

INSTRUCTION MANUAL: Suggested Use

The Instructor's Manual is to assist you in giving the best presentation and education to the candidates after they have completed their degrees.

It is not the only source you can use. You are an instructor because of your knowledge of Freemasonry and the degrees. Feel free to supplement with other Grand Lodge approved or historically used information. Impart your knowledge to these candidates. Make certain all their questions are answered and if you have any questions reach out to the Lodges of Instruction Committee.

It is important for the reader and user of this manual to keep in mind that this manual is intended as a guide and as a source book as well as other information on the LOI webpage. It consolidates a great deal of Masonic information along with suggestions thus saving the instructor much time in research and in preparation.

Please let the candidate take home a copy of the manual for a reference guide.

The manual is divided into three sections: The Entered Apprentice, The Fellow Craft, and The Master Mason. Each section is subdivided and begins with a Table of Contents. The first part of each section attempts to set the tone and to provide an overview. Instructors should concentrate on sections that they wish to stress and are most important.

It is encouraged that the District LOI hold a fourth meeting to answer additional questions, give more instruction/education and to make certain the new members are getting involved as their cable-tow allows. Make sure each candidate has a Lodge mentor.

Getting the Most out of LOI

Proper education for candidates and new Master Masons can only be done through the high caliber of instructional effort at our Lodges of Instruction and within the lodges. Make sure every candidate receives help in preparing, reviewing and in understanding his Masonic experience through a structured program they receive at LOI.

It is recommended that each Lodge appoint at least two Instructors to serve the District LOI. Please inform the District Deputy Grand Master or his appointed LOI Chairman or LOI Head Instructor. Also, having the candidates' mentor accompany him to each education session is ideal.

As for the timing of when to give the instruction to the candidates, that is up to each District. It has been the habit to have candidates come to the East get introduced and go to instruction for the first 30 – 45 minutes of LOI. There is some data that moving candidate instruction to BEFORE LOI begins, perhaps taking some of dinner time may be a more balanced approach. Candidates then receive instruction but also are involved with the Officer training or Education portion of the LOI meeting.

The LOI Committee encourages you to check back often to the LOI website to see if more materials have been added. We shall do our best in emailing reminders. If there is material, you believe should be reviewed and perhaps be part of the LOI website for all Districts to use please contact us.

EVALUATE, EXPERIMENT AND FEEDBACK

As Masonic educators, we need feedback gained during actual instruction if we are to improve our educational endeavors. LOI instruction should be dynamic and continually seeking to improve and get other brothers involved.

Perhaps a couple or more Districts will get together and form a Instruction Night for all candidates after they finish their First Degree. Maybe visual aids or a guest speaker is used for after the Master Mason degree. Be innovative, experiment and ask for assistance if you need advice or new materials.

This Instructor's Manual provides the basis upon which we can begin the process to light the path for our candidates and to provide the proper guidance to every man who seeks the wisdom and the strength of Freemasonry.

Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Lodges of Instruction Committee:

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