



**THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER  
OF THE  
GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS  
OF IDAHO**

**INVITES YOU TO  
JOIN HIM IN THE  
COUNCIL EXCELLENCE AWARD PROGRAM**

**2022**

# The Council Excellence Award

It is important that Idaho Cryptic Mason Councils and their members become more visible in their communities. The primary purpose of the Council Excellence Award Program is to encourage activity within our Councils and to increase the involvement of Cryptic Mason Councils in their communities.

There are a total of twenty-five (25) standards in this program. To qualify for the Council Excellence Award the individual Council must fulfill Twelve (12) standards. The qualifying period starts on 1 January and ends 31 Dec.

Councils earning the Council Excellence Award will be recognized and receive the award at the Annual Grand Assembly following the end of the qualifying period.

**"MASONRY WORKS THROUGH YOU"**

**"ATTITUDES ARE CONTAGIOUS"  
IS YOURS WORTH CATCHING?**

**"LIVE WHAT WE TEACH"**

**---BY---**

**"TEACHING WHAT WE LIVE"**

## Council Excellence Award Standards

1. The Council's Annual Return must be filed on time and the Grand Council Per Capita dues paid by the date required by the Idaho Grand Council Code of Laws.
2. Hold a Table Council.
3. Fill-out a Council Budget on forms provided by Grand Council and file with the Most Illustrious Grand Master on or before Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. The budget must be presented to the Council membership.
4. Conduct a financial review or audit of all Council financial accounts.
5. Complete a Council Activity Plan on forms provided by Grand Council and file with the Most Illustrious Grand Master on or before Feb 15<sup>th</sup>.
6. Conduct two (2) Education Programs during the year. At the Illustrious Master's discretion, these programs may be part of either a Stated or Called Assembly.
7. Hold a Ritual Workshop in one (1) of the two (2) Cryptic Mason degrees. A minimum of five (5) line officers must attend the workshop. NOTE: The workshop must include floor work and room setup.
8. The Council must distribute at least three (3) written communications (such as newsletters, trestle boards, etc.) to its entire membership reporting on Council activities and upcoming Council events.
9. Two (2) Council voting delegates must participate in the current year GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY. Voting delegates are: Illustrious Master, Deputy Master, and Principal Conductor of the Work or their proxies. BE PREPARED TO VERIFY AT GRAND COUNCIL.
10. Conduct a "Bring a Companion to Council Night." NOTE: He must be a companion who has not attended Council regularly in the past year.
11. At least two (2) Council members, including at least one (1) elected officer, must attend a Stated assembly of another Council.
12. As a Council, perform one community service, public service, or charitable activity.
13. Hold at least one fund-raising activity or event.
14. Invite and host a meeting for at least one other Council. NOTE: This is separate from Standard No. 10, but could include workshops, seminars, discussion groups, etc.
15. Hold a social event to which the Council members' ladies and deceased member' widows are invited with or without families. Such events could include an Evening at the Table with Ladies, Ladies Night, dinners, picnics, ice cream socials, dances, etc.

16. At least two (2) Council members, including at least one (1) elected officer, visit Job's Daughters, Rainbow Girls, or DeMolay meetings -OR- hold a meeting with them in which they may present a program about their activities -OR- the Council may entertain them. If no Masonic related youth groups, as herein mentioned, are available in the community, then other youth groups may be substituted, such as Boy/Girl Scouts, 4-H, FFA, scholastic clubs, sports clubs, etc.
17. Pass out 10 Masonic "Letter to a Friend" envelopes in the proper manner.
18. Initiate one new member.
19. As a Council, with at least two (2) members, including at least one (1) elected officer, attend a County Commission, City or Town Council meeting or a meeting of any other governmental organization such as School Board, Library Board, Planning Board, etc. Report proceedings at next stated assembly.
20. As a Council, with at least two (2) Cryptic Masons in addition to wives and children, if available, attend a church service of their choice.
21. Donate a minimum of \$3 per member to CMMRF.
22. As a Council, perform the opening & closing from memory. All books should be closed; however, a prompter may be used.
23. Conduct a Widow's Program in which the widows of Council members are contacted a minimum of twice each year by letter or phone. Widows should also be invited to at least one event hosted by the Council each year.
24. Conduct a 50-Year Member Program in which 50-year members are contacted a minimum of twice each year by letter or phone. 50-year members should also be invited to at least two events hosted by the Council each year.
25. At least two (2) Council members, including at least one (1) elected officer, visit a meeting of another adult Masonic organization. Visits could be to Stated meetings (if appropriate), installations, etc.

## **REMEMBER**

IF ONLY ONE COMPANION KNOWS  
WHAT IS HAPPENING...  
ONLY ONE PERSON WILL BE INVOLVED

**“COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS!”**