

FREEMASONS

South Australia & The Northern Territory



Benevolence 2024

The Plan

Understanding the pathway for Freemasonry Charity and Benevolence from 2024

How to Guide

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The Brands

AFAM Incorporated

Grand Lodge was incorporated as AFAM Incorporated many years ago. As part of that process, we retained the Almoners Fund as a sub-committee of the Board of Management. This is to assist Freemasons internally.



Freemasons Foundation & Freemasons Charity Management

The Freemasons Foundation is one of the Freemasons oldest benevolence entities combined with the new Freemasons Charity Management and its suite of Deductible Gift Recipients (DGR) entities allows for scholarships, education grants, History and Literary Grants and health promotion activities.



Masonic Charities Trust

Newly created after the sale of Masonic Homes which is a registered Charity as a Public Ancillary Fund (PAF). This Charity donates to registered DGRs every year a percentage of its total corpus.



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Key Changes

Under the one roof

All benevolence has been centralised under one roof using Masonic Services. This allows for the best coordination of resources and ensures no double, or in some cases triple handling takes place.

The creation of a new Advisory committee called the **“Freemasons Charitable Distributions Committee” (FCDC)** has allowed for all applications to be reviewed using a simplified templated tool with all the organisation's objectives taken into consideration.

Previously Charities would approach the organisations acting as silos for approval and consideration of funds and in some cases either doubling up or not aligning with the general wishes of the membership.

Under the new approach the Funds are held under specific criteria with budgets that the lodges are able to support and put forward to the FCDC and Masonic Services for compliance check and review. They will then produce recommendations to the Boards for approval and final sign-off if successful.



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Charitable arms of Freemasonry



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The Process

All Applications to follow the same process

To ensure that benevolence areas are aligned to the membership and the funds the new process from 2024 is as follows:

- Considerable funds are available for benevolent distribution to worthy charities, organisations or individuals.
- The current process has been simplified to four steps.
- Paper based applications forms are no longer accepted.
- There are currently 4 funds accepting applications:
 - The Health Promotion Fund;
 - The History & Literary Trust;
 - The Freemasons Foundation; and
 - The Freemasons Foundation Scholarship Trust (individuals only).





The Process

Step 1

A Lodge is approached by – or may approach a charity, organisation or individual seeking assistance.

- Lodge members can nominate worthy groups within their communities or in any area of SA & NT.
- The lodge does not need to be located in the same area as a charity, organisation or individual to offer support, just in SA & NT.

Click here to find Lodge Locations or type the following link in –

<https://santfreemasons.org.au/lodge-finder/>

Click here to see who we're supporting this year or type the following

link in – <https://santfreemasons.org.au/lodge-finder/>

Scan the QR code below to see which Lodges have supported what organisations and for what purpose, and what Lodges could be approached for support!



LODGE	ORGANISATION	PURPOSE
Lodge St. John	Strathalbyn Bowling Club	Equipment
Lodge St. John	Ashbourne CFS	Lockers
Lodge St. John	Eastern Fleurieu R-12 School	Year 11 student going on to Year 12
Lodge St. John	Eastern Fleurieu R-12 School	Year 11 student going on to Year 12
Lodge St. John	Tallem Bend Primary School	Year 11 student going on to Year 12
Lodge St. John	Tallem Bend Primary School	Year 11 student going on to Year 12





The Process

Step 2.

Discuss the request at the Lodge Executive Meeting.

- **Should the Lodge wish to support a cause:**
 - Fill out the Lodge Letter of Support Form. [Download Here](#)
 - One form for each charity, organisation or individual.
 - Include full details of the request & the amount sought.
 - Have the Master, Secretary or the Treasurer sign the Lodge Letter of Support (minimum of 2 to sign).
 - Continue to Step 3.
- **Should the Lodge not wish to support a cause:**
 - Notify the organisation via email or phone of this noting that there is no requirement to provide a reason.
 - No further action required from the Lodge.

Step 3.

- **Forward the completed Lodge Letter of Support Form to the charity, organisation, or individual:**
 - Ask them to add the details and complete the application online at: <https://santfreemasons.org.au/applications-for-benevolence/>





The Process

Step 3. continued

- Should they encounter difficulties adding an application online advise them to contact admin@masonicservices.com.au or [1300 357 999](tel:1300357999). The team will offer all assistance from here on.
- The onus is on the charity, organisation or individual to lodge an application online, **not the Lodges**.
- Noting ANYONE can add an application online, as long as they have a signed Lodge Letter of Support. A lodge member may choose to add an application for an organisation, however forwarding to the organisation is recommended as they will know all the details required.
- Once a completed application is received:
 - Admin staff will verify the application is complete or seek additional information if required.
 - The FCDC (Freemasons Charitable Distribution Committee) meet in May and November to discuss applications.
 - The FCDC recommendations are forwarded to the Freemasons Foundation and Freemasons Charity Management Board for final approval.





The Process

Examples

- Below are some examples:
 - Lodge Support example - [Download Here](#)
 - Application example - [Download Here](#)

Step 4.

- **Outcome and Decisions**
 - Once a decision has been made by the boards, the charity, organisation or individual along with the supporting Lodge are notified of the outcome.
 - Lodges needing assistance with the process or any additional questions are encouraged to contact us via email at admin@masonicservices.com.au or call 1300 357 999.
 - There are two intakes each year as follows:
 - Applications to be in for round 1
 - 1st November to 20th April each year.
 - Applications to be in for round 2
 - 1st May to October 20th each year.



Lodge Support Example



Letter Of Support

Att: Administration/General Manager

Freemasons Charitable Distribution Committee care of Masonic Services.
254 North Terrace, Adelaide 5000 SA - 1300 357 999

Dated:22.09.23

Dear Principal, Sample School, Woodleeton

Re: Letter of support from Letter of support from Sample Lodge No.642

On behalf of the lodge, please accept this letter of support to your organisation with your application for Freemasons Scholarship Prize for School Dux 2023.

Lodge to complete* - Why has the lodge chosen to offer support for the organisation?
Provide a paragraph description and include the best lodge contact for this supporting letter.

Sample Lodge has been supporting the School Scholarship Prizes for over 10 years as we consider it to be a worthy cause to assist students to continue to further their tertiary education in their chosen field. The Sample Lodge and Freemasonry in general receives a substantial amount of recognition within the community when the award is presented, usually by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge at the end of year liturgy or assembly. The best Lodge contact will be the Secretary Peter Pan On 0411 999 888.

Lodge to complete* - What was the motion as recorded in the minutes?

Motion: At the Regular Meeting dated 12th September 2023 . The Sample Lodge No,642 supports the proposed recommendation that we continue to support **Sample School Woodleeton** with a \$300.00 Dux Scholarship Prize. Moved - W. Bro. x. Smith, seconded W. Bro. Z Jones, carried.

Lodge to complete* - Additional information or comments from the lodge.

The Sample Lodge appreciates the cooperation and generosity of the Freemasons Foundation for funding this \$300.00 scholarship prize ongoing.

The above application has been raised and approved as a motion through open lodge where every member has been afforded the right to speak for and or against the application and support provided to the organisation and past in accordance with the lodges bylaws.
Must be signed by a minimum of two of the officers below.

Dated:	Master/Secretary/Treasurer Name:	Signed by Master/Secretary/Treasurer Name:
23.09.23	Peter Steven Pan - Secretary	<i>P S Pan</i>
23.09.23	John Paul Old - Treasurer	<i>John Paul Old</i>

Application Examples

For examples of the various Application Letters
click on the below links or QR Code



[History & Literary Example Download Here](#)



[Foundation Example Download Here](#)



[Scholarship Example Download Here](#)



[Health Example Download Here](#)





Frequently Asked Questions

Can a lodge support more than 1 organisation?

Yes – this is encouraged.

Can a lodge support outside their area?

Yes, so long as the organisation operates in SA/NT and the project will be within SA/NT.

Can an organisation have multiple lodges supporting them?

Yes, this spreads it around the lodges. Furthermore, if an organisation has multiple projects in multiple regions the support can be split over multiple lodges.

Do lodges have to support every organisation that requests funding?

No – it is up to the lodge however if the lodge is not supporting an organisation, it wouldn't be in keeping with the model of Benevolence, which is to support successful projects and help the community achieve their goals. Therefore, it is suggested that you give consideration to requests.





Frequently Asked Questions

Can a lodge go out to organisations and offer support?

Yes, we encourage lodges to do this providing they meet the criteria as outlined in this brochure.

Does a lodge have to reply to all requests?

Yes – If your lodge has already been approached and the lodge is supporting other organisations then it would be beneficial for that lodge to help suggest another lodge that is not currently supporting anyone.

Can a lodge offer support with 2 year or 3 year fundings?

No, we no longer support multiyear funding. It is a once off donation to the organisation for their project.

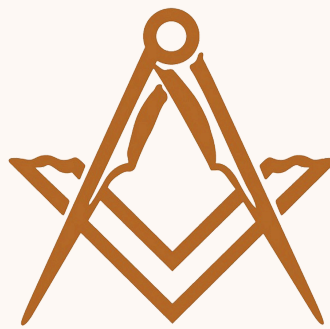
Can a lodge offer support for vehicles i.e. buses, cars, vans etc?

No, we no longer do these types of donations due to the fact of upkeep on vehicles and protection of the Square & Compass logo.

Where can lodges direct an organisation if they need another lodge to support them?

The website has the lodge locator link for them to click (also available on page 6 of this document).





Frequently Asked Questions

Do all organisations have to have a lodge letter of support to apply?

Yes, without the lodge letter of support the application will not progress. Lodge letters of support must be included in the initial online application and cannot be provided retrospectively.

Can an interstate lodge complete a lodge letter of support for an organisation based in SA & NT?

No, only SA & NT lodges can support organisations who provide services within SA & NT.

Can an organisation who is based in another state request support from a lodge?

Yes, some head offices are based interstate but still provide services in SA & NT. However, the project to be funded must be in SA & NT.

Where can lodges go to get help with this information?

Anytime you can contact our Benevolence team on 1300 357 999 press 1. Or via email at admin@masonicservices.com.au



Contact Us

If in any doubt just contact us ...

- Email admin@masonicservices.com.au
- Call 1300 357 999





FREEMASONS

South Australia & The Northern Territory



Benevolence & Charity

Under The One Roof



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