



Dear Confrere:

The Federal Association's Admissions Committee is grateful to you for sponsoring a candidate for admission to the Order of Malta. There are a number of considerations and responsibilities of sponsors that we would like to bring to your attention early in the process. We ask for your support and are grateful for your assistance.

As a sponsor, you should have a personal or professional relationship with the applicant and be able to affirm that the individual meets the three most important criteria for membership in the Order for membership:

- The applicant is a lay man or woman and is an active and practicing Catholic in good standing.
- The applicant has consistently supported the teachings of the Catholic Church on all matters of faith and morals.
- The applicant is ready and willing to become involved in the hands-on works and ministries that serve the sick and the poor and/or defend the Faith.

Please be certain that the applicant knows that he or she is applying to become a member of a religious and Hospitaller order. Membership in the Order will require a commitment to develop one's personal spirituality in a community of members who are dedicated to providing personal and hands-on service, whenever practicable, to the poor and sick.

Please be sure, early in the process, that the individual knows the full financial obligation of membership: passage fee, robes/capes, annual dues and annual fund contribution. Also, discuss the costs associated with participating on the pilgrimage to Lourdes, the Home Repair Program in New Orleans, and other activities of the Federal Association.

If possible, please forward this application to the applicant via e-mail. This way the individual can type in all of the responses on his/her computer. Once all the answer blocks are filled in the applicant can print out and send around for original signatures. Once all the signatures are in place, the application and all support materials should be mailed to the Federal Association office by December 15, 2012.

Again, thank you for your assistance and support of the admissions process. You will find the application enclosed with this letter.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Kennedy, Jr., K.M.
Chairman, Admissions Committee

Enclosure



ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

- The applicant is a lay man or woman (at least 25 years old) who is an active and practicing Catholic in good standing.
- The applicant has and does support the teachings of the Catholic Church on all matters of faith and morals.
- The applicant has a record of service to the Catholic Church and to Catholic-related causes by lending professional expertise and “hands-on” volunteer service to the poor.
- The applicant has achieved a degree of distinction in his or her professional field (business, law, medicine, academics, military, Foreign Service, government, philanthropy/charitable activities, etc.). The applicant should be regarded as a leader in his or her field and in the community.

SPONSORSHIP

- Applicants must be sponsored by two members (Knights or Dames) of the Federal Association.
- The sponsor and applicant should discuss all the criteria for admission before requesting an application. In addition to the criteria listed above, this discussion should include the formation program, participation in the spiritual and service programs, and the various financial requirements involved with membership in the Order. To avoid possible embarrassment, the sponsor must know the applicant well enough to be sure that he or she satisfies all of these criteria.
- Both sponsors must submit a letter showing personal knowledge of the applicant's qualifications for membership in the Order of Malta. A similar letter of recommendation is also required from the applicant's pastor.
- If the applicant is accepted into formation for admission to the Order, both sponsors understand and acknowledge that they will actively mentor their candidate through the formation process and encourage him or her to participate actively in the spiritual activities and service projects of the Order. At least one sponsor should attend the Day of Formation with the candidate on April 4-5 (tent.), 2013 in Washington, DC.
- Every applicant must meet with the Regional Hospitaller (the coordinator of Order of Malta activities in that area) before submitting this application to the Admissions Committee. This meeting will allow the applicant to learn more about the volunteer projects and spiritual activities in that area.

FORMATION PROGRAM

- If an applicant is initially approved by the Admissions Committee, he or she will be required to participate in the Association's Year of Formation. Every candidate must attend the Day of Formation in April 2013. During the “Year of Formation” the candidate will be required to attend at least two of the Association's spiritual activities and participate as a volunteer at two of the Association's personal service projects.
- If the candidate successfully completes this program, he or she will be finally approved by the Formation Committee and Board of Directors in the spring of 2014, and will be invested into the Order in October of 2014.

FINANCIAL

- Prior to Investiture, every candidate will be required to pay an initiation fee, known as “Passage Fees”, of \$4,000. Of this amount, 2,500 Euro is sent to the Order in Rome to support international programs of the Order. For members under the age of 35, the Passage Fees are \$ 2,500.
- After the first year, all members pay Annual Dues of \$1,200 per year (2012).
- Members are requested and expected to contribute to the Order's Annual Fund.



Application for Membership – Candidate Class of 2014

After completing this fillable pdf application on computer, please print and mail, along with all attachments, to Federal Association office by December 15, 2012.

Full Name			
Home Address			
Telephone		Fax	
E-mail Address			
Date of Birth		Birthplace	
Marital Status			
Spouse's Full Name <i>(if applicable)</i>			
Names of Children <i>(if applicable)</i>			

Professional			
Occupation (Title/Position)			
Business (Company / Organization)			
Business Address			
Telephone <input type="checkbox"/>		Fax	
E-Mail Address			

Education	
Please list names of school(s), year(s) and degree(s) (school/year/degree)	

Parish / Diocese			
Please list the name of your parish and Pastor, and the name of your Diocese and Bishop			
Parish		Pastor	
Diocese		Bishop	

Pastor's Letter – The Pastor must submit an original letter of recommendation with this application. The letter should state that the applicant is a practicing Catholic in good standing, indicate how long he/she has been a member of the parish, and should give examples of the applicant's service to the parish.

Service to the Church

Please describe 2 recent examples of your service to the Church or to Catholic-related organizations. Please list dates and, if applicable, positions held. Do NOT cite examples of financial support.

1)

2)

Community Service to the Poor and Sick

Please describe 2 recent examples of other service to the community or involvement in volunteer service to the poor. Please list dates and, if applicable, positions held. Do NOT cite examples of financial support.

1)

2)

Public Statements and Public Life

Have you ever made public statements, either written or verbal, that could be interpreted as critical of or opposed to the teachings of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals; or have you been quoted or cited in the media as having taken such positions? If so, please explain how and when these statements were made and if you still maintain those positions.

Other Order

Are you a member of any other order of the Catholic Church? If so, please describe the level of your involvement with those order(s). Also, if you belong to another order of the church, can you state that the Order of Malta will be your "spiritual home"?

Sponsors

Both sponsors must submit an original (no fax or e-mail) letter of recommendation with this application. The sponsor's letter must state how the applicant is known to the sponsor, and for how long; and it must state that the sponsor has reviewed all of the requirements for admission with the applicant. The letter should show *personal knowledge and insight* about the individual and the sponsor must attest to the applicant's qualifications to become a member of the Order of Malta.

Sponsor # 1 (print):

Signature:

Date:

Sponsor # 2 (print):

Signature:

Date:

Regional Hospitaller

All applicants **MUST** meet with the Regional Hospitaller for their area. The purpose of the meeting is not to be "approved" by the Hospitaller, but rather to meet and review this application **before** it is submitted to the Admissions Committee.

Name of Regional Hospitaller

Date of Meeting

Signature (Hospitaller)

His Most Eminent Highness, the Prince and Grand Master
Fra' Matthew Festing

Your Most Eminent Highness,

I, _____, declare to profess the Roman Catholic faith. I have agreed to be proposed, and it is my heartfelt desire to become a member of the Order of Malta. I do so because I wish to increase my personal spirituality and better serve the poor and the sick. If I am approved as a member of the Order, I promise to conduct my life in conformity with all the teachings of the Catholic faith.

I understand the requirements for membership in the Order of Malta and will fulfill these obligations by participating in the life and work of the Order. I commit to the spirituality of the Order of Malta, to personally serve the sick and the poor, to embrace all the teachings of the Church, and to give witness to our Catholic faith.

I attest that all of the information contained herewith is truthful and accurate.

Respectfully,

Applicant's Signature

Date

Attachments –

Please attach the following to this application for admission:

- Baptismal Certificate – *must be signed by a Catholic priest, with seal affixed*
 - If applicant is a convert, please attach certification that RCIA process has been completed, and that the individual has been received into the Catholic faith.
- Marriage Certificate (if applicable) - *must be signed by a Catholic priest, with seal affixed*
 - If the applicant was married in a non-Catholic ceremony, applicant must submit a Certificate of Convalidation that is signed by a Catholic priest.
- Letter from Pastor – original
- Letters from both Sponsors – originals
- Copy of *Curriculum Vitae*

Please submit all of these materials together with this application.

All materials should be received in the Federal Association office by **December 15, 2012**.

Mail to –

Order of Malta - Federal Association, U.S.A.
1730 M Street, NW Suite 403
Washington, DC 20036
Attention: Admissions Committee