

# Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin



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Grand Master 2020 - 2021  
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October 19, 2020

Dear Brothers,

Enclosed you will find an updated version of the Lodge Excellence Award for 2020 which is backdated to be effective as of January 1, 2020. It replaces the earlier version LEA 2020. The LEA COVID-2020 version is a modified version of LEA 2020 because of the changes in lodge activity during the COVID pandemic. It is filed as LEA COVID-2020.

Use this version for submission. It focuses mainly on lodge goals for setting up and operating Wellness Committees. A lodge that is strong in contacting members on a regular basis will score high this year.

Assuming that resumption of somewhat normal activities will happen during 2021, this version is only to be used for January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Please take time to review the cover page which explains how to use

Fraternally,

Kenneth Gorgen  
Grand Master of Masons in Wisconsin



## Wisconsin Free and Accepted Masons Lodge Excellence Award

**We will be the preeminent fraternity of choice for men of quality and vision who seek personal knowledge, moral growth and leadership development; ultimately improving the individual Mason, his community and the world**

The LEA was established in 1977 as the Grand Master's Achievement Award to aid lodges in planning a vibrant and successful slate of activities. In order to ensure continued success and the viability of Freemasonry in Wisconsin, the Grand Lodge implemented a strategic planning process. In years which lodges are able to engage in a vibrant trestleboard, this program would assist a lodge as a planning tool and align with the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin Strategic Plan.

As 2020 has progressed, it became obvious that this year becoming anything but "normal". The lodges that have stepped up to the challenge to operate during this time of pandemic should be commended for their efforts. The ability to be engaged and spread the cement of brotherly love, despite the burdens our lodges, communities, nation and citizens have had to endure during this pandemic, exemplifies our craft. The Grand Master seeks to continue to utilize this program to recognize and reward the lodges that go above and beyond to assist its members, widows and community during this time of COVID-19.

**The 2020 COVID LEA has been focused to reflect the current directives and edicts of the calendar year from the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.** The categories involved include the following: Service to our Membership, Service to Widows and Communities, Business Administration, and Lodge Special Endeavors.

As Worshipful Master, please use this to reflect on your year. Document the qualifying activities from January 1 to December 31 and submit this application to your District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) for review.

Recognition Rating Criteria: A rating system has been established which recognizes lodges that perform at various levels. In order to qualify for the LEA, **the four requirements within the BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION section are required.** If those requirements are fulfilled, the lodge ratings will be awarded on the following basis: **Gold: 11-14 boxes checked, Silver 7-10, Bronze 4-6.**

In order to share best practices throughout the State for growing the fraternity and enriching the membership experience, lodges are strongly encouraged to provide additional detail on events and activities with this application. Your DDGM may ask for clarification if this information is not provided.

**Application Deadline: February 15**

**Submission Details: email or mail the LEA form to your District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM)**



## Wisconsin Free and Accepted Masons Lodge Excellence Award

Lodge Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

### 1) Service to our Membership

- Established a Wellness Committee: a charge from our Grand Master was to form a team of brothers whose sole purpose was to monitor the wellness of our brothers through this time of uncertainty.
- Called or met with each member of the lodge to check in with them: the paramount part of this task is the act of calling someone over the phone and establishing personal contact. The world was inundated with digital communication over emails and texts during this time, but did your lodge stand out in its service to its membership by calling to connect individually?
- Called or met with membership twice this year?
- Called or met with membership more than twice?  
Maintained a virtual meeting or recurrent online "touch base" during our break from in-person gatherings.

### 2) Service to our Widows and Communities

*Utilize this section to document activities such as continued scholarships, service and assistance of a brother or his immediate family or other Lodge activity acts of kindness to your community.*

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## Wisconsin Free and Accepted Masons Lodge Excellence Award

### 3) Business and Administration

*Administrative documents that are still required by every lodge and were due before our meetings were halted; these 4 are required for consideration of the LEA Award*

- Recapitulation & per-capita tax (due to Grand Lodge by Feb 15)
- Annual lodge budget published (due to DDGM by Feb 15)
- Annual financial report (due to Grand Lodge by Feb 15)
- Sarbanes-Oxley form signed by all current officers

### 4) Extra Credit: Endeavors in 2020 for consideration by DDGM

- Convert members from default or suspended status
- Develop an Annual Membership Plan
- Lodge has exhibited proficiency in opening/closing in the Entered Apprentice degree

List any (up to 3) special outreach activities or unique community activities that your lodge members have taken on or organized in lieu of Stated Meetings.

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I certify that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Worshipful Master: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) Date \_\_\_\_\_