



Elder Wisdom Circle Membership Application

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Complete and save the form, and then e-mail it as an attachment to:

Membership@ElderWisdomCircle.org

After reading the instructions, if you have questions or require assistance with the application process, e-mail:

Membership@ElderWisdomCircle.org

History and Mission of the Elder Wisdom Circle

Our mission is to:

- Provide an opportunity for all seniors to utilize their life experience and wisdom to help others.
- Offer thoughtful and helpful advice to younger generations.
- Elevate the value and worth of our senior community.

Founded in 2001, the Elder Wisdom Circle (EWC) is one of the largest providers of personal advice, with hundreds of thousands of readers.

The EWC has been featured on ABC, CBS, BBC, FOX, and NPR, and in Glamour, The Los Angeles Times, Ladies Home Journal, Real Simple, Time, and USA Today.

For more information, go to www.ElderWisdomCircle.org

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the Elder Wisdom Circle

We appreciate your interest and welcome both individual and group applications.

Requirements for acceptance as an INDIVIDUAL

- You must be at least 60 years old.
- You agree to respond to ten letters within the forty-five day period immediately following your acceptance and then average six letters a month thereafter.
- Your letters are complete, empathic and adhere to EWC policies.
- You have the computer skills that permit you to navigate within the EWC platform.

Requirements for acceptance as a GROUP

All the above requirements for an INDIVIDUAL, plus:

- You have an established meeting place and a facilitator in place.
- ALL members...with the exception of the facilitator... of your group are at least 60 years of age.
- Group Facilitator: Please include the names and ages for each member. The balance of the questions/responses should be answered based on an overview/consensus of the Group.

Elder Wisdom Circle policies

- All new Elders will be assigned a Buddy (experienced Elder) for the first 60 days to mentor and advise on policies/procedures/questions.
- We are not allowed to offer medical, financial or legal advice.
- We do not reveal professional backgrounds in order to validate our opinions to avoid its being interpreted as professional advice.
- We base our responses on caring, concern and a desire to support, and we call upon our own experiences in order to respond with empathy.

Before you proceed...

- Go to our website www.ElderWisdomCircle.org in order to read the topics under [About](#) and whatever else might be of interest to you as a prospective Elder.
- Click on [Read Advice](#) and read some of the letters from advice seekers and the responses Elders wrote.

Elder Wisdom Circle Membership Application

1. Please provide the following:

Full name(s)

E-mail address

City and State where you reside

Age (For groups, include the ages of each member. Elders must be at least 60; no exceptions.)

2. Tell us about yourself in a BRIEF biography including marital/partner status, family, education/professional background, and life experiences and avocations or interests.

3. Based upon your experience what do you believe constitutes good advice? Why?

4. How would you handle giving advice to someone whose values or beliefs are different from your own?

5. What types of problems draw your greatest interest and desire to help someone?

6. Do you believe the problems we face today, as individuals and as a society, are any lesser or greater than in past generations? Briefly explain.

7. After the initial 45 days are you able to respond to SIX (6) letters MONTHLY when averaged over SIX MONTHS, and do you understand that this is a requirement for continued participation and advancement within the EWC.

8. Do you have good access to the Internet and the experience to navigate the same without significant difficulty?

9. Do you understand basic computer functions such as "copy/paste", "save", open e-mail attachments, and work with spam filters?

The following is the FINAL PHASE of the Application. Elders select the letters/requests they wish to answer from a letter queue and, once they take ownership, are expected to respond to that letter within 72 hours.

There are no limitations or restrictions on the length of an Elder's response to any advice request. However it is important that the request is carefully reviewed and the Elder's response be complete as well as being non-judgmental and show empathy toward the Advice Seeker.

For the purposes of this application, we would like your BRIEF BUT COMPREHENSIVE responses to TWO of the following, ONE of which MUST BE 'A'.

A. I hope you can offer me some advice. My husband and I are in our late 30s, married 12 years and have two fine young children. We say we love each other, but I feel we are drifting apart. My husband works very long hours and I also work. Finances are tight but we want the best for the children. We seem to argue more and intimacy is getting more and more infrequent. Is this normal when raising a family? I worry that we are just becoming "business partners". Any ideas?

B. My fiancé and I have been living together two years and are due to be married in three months. I thought he was a really great guy. I discovered this morning after he left for work, however, that he left his computer on and was horrified to see that he has been chatting in an Internet chat room for over a year that was for "adults only". I feel so devalued. What do I do?

C. Hello. I seem to be at a dead end. I am 20, single and work as a salesperson in a local department store. While the pay is ok I am just not happy, in fact, I'm downright depressed. I want to do more with my life but don't know what to do or how to change it. Can you give me any ideas?

D. My twenty year old daughter announced that she does not plan to go back to college in the Fall. We were shocked because her grades were OK, and she had many friends. She said she was frustrated with academic life because all her classes were boring. She felt she was learning nothing. She lives at home and had a summer job as a nanny. Do you think we should set up rules or expectations for her; and if so, what is reasonable?

E. I am so frustrated with all the stupid idiots in the world who think they know everything and don't know anything. Why do we have to be controlled by a incompetent government? I hate this. It seriously makes me so mad. How am I going to deal with this because I am having a hard time. I don't even believe God exists anymore.

F. Ok ive been hanging out with a friend...knew him since elementary so all the sudden he's on my school bus and we started talking and watever so then he wants to hang out with me alot and he did some stuff we werent suppose to be doing and he has a girl friend which is just wrong..and this monday im thinking of having sex with him..should i have sex with him even though he has a girl friend and also he tells me that he really likes me and thinks im cute so what should i do?

G. My name Pradeep. I from India. I have girlfriend but her parents think I not good for her. I have good job and want family. I love her. What should I do?

PLEASE FORMAT your two responses just as you would if you were responding to an actual Advice Seeker, paying close attention to structure, punctuation and spelling.

Enter your response to question **A** here:

Enter your response to the other chosen question here (be sure to note the associated letter):

***** **THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS NOW COMPLETE** *****

We appreciate your willingness to volunteer to assist us in being cyber grandparents to anyone who requests advice. EVERY Advice Seeker receives a response from the EWC and we are always looking for "the best of the best" to assist us in that effort and always strive for excellence in our responses.

We are excited about the Elder Wisdom Circle, our continued growth and the impact our advice has had on people from all over the world....making the EWC the #1 advice site on the internet. Thank you for your application, time and interest. Your application will be submitted to the Membership Committee and we will be in touch with you within two (2) weeks.

Once you have saved the form, e-mail it as an attachment to Membership@ElderWisdomCircle.org

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