



LEVEL 3: UNIT RESOURCES

Attract > Interview Prospective Members > *Screening and Interview Process*
Information Required for Screening (support material)

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR SCREENING

The information in the first column below can be gathered from the prospective candidate over time and during detailed but informal discussion. Screening is not a formal interview, nor is it a tick box exercise. If issues arise that give any cause for concern, discuss them in confidence with the Lodge Membership Officer.

Information sought	Reason why it is sought
<i>Motives for joining.</i>	To ensure their motives are compatible with Freemasonry's values.
<i>Expectations of membership.</i>	To ensure their expectations are realistic, and that the Craft and the Lodge can meet them.
<i>Whether they are a "free man", of mature age.</i>	They must be a mature male, able to make their own decision to become a Freemason. <i>(Minimum of 18 years old, and finished secondary education.)</i>
<i>Whether their application is voluntary.</i>	They must come willingly, without having been coerced. They must have good motives and not seek personal advantage from membership of the Craft.
<i>Whether they believe in the Supreme Being.</i>	A core requirement of membership is to believe in the Supreme Being. If there is any doubt on the definition of Supreme Being, sponsors should seek formal guidance via their Lodge Secretary.
<i>Whether they are law-abiding and accepts, acknowledges and respects the legitimacy of the head of state.</i>	Members are expected to be law-abiding peaceful citizens who live by a code of values and the law of the land, are respectful of the head of state and who acknowledge the legitimacy of the civil authority of the country in which they reside or are visiting.
<i>Willingness to take a serious promise, swearing on a Holy Book.</i>	Candidates take an obligation on the VSL that confirms that they will not reveal to others the traditional modes of recognition of a Freemason.
<i>Prior application for any Lodge membership.</i>	To bring to light whether they have applied to join any other Lodge, whether or not they have been turned down by another Lodge, and the reasons why.
<i>Membership of other organisations.</i>	To identify membership of any organisation incompatible with the Craft. To identify special interests that may be relevant to the particular Lodge.
<i>Willingness to conform to the Rules and Customs of the Craft.</i>	Members are expected to abide by our Rules and Customs.
<i>Requirements or characteristics specific to the particular Lodge.</i>	To determine whether the applicant meets any special requirements or characteristics defined by the Lodge. For example, affiliations with other organisations such as schools, youth organisation, university, armed services.
<i>Potential conflicts with other duties, affiliations and commitments.</i>	To identify whether being a Freemason might conflict with their other duties, affiliations and commitments.
<i>Availability.</i>	To ensure they can attend Lodge and other meetings regularly.
<i>Appreciation of the normal journey via degrees & offices to the chair.</i>	To ensure they are aware of the normal journey through Freemasonry, including Exaltation into the Royal Arch, and what might be asked of them as a member.
<i>Whether they can afford the costs of membership, in time and money.</i>	To ensure they are fully aware of the commitment involved and are able and willing, and free, to make that commitment.
<i>Attitude of their family towards Freemasonry and their membership.</i>	To ensure that their family are supportive of their membership.