

YOUR GUIDE TO ELIGIBILITY

The RMBI provides care for Freemasons and their dependants. There are several different categories of eligibility and you must meet the criteria for one category to access the RMBI's services. In all cases final agreement for a place at one of our Homes will be subject to our being able to meet your assessed needs.

Following are the categories for eligibility:

1. Brother

A Brother is eligible to become a resident at an RMBI Home if:

- He is aged 65 years or over, and
- He has paid his subscriptions to a Lodge under the English Constitution for a period of at least 5 years.

2. Married couple

A married couple are eligible to become residents at an RMBI Home if:

- The younger is aged 65 years or over, and
- They have been married for at least 5 years while the Brother was a subscribing member, and
- The husband is a Freemason and has paid his subscriptions to a Lodge under the English Constitution for a period of at least 5 years.

3. Widow

A widow is eligible to become a resident at an RMBI Home if:

- She is aged 65 years or over, and
- Her late husband was a Brother and paid his subscriptions to a Lodge under the English Constitution for a period of at least 5 years.

4. Female dependants other than a widow

The following female relations of a Freemason or deceased Freemason will be eligible to become a resident at an RMBI Home:

- Wife
- Unmarried daughter
- Unmarried sister
- Widowed mother
- Widowed mother-in-law

The above female relations will be eligible provided:

- She is aged 65 years or over, and
- Her husband, father, brother, son or son-in-law (as applicable) has paid his subscriptions to a Lodge under the English Constitution for a period of at least 5 years.

SPECIAL CASES

5. Any applicant in categories 1 - 4 above, who has limited means of paying the minimum acceptable fee for their care

Any applicant in categories 1 - 4 above who has limited means of paying the minimum acceptable fee for their care may be referred for consideration as a special case. Normally, applicants who are treated as a special case will be aged 80 years or over. The minimum acceptable fee will normally be the average local authority fee paid at the Home in question.

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6 – 9. Brother, married couple, widow or female dependant but do not fulfil the criteria in categories 1 – 4 above

If you are a Brother, married couple, widow or female dependant but do not fulfil the criteria in categories 1 – 4 above you may be considered as a special case and referred for admission to members of the Board of Trustees.

10. Male dependants

The following male relations of a Freemason or deceased Freemason will be considered for admission at an RMBI Home (in line with the 2009 Constitution):

- Father of a Freemason
- Son of a Freemason
- Father-in-law of a Freemason

Provided:

- He is aged 80 years or over, and
- His father, son or son-in-law (as applicable) has paid his subscriptions to a Lodge under the English Constitution for a period of at least 5 years.

11. Other female dependants

Applications will also be considered for admission from other female dependants, which may include but not necessarily be limited to:

- Married daughter of a Freemason
- Married sister of a Freemason
- Sister-in-law of a Freemason
- Grandmother/grandmother-in-law of a Freemason
- Long term female partner of a Freemason

12. Applicants who fall outside stated categories

In exceptional circumstances, in line with our Constitution, applications will also be considered from people who do not have a Masonic connection. All such applications need to be discussed with the Manager of the Home in question, who will advise on availability and the application process involved. Priority for places will always be given to an applicant who has a Masonic connection.

Notes and conditions

In reckoning length of membership the period, if any, during which a Freemason may have paid subscriptions to more than one Lodge concurrently, will be considered as only one subscription.

Lodge Secretaries, widows of Lodge Secretaries and male dependants of a Lodge Secretary who are exempted, according to the bye-laws of their Lodges, from the payment of subscriptions, may apply if qualified in other respects.

To enable members of the Trustees to consider applications from people in categories 5 – 12, as much information as possible should be gathered about the applicant. This should include:

- Details of the applicant's Masonic connection and that person's Masonic career as appropriate
- Details about which Home or Homes the applicant wishes to be considered for
- Financial details of the applicant
- Care needs of the applicant
- Age of the applicant
- Where possible information as to whether a Lodge or Province supports the application.

How to contact us

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