

How To Pro-Rate the First Year Dues for a New OES Member

1. Divide the yearly dues by 12 to get the monthly dues. Multiply this by the number of months remaining in the current Eastern Star fiscal year after the month of initiation (or affiliation). Our fiscal year ends March 31.
2. We don't stop here, though, because when a new member joins with only a few months left in a fiscal year, the pro-rated dues might not add up to as much as the per capita fees that the chapter must pay for each member for being on the rolls as of March 31 (the last day of the fiscal year).
3. Currently, the per Capita fees add up to \$11.50. So, if the simple pro-rated yearly dues for a new member comes to less than the per Capita fees of \$11.50, the new member still pays \$11.50 as the first-year dues. The new member never pays less than the sum of the current per Capita fees.
4. These steps may be summarized thusly, "Each new member must pay the pro-rated yearly dues for the chapter, but **never less** than the sum of the per capita fees which a chapter pays for each member on the rolls of the chapter on March 31 (the end of the fiscal year)."
5. The per Capita fees are listed in Section 802 of our C&BLs. Currently they are:
 - \$5.50 Grand Chapter per Capita
 - \$4.00 Insurance per Capita
 - \$2.00 General Grand Chapter per Capita
 - \$11.50 Total
6. This process of determining the first-year dues is detailed in Section 1103 of our C&BLs. In addition to the pro-rated dues (but never less than the sum of the per Capita taxes), each new member also pays a fee to the Internal Temple Fund (set by GGC, currently \$5).

So, currently, the least any new member (initiate or affiliate) will pay is \$16.50, plus any additional chapter bylaws fees (e.g., foreign jurisdiction fee, etc.)