

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

Membership is by written invitation after an affirmative vote of the chapter or state society without chapters. Applicants must be endorsed by two members, in good standing, of the chapter or state society without chapters. The applicant must present her typed or computer-generated lineage papers to the inviting Chapter or State Registrar for examination. A lineage paper approved by the Registrar, signed by the Regent and Registrar, is forwarded by the Chapter or State Society to the home address of the National Registrar for verification. A check to cover the examination fee and the annual national dues must accompany the lineage paper.

Lineage of transfers from the National Society Children of the American Colonists must be proved in the same manner as those of applicants for membership.

ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Any woman who is a citizen of the United States of America, is of good moral character, and has attained her eighteenth year, shall be eligible for membership, provided that she shall be acceptable to the Society and shall be the lineal descendant of an ancestor who rendered civil or military service in any of the colonies prior to July 4, 1776. Legal adoptions shall not qualify for lineal descent.

The applicant shall be of lineal descent from those men and women who were actual residents of America when it was under foreign government as colonies and who served in any of the following capacities prior to July 4, 1776:

1. In battle under colonial authority

2. Under the banner of Great Britain in North America in any of the wars in which the colonists participated
3. All military and naval service of the colonies
4. Furnished troops or funds (Documentation of tax assessments alone do not meet the criteria.)
5. Filled office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Deputy Governor
6. Member or Delegate to Council or Assembly
7. Member of House of Burgesses
8. Deputy or Representative to the General Court
9. Commissioner of the United Colonies, of Boundaries or Treaties, of import or Excise, to the French or Indians
10. Secretary, Magistrate, Selectman, Justice, Judge of any Court of Law or Equity, Attorney, Advocate, Solicitor, Juryman, Sheriff, Constable, or other forms of civil service
11. Founder or Trustee of any College in North America founded prior to 1775
12. Minister of the Gospel or Commissary of the Bishops of London
13. Member of the Committee of Safety of the Continental Congress 1774 and 1775
14. Member of the Council of Safety of 1689
15. Signer of the Mayflower Compact
16. Speaker of the House of Deputies
17. Physician or surgeon
18. Member of Provincial Congress
19. Signer of the Declaration of Independence (Documentation must establish that the signer was elected to represent the colonists prior to July 4, 1776.)
20. Huguenot Refugee
21. Signer of the Oath of Allegiance to Great Britain (The Oath of Allegiance was taken by the Freeman in New England, the Dutch in New Amsterdam, the Swedes in Delaware, and other early settlers. Documentation must be submitted that the oath was taken prior to July 4, 1776.)
22. Original Land Owner, not inheritor (Documentation must establish that the ancestor received the land through a grant or patent, or from the Indians, that he was actually the first colonial owner of the specified tract of land, and that he did not buy it or inherit it.)
23. Member of the London, Plymouth or Virginia Companies who actually came to the colonies, or the first immigrant descendant of any member of these companies who resided in the colonies
24. Palatine Settler
25. Covenanter from Scotland who actually came to the Colonies or the first immigrant descendant of a Covenanter from Scotland.
26. Saltzburger of Georgia

PREPARING LINEAGE PAPERS

NSDAC requires one copy of the lineage paper, typed or computer-generated on acid free paper. Proof will only be returned if a self-addressed stamped envelope is included with the application. The lineage paper must bear original signatures and must be completed within one year of receipt by the applicant.

Each lineage paper is verified on its own merit. Additional information MAY be required on a previously established ancestor. If an established lineage is used, the member's name and national number MUST be included for reference.

Documentation of lineage verifying each succeeding generation must be included for all generations including the ancestor whose service is claimed for eligibility. Please underline in red within the proof documents pertinent information and cite the generational number for reference. Dates of ancestors' services must be stated on lineage papers and must be prior to July 4, 1776.

Please note the following:

- Documentation that the applicant is a child of her parents is required.
- Documentation that the service is within the parameters of the NSDAC Bylaws is required.
- Acceptable Documentation may include:
 - Birth, Death, and Marriage Certificates
 - Bible records
 - Census records
 - Cemetery records
 - Wills, deeds, court, tax, and land records
 - Newspaper articles and obituaries
 - Well-documented histories and genealogies (title page and pertinent pages must be included)
 - Photographs of tombstones - information on tombstones should be clear. The name and location of the cemetery should also be included.
- Send photocopies of documentation, not originals.
- Unacceptable Documentation
 - Publications by F.A. Virkus
 - Publication by John S. Wurts
 - Americans of Royal Descent by Charles Browning
 - Ancestor roster or lineage paper of other lineage societies
 - Undocumented family genealogies
 - Information generated from personal websites
 - 1850-1870 census records are not sufficient to prove parentage
- Other websites may or may not be acceptable, and will be evaluated on a one-on-one basis.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Supplemental lineages are submitted using the same forms as original lineage papers. Only submit one lineage on a given set of papers.
- Supplemental lineages must meet the same standards of acceptability as original application papers. The examination fee for supplemental lineages is found in Article VI, Section 1 of the National Bylaws.
- Members admitted by the National Society after October 1 do not pay additional national dues until December 1 of the following year. Chapters and State Societies may establish dues and fees for their members.
- All references to the “National Bylaws” refer to the Bylaws published in the current edition of the National Yearbook. The examination fee for supplemental lineages is found in the National Bylaws.
- This document was correct at the time of printing; in case of a conflict with the National Bylaws or other governing documents, however, the governing document will be deemed correct.



HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

Eligibility Requirements

and

Instructions

for the

Preparation of NSDAC Lineage Papers For
Membership

in the

National Society Daughters of the American
Colonists

The object of this Society shall be Patriotic, Historical and Educational; to make research as to the history and deeds of the American colonists, and to record and publish the same; to commemorate deeds of colonial interest; to inculcate and foster love of America and its institutions by all its residents; to obey its laws and venerate its flag – the emblem of its power and civic righteousness.

Article II, NSDAC Bylaws