



Lodge Matching Grants

Lodges across the Jurisdiction support their communities in ways specific to local needs. Washington Masonic Services (WAMS) is offering matching grants to partner with Lodges, doubling their impact.

WAMS will match up to \$1,500 of Lodge funds given for qualified efforts within the community. Proposals are accepted throughout the year with requests awarded on a first come, first served basis. Awards will be made in two categories.

- Youth Education – Efforts supporting Pre-K through 12th grade education. Examples include:
 - School supplies for elementary school teachers
 - Back-to-school clothing or backpacks
- Community – Efforts meeting essential needs (food, clothing, shelter, etc.). Examples include:
 - Holiday meals for the local food bank
 - Teen employment training
 - Masons Helping Neighbors (ex. Brothers helping with projects like safety efforts, yard cleanup, home upkeep, etc.)

Eligibility

- Washington State Blue Lodges

Criteria

- Funds go to a designated entity in the community such as a school or nonprofit (as defined by the Internal Revenue Service).
- Funds stay within the state of Washington.
- Funds provide direct support and cannot be used toward general operating expenses.
- The Lodge must submit a fully completed Lodge Matching Request Form to WAMS prior to the Lodge making their gift to the designated entity in their community.
 - The Lodge Matching Request Form is available online at: <https://www.masonscare.org/lodge-match/> or by emailing info@masonscare.org
 - Lodge Matching Request Form must contain signatures from the Lodge's Worshipful Master and either the Secretary or Treasurer.

AWARDS PROCESS

- The Lodge submits a Lodge Matching Request Form and evidence of funds to WAMS.
 - The Lodge transmits evidence of (ie. copy of the check made out to the charity) their funds to WAMS including submission of a completed Lodge Matching Request Form signed by the Worshipful Master and either the Secretary or Treasurer.
- If opted for, upon receipt of funds, WAMS provides matching funds up to the awarded amount and creates one larger check. The Lodge can choose from two options for delivery to the recipient:
 - WAMS can send the check directly with a letter explaining the Lodge's gift, copying the Lodge.
 - The check can be sent to the Lodge to use for two purposes:
 - Formal presentation of the check to the Recipient
 - Purchase of items to gift to the Recipient



Step 1



Submit Lodge Matching Request Form to info@masonscare.org



Step 2



Approve Lodge Matching Request Form



Step 3



Send evidence of the funds or check Washington Masonic Services



Step 4



Funds are matched and, depending on Lodge preference, check sent either to Lodge or Recipient



Step 5



Dependent on Step 4:
Purchase of Items to Gift to Recipient
Check is presented to Recipient



Matching Funds are NOT Available to:

- Match gifts that have already been given to the designated entity.
- Reimburse a Lodge for the gift itself or expenses related to the gift.
- Programs outside the State of Washington.
- Individuals or families.
- Organizations NOT recognized as a designated entity, or 501 (c) (3) charity as defined under the Internal Revenue Code.
- Pay for or support debt.
- Organizations with a political agenda or motivation.
- Established WAMS programs such as scholarships or Bikes for Books.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Does in-kind support (ex. volunteering, supplies, etc.) from Lodges count for matching?

A: No. These grants match your Lodge's financial contribution to your community.

Q: Can a lodge submit multiple applications?

A: Yes. Absolutely.

Q: Can the funds be used for Masonic Youth Groups?

A: No. WAMS is proud of the \$3,000 a year we send each Youth Group for leadership opportunities, and the \$3,000 scholarship available annually for each Masonic Youth Group.

Q: Can the funds be used for scholarships?

A: No. WAMS already supports scholarships through our Youth Investment program.

Q: Can the funds be used for Bikes for Books?

A: No. Lodge Match is intended to help double Lodge's ability to impact their community through efforts to support education and other critical needs their neighbors are facing.

Q: If an application is not awarded in one granting cycle, will it be considered in the next granting cycle?

A: Qualifying applications not awarded in one cycle may be awarded in the next. Resubmit for each cycle you'd like your request to be considered.