

# Official Rules for Eureka Challenge

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1. Participating Lodges agree to be bound by these rules and hereby acknowledge that all decisions of the judges (members of the Lodge Education/Programs Committee or their designees) are final. These rules may be modified at any time and as necessary at the discretion of the Lodge Education/Programs Committee or the Grand Lodge of Illinois, A.F. & A.M.
2. The Eureka Challenge is a competitive proficiency test of Masonic knowledge open to all regularly constituted Lodges of Master Masons chartered by and in good standing with the Grand Lodge of Illinois, A.F. & A.M. The Eureka Challenge consists of matching 20 questions and answers randomly selected from a pool of topics on Freemasonry and related subjects.
3. A Lodge must conduct the 1st Round of the Eureka Challenge between Feb. 1 and March 31, inclusive, and return completed materials postmarked no later than March 31. District Champion Lodges participating in the 2nd Round of the Eureka Challenge must conduct it between May 1 and June 30, inclusive, and return completed materials postmarked no later than June 30. **NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED. MATERIALS HAND DELIVERED TO A MEMBER OF THE LODGE EDUCATION/PROGRAMS COMMITTEE WILL BE CONSIDERED POSTMARKED AS OF THAT DAY.**
4. Absolutely no reference materials of any kind may be used in the Lodge room during the competition (i.e., Standard Work or Floor Work manuals, encyclopedias, history books, Masonic trivia books, etc., nor may Bibles be referred to). **NOTE: unless otherwise indicated, all Biblical references pertain to the King James Version. No tape or electronic recordings may be made. Members may use their own writing instruments and paper, or the Lodge may provide these. A STAPLER WITH SUFFICIENT STAPLES WILL BE NEEDED TO AFFIX QUESTION AND ANSWER CARDS.**
5. Any member of a lodge, including plural and honorary members, are eligible to participate on behalf of that Lodge. Visitors may participate at the discretion of the Worshipful Master.
6. **THE 'SECURITY ENVELOPE' CONTAINING THE QUESTION AND ANSWER CARDS MAY NOT BE OPENED PRIOR TO STARTING. STARTING TIME BEGINS IMMEDIATELY UPON OPENING OF THE 'SECURITY ENVELOPE.' STARTING AND ENDING TIMES SHALL BE RECORDED TO THE NEAREST SECOND.**
7. Questions may be answered in any order once read aloud by the Quizmaster, and members may discuss questions and answers in any manner they wish. A Lodge may take as much time as needed to answer any question, up to a total of 20 minutes.
8. **ENDING TIME OCCURS IMMEDIATELY UPON THE STAPLING OF THE LAST PAIR OF CARDS TOGETHER OR 20 MINUTES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.** A round consists of a maximum time period of 20 minutes with no breaks. If a question is in the process of being read when time expires, the Lodge may complete its answer to that question only. If a Lodge finishes answering questions prior to the 20-minute time period, it should record its Ending Time to the nearest second on the Lodge Participation Form for use as a tiebreaker, if needed.

9. The Worshipful Master will appoint a Quizmaster (which may be himself) who will read the questions aloud. The Lodge Secretary (or an appointed substitute) is Official Timekeeper and custodian of all Eureka Challenge materials. He is responsible for completing the Lodge Participation Form at the time the Eureka Challenge is conducted and for submitting this with all the question and answer cards for scoring. The Quizmaster and Secretary will attest to the date, starting and ending times of the Eureka Challenge on the Participation Form and affix the lodge seal (if available).
10. The Lodge must be open for a Stated Meeting or a Special Meeting on any Degree, and must be tiled while the Eureka Challenge is being conducted. The same rules apply for tiling and access to the Lodge room as during balloting. The Tiler may tile from within.
11. A question is deemed to have been 'answered' when a single answer card is stapled to a question card. No other means of attaching answer and question cards is valid (i.e., paper clips, tape, etc.) and such will not be scored (i.e., zero points). If a Lodge wishes to change its answer, the cards should be separated by removing the staple, and another answer card stapled to the question card. Once the 20-minute time period expires, no answers may be changed.
12. Five points will be awarded for each correctly answered question. Zero points will be awarded for each incorrectly answered question, multiple answers stapled to a single question card, or unanswered questions. The maximum or perfect score is 100 points (5 x 20), or a 'hecatomb.' If an error is encountered (missing or extra card, etc.) a Lodge should note this on its Lodge Participation Form for consideration in scoring.
13. In the 1st Round, the top-scoring Lodge in each District will be designated District Champion and mailed materials for competing in the 2nd Round to determine five Area Champions, who will then advance to the State Championship (3rd Round) held at Grand Lodge in October. In the event of tie scores in the 1st or 2nd Round, the Lodge with the fastest time will prevail, followed by postmark closest to the date on which it conducted the Eureka Challenge. Duplicate awards may be made at the discretion of the judges.
14. All Lodges in Illinois will be mailed a set of materials for participating in the 1st Round of the Eureka Challenge by mid-January. To replace lost, unreceived or misplaced materials contact: Grand Lodge Programs Committee, ATTN: Eureka Challenge, P.O. Box B, Hinsdale, IL 60522 or send an email with the Lodge mailing address to: [EurekaChallenge@msn.com](mailto:EurekaChallenge@msn.com). A Lodge is limited to using one set of materials per round annually.
15. Completed 1st Round materials including the Lodge Participation Form must be postmarked no later than March 31 for a Lodge to be eligible to become District Champion and compete in the 2nd Round Area Championship playoff. Completed 2nd Round materials including the Lodge Participation Form must be postmarked no later than June 30 for a Lodge to be eligible to become State Champion and compete in the 3rd Round State Championship. Lodges submitting entries postmarked after these dates will be deemed ineligible for that round of competition.