



Order of Descendants of Pirates & Privateers Application Instructions

Fill out as many of the spaces on the worksheet application form as possible. It is necessary to prove that each generation descends from the prior. Dates are to be entered as day, month, year, as in: 01 Jan 1920. Abbreviate states using standard two letter postal abbreviations, as in : CT. Enter the full names of all persons, only using initials when the full name is unknown.

Expected standards of proof are those of the genealogical community. The best proofs are primary proofs. A primary proof is a certified copy of a birth, marriage, or death certificate, published town vital records, census reports, probate records, etc. When primary proofs are not available, good secondary proofs may be acceptable. These include published genealogies that cite their sources, reputable town histories, genealogical journals, etc. The commemorative biographical history books published in the late 1800s (socalled "mug books") are not reliable, and should only be used as a last resort as a proof, or to substantiate another secondary source. On the other hand, some secondary sources are of such high reliability that they approach the quality of primary proofs; for example the New England Historic Genealogical Register and the so-called "Silver Books" of Mayflower lineages published by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. A lineage published in any of the Silver Books requires no further documentation.

Record copies of other hereditary societies are not acceptable, nor listings in their publications, such as the SAR or DAR indexes and lineages. Internet sources are not acceptable, unless they are scanned copies of publications, or transcriptions. Under no circumstances are IGI, Ancestral Files, World Family Tree files, or other such sources acceptable.

The worksheet application may be typed or neatly printed. A final application form will be returned to the applicant for signature. The worksheet application is to be sent along with the proofs. Do not send original certified copies: send photocopies. All proofs from published books or bible records must be submitted along with the title page, showing date, from each source. The proofs are to be stacked in the order as they appear on the application form. Send one copy of each proof.

The Order encourages applicants to do as much of the research on their families as possible, as it is one of the goals of the Order that the members learn as much as they can about their Pirate/ Privateer ancestors, their descendants, and the history of their times. However, the Order will accept professionally prepared applications. The Order's Registrar will assist applicants within reason, and any questions or problems in the research or application process should be directed to the Registrar. The Registrar can direct applicants to a qualified genealogical researcher if needed.

Send completed worksheet applications to:

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Also available at tim@piratesprivateers.org