

# Representative DeMolay

Cost: \$30.00

#### **About the Representative DeMolay Award**

The Representative DeMolay is the highest self-achievement award Active and Senior DeMolays can earn. It's a self-assessment program where you progress toward goals you set for yourself. You complete a detailed survey of your interests, achievements, general knowledge, and habits.

The Representative DeMolay Award is a revealing study of the type of person you are. It focuses on self-expression, hobbies, physical activities, religious activities, DeMolay activities, citizenship, and civics. A DeMolay must have a minimum of six months membership by the time he files his Representative DeMolay Application Form. He must also have earned his Obligation Card.

The Representative DeMolay Award was commissioned by DeMolay Founder Frank S. Land to encourage all members of DeMolay to evaluate and develop a well-rounded life that is characterized by the practice of the virtues and values of the Order. Dad Land's goal was for every DeMolay to be a Representative DeMolay, not merely by holding the honor, but by living in such a way as to make the Order proud to call you its own. And, because of your own effort and time, you can be proud to wear the title and insignia of this award.

#### Applying for the Representative DeMolay Award

To apply for the Representative DeMolay Award, fill out the Representative DeMolay Preliminary Application Form entirely and pay the \$30 regalia fee. Full instructions are on the Preliminary Application Form. Once received, you will be sent the Representative DeMolay Self Evaluation Form. After completing the self-evaluation, send it, along with the required supporting materials, to the Georgia DeMolay Director of Programs. Your form will be evaluated by an expert panel of Senior DeMolays who are also Representative DeMolays themselves. If you are approved to receive the Representative DeMolay Award, you will receive notification and a certificate and regalia will be sent to your Chapter Advisor to be presented to you at an appropriate time.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

#### What is the Representative DeMolay award?

The Representative DeMolay award is the highest self-achievement award Active and Senior DeMolays can earn. It's a self-assessment program where you progress toward goals you set for yourself. You complete a detailed survey of your interests, achievements, general knowledge, and habits.

#### When should a DeMolay complete the Representative DeMolay process?

A DeMolay cannot apply for Representative DeMolay until he has been a member for six months and earned his Obligation Card. Ideally, the Representative DeMolay should be completed within 6-12 months of initiation into DeMolay.

## Why is the Representative DeMolay award important?

The Representative DeMolay process allows a member to assess his progress toward living his life in alignment with DeMolay's seven cardinal virtues. It provides a baseline measurement of a member's progress in DeMolay allowing him to set goals for future achievement.

## Should every DeMolay complete the Representative DeMolay process?

Yes! In fact, ideally the Representative DeMolay should be completed between 6-12 months after initiation, very early in a member's DeMolay career. Completing it early allows the member to set goals for progress during the remainder of his DeMolay career.

#### What is the Representative DeMolay process like?

Once a member is qualified to apply for the Representative DeMolay, he should complete the Preliminary Representative DeMolay application and pay the requisite fee. Once the prelim is approved, he will receive the Representative DeMolay Final Form. After completing the form and supplemental requirements, it is submitted and reviewed by a review committee and a decision is made regarding awarding the Representative DeMolay.



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#### What does the Representative DeMolay final form involve?

The final form is a 25-page survey broken into seven sections, each representing one of the Seven Cardinal Virtues of a DeMolay. There are specific questions in each section, as well as an area to rate yourself in that particular section. The applicant must also complete an essay to be submitted with the form. Additionally, letters of reference are required to be submitted as well. Make no mistake, it is a lengthy process, but it is also one that will give you a great deal of insight into yourself.

#### How long should it take to complete the Representative DeMolay process?

Every DeMolay works at his own pace. The final form cannot (and should not) be completed in one sitting. It will very likely take a few weeks to complete. Most DeMolays require about 6-8 weeks to complete the form. Once submitted, the review committee requires 6-8 weeks to fully review the form.

#### Is any assistance provided to help complete the Representative DeMolay process?

Of course! Your first stop for assistance is your own Chapter's advisors. Your Chapter may even have a Representative DeMolay Advisor or a Representative DeMolay mentor who specifically helps with the process. If not, speak to your Chapter Dad. Additionally, every applicant for Representative DeMolay is assigned a State Officer as a mentor to help with the process. And you can always reach out to the State Representative DeMolay Coordinator with any questions as well.

#### What tips can you give on answering the survey questions on the Representative DeMolay final form?

Give thoughtful and complete answers using full sentences. Be sure spelling and grammar are correct. Above all, be honest. There are no wrong answers, but incomplete or missing information may cause the application to be rejected or sent back to the applicant for more information.

#### Do I have to rate myself well in all categories in order to earn the Representative DeMolay?

No. You just need to be honest and support your rating. The goal of the Representative DeMolay is for the applicant to get a well-rounded and honest look at his life. That means part of what is assessed is what happens outside of DeMolay and how or if the lessons and virtues of DeMolay are being applied. A teacher could provide a horrible letter of recommendation about the young man. But so long as the applicant acknowledges his shortcomings in that area and is making plans to correct them, that would be a good response on the Representative DeMolay application, and wouldn't cause the application to be denied. Honest and well thought-out is the "correct" answer on the form, not what the applicant thinks the review committee wants to hear.

#### What can advisors do to encourage members to complete the Representative DeMolay?

Advisors should set the expectation at the Chapter level that all members complete the Representative DeMolay prior to reaching the one year anniversary of initiation. Help the members complete the Representative DeMolay prelim process. Check in regularly with those members to see how the completion of the form is going. Hold a Representative DeMolay night at the Chapter where members bring in their Representative DeMolay forms and spend an hour working on them with advisors and members who have already completed the Representative DeMolay available to assist and answer questions.

#### Once the Representative DeMolay is awarded, what will happen?

First of all, congratulations! Earning the Representative DeMolay is a great accomplishment. Once approved, the committee will send you a letter notifying you of their decision. At the next State Conclave, you will be formally awarded your Representative DeMolay during the Honors Night celebration. There is an impressive ceremony and vow, during which you will receive a certificate and membership card, a lapel pin, and a medallion.

#### Why is there a prelim process? Can't you just make the final form available to everyone?

The prelim process allows us to prescreen applicants to ensure they meet the requirements and have advisor approval. We don't want a young man to complete the lengthy form and process only to be denied because they haven't been in DeMolay six months or they haven't returned their queries. Additionally, the prelim process allows us to set up a support network for the young man - the advisors in his chapter are aware he's undertaking the process, a state officer is assigned to assist, and the state staff knows and can check in with the young man to answer questions and encourage him to complete the application. We can also clearly state the expectations for the content of the final form (complete sentences, proper spelling and grammar, complete thoughts, honesty, etc.)



# **Representative DeMolay**

Can't the Representative DeMolay process be streamlined or shortened to make it quicker and easier?

If you think of DeMolay as training for real life in a safe environment, the Representative DeMolay process that we have mirrors a college application process or a job application process: filling out a lengthy form, writing an essay, getting references and supporting materials, then turning it all in for review. We aren't trying to make it difficult for difficulty's sake. And while it can seem arduous at first glance, there is a great deal of value in both the substance and the process.