, city, state, etc.).
2. Member of _____Lodge No. ___ of (city, state, etc.)_____
3. Rainbow or Job's Daughter: _____ (Jurisdiction Name)
   Majority Certificate or Proof of three (3) years membership attached: ____Yes ____No
4. Woman sponsored by a Sister and a Brother who are members of the Order:
   Name and Chapter of Sponsoring Sister: _____
   Name and Chapter of Sponsoring Brother: _____
   Letters of Recommendation signed by Sponsoring Members attached: ____Yes ____No

Name of Petitioner (print) _____Signature_____

Residence/Mailing Address _____

_____

Telephone _____E-mail _____

Date of Birth _____ Petition Fee of $_____ must accompany this petition.

| Recommended by: | Referred to the following investigating committee |
|---|---|
| 1._____ | 1._____ |
| 2._____ | 2._____ |
| _____ | 3._____ |

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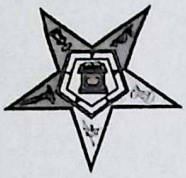
The undersigned, your committee appointed to investigate and report upon the foregoing petition, respectfully state that they have discharged the trust confided to them, and report ____ favorably.

Date _____ 1._____

2._____ 3._____

Presented on _____ Elected on _____ Initiated on _____



PETITIONER QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you believe in a Supreme Being? Yes_____ No_____

Do you consider yourself to be of good moral character? Yes _____ No _____

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes _____ No _____

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor? Yes_____ No_____

If yes, when? _____, for? _____

Punishment? _____

Do you believe in the rule of law? Yes _____ No _____

You will submit and pay for a background check. Yes_____ No_____

Will you obey the laws and regulations of the Order of the Eastern Star? Yes _____
No _____

Why do you want to join the Eastern Star? _____

_____

How did you hear about the Order of the Eastern Star? _____

_____

Give a brief description of yourself and other activities or organizations you belong to. Use the back if necessary.

_____

_____

Signed _____Date _____

REVISION: 3092026

# GRAND CHAPTER OF TENNESSEE
# ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

## PETITION GUIDELINES 2026
### EFFECTIVE – JULY 22, 2026

Jurisprudence Committee Grand Chapter of Tennessee
Laurel Harrison, PGM Chairperson
Shelia Allison, PGM Vice-Chairperson
Beverly Rogers, PGM Secretary - Treasurer

**Master Masons**

- "Men who are Master Masons in good standing of a regular Lodge of the Masonic Fraternity."*
- Petition for membership is completed by applicant and signed by two OES members. Appropriate fees and dues are paid.
- Worthy Matron assigns an Investigating Committee who confirms that the Master Mason petitioner is in good standing and then meets with him. The Petition Questionnaire may be used as guide during this meeting.
- The Investigating Committee reports to the Chapter if petition is favorable or unfavorable and chapter votes on the petition.

**Female Applicants**

- Per General Grand Chapter, there are three categories of female candidates.
  1. "Women who are relatives of past or present Master Masons in good standing of a regular Lodge of the Masonic Fraternity. The necessary relationship is by birth, marriage or adoption."* The Brother on the Investigating Committee will research the Masonic relationship.
  2. "Women who are majority members of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls or Job's Daughters or have been active for three (3) years, who have reached the age of 18."* It is the responsibility of the Investigating Committee to affirm this membership.
  3. "Women who are at least 18 years of age who are sponsored by two members, One Sister and one Brother."* Two letters of recommendation are to accompany the petition. The two members who make this recommendation cannot sign the petition or be on the Investigating Committee.

- Petition for membership is completed by applicant and signed by two OES members. Appropriate fees and dues are paid.
- Worthy Matron assigns an Investigating Committee.
- Petitioner completes information for a background check via the Grand Chapter's webpage. Inform the applicant that she will need to have her ID and a credit card for payment. Then she will access the link to Bchex: OESTN.com> More> Important Links> Background Check. Note: If needed, a chapter member can assist the petitioner with this process.
- Background checks normally are completed within a few days and will be emailed to the applicant. The petitioner will bring the background check when she meets with the Investigating Committee who will review it. The only people to review the background check is the investigating committee. The background check is not to be discussed with anyone. The background check is kept by the applicant only and is not a part of the chapter's records. The Chapter does not keep a copy of the background check. The Investigating Committee may use the Petition Questionnaire as a guide during the discussion with the petitioner.
- The Investigating Committee reports to the Chapter that petition is favorable or unfavorable and chapter votes on the petition.

*Wording is taken from General Grand Chapter's website under "Who Can Join".

Jurisprudence Committee Grand Chapter of Tennessee
Laurel Harrison, PGM Chairperson
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July 2026