

Masonry is the world's first and largest fraternal organization, and is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to help make the world a better place. Through our culture of philanthropy, we make a profound difference for our brothers, our families, our communities, and our future.

There are more than 60,000 Masons in California. Our members represent the entire spectrum of diversity. We welcome men of all faiths, nationalities and cultures.

## **Mission**

The mission of Freemasonry in California is brotherhood, community involvement, and self-improvement through education, family values, moral standards, and charity. We invest in children, our neighborhoods, and our future. Our mission is guided by the enduring and relevant tenets of our fraternity: brotherly love, relief, and truth.

## **Membership**

California Masonic membership is open to men age 18 or older who meet the qualifications and standards of character and intention, and who believe in a Supreme Being. One of Masonry's customs is not to solicit members; men must seek membership on their own through a Mason they know or a local lodge.

For more information, visit [FREEMASON.ORG/DISCOVERMASONRY/APPLYING.HTM](https://freemason.org/discovermasonry/applying.htm).

## **What Do Masons Do?**

The Masons of California are committed to personal growth and making a profound difference in the lives of others. For members: We are committed to engaging and retaining members and their families through an enhanced, sustaining, and relevant membership experience. Fellowship, family, and lifelong learning are important to us. Leadership development and Masonic education are offered in a variety of formats to assist members in their continuous pursuit of knowledge, helping them excel both inside and outside the fraternity. For California public education: Masons have been at the forefront of American public education for more than a century. Today, we continue to be leaders in statewide support of public schools through targeted, relevant initiatives that reach the most vulnerable children and families in our state. For those in need: Relief is one of our enduring and relevant values. We take responsibility for the well-being of our brothers, our families, and our communities. Our philanthropic causes are supported entirely by our members' generous contributions, and include the Masonic Homes (residential communities for seniors), Masonic Outreach Services (statewide outreach and critical services for seniors and families in need), and the Masonic Center for Youth and Families (innovative, integrated help for youth who struggle with behavioral or mental health issues). Learn more about California Masonry at [FREEMASON.ORG](https://freemason.org).

The Masonic Homes of California have been committed to fraternal care for more than a century. Established in 1898, the Homes provide housing and health care to Masons and their wives or widows at campuses in Union City and Covina. Masonic Senior Outreach provides ongoing care management and financial support to help older members stay healthy and safe in their homes or in retirement facilities in their home communities. Masonic Family Outreach offers services and programs to California Masons and their families who need help dealing with today's complex issues, such as the impact of divorce, the stresses of a special needs child, and other significant life challenges.

**Allied Organizations**

Freemasonry is made up of many organizations, each with a special social, educational, or philanthropic focus. After a man has been awarded the three degrees of Masonry, he may join any of the other affiliated organizations. The best known in the United States are the Shrine, Scottish Rite, and York Rite. There are allied Masonic organizations for women and others that admit both men and women. Eastern Star is the largest coed fraternal society in the world. Youth orders include DeMolay for young men and Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters for young women.

**Contact Information**

Phone 800/831-8170

Email: [COMMUNICATIONS@FREEMASON.ORG](mailto:COMMUNICATIONS@FREEMASON.ORG)

Media questions should be directed to Emily Limón, Director of Communications,  
[ELIMON@FREEMASON.ORG](mailto:ELIMON@FREEMASON.ORG).