



☞ BECOMING A CHARTERED SOCIETY ☞

☞ DESCRIPTION ☞

Societies are reader groups who have organized and been chartered by The Urantia Book Fellowship. Although all current Societies are organized geographically, they may be organized around some special interest. While Societies are autonomous groups, the purpose of Societies parallels that of The Fellowship itself: to study, disseminate, and promote The Urantia Book, and provide services to readers.

In addition, each Society becomes one of building blocks of The Fellowship organization. Society members are automatically members of The Fellowship. Society representatives select the General Council, which is The Fellowship's governing board and who in turn elect the Executive Committee. And Societies provide guidance and counsel to the General Council and its Executive Committee throughout the year and through official resolutions passed at Society annual delegate assemblies.

☞ MEMBERSHIP ☞

- A group applying to become a chartered Society of The Urantia Book Fellowship must comprise 10 or more Founding Members. The rest of the applicants can be Charter Members.
- Founders are at least 21 (twenty-one) years of age, have read the entire Urantia Book, and have participated in study groups for at least six months.
- Charter Members are at least 16 (sixteen) years of age.
- All members are expected to affirm their belief in the teachings of The Urantia Book.
- All members are expected to abide by The Fellowship's Constitution and by-laws, and support its purposes.
- Membership in any religious organization or fraternal society shall not disqualify anyone from becoming a Founder or Charter Member.

☞ APPLICATION ☞

- An initial slate of officers is elected.
- A name for the Society is chosen in consultation with The Fellowship's Membership Committee.
- The applicants complete an Application To Be Chartered As A Society.
- Each individual Founding and Charter Member completes an Individual Application for Membership form.
- A Society constitution is adopted. (A pre-approved standard constitution is available. The group may amend the standard constitution or create/adopt its own version of a constitution, which is then subject to review by the Membership and Judicial Committees prior to approval by the Executive Committee. Copies of constitutions from other Societies can also be obtained.)
- Application materials are sent to Membership Committee for review.

☞ APPROVAL AND INSTALLATION ☞

- Upon approval by The Fellowship's Membership Committee, recommendation is made to The Fellowship's Executive Committee.
- Upon the Executive Committee's approval, and in consultation with The Fellowship's Membership Committee, a date is set and arrangements are made for the Society's official chartering and installation.