

Lineage Societies

For most lineage societies the applicant must fill out computer-generated application papers printed on acid free paper. Some organizations are more particular about the linen content of the paper than others. There must be acceptable source proof for anything typed on the application. If you are lucky, you can use someone else's verified application and can reference that application. Very few organizations will accept another organization's approved application.

Generations 1 (applicant), 2 (parents), and 3 (grandparents) – Exact dates of birth, death, and marriage are preferred. Birth &/or Death and Marriage Licenses are required or an explanation to the reason for their absence must be enclosed.

Generations 4 to the ancestor – Links between the generations must be proven with acceptable documents. All dates/places are not required, but enough dates/places must be documented to prove the lineage. Some documented proof must be submitted for each generation. Generally, that means one date/one place minimum for each person listed in the lineage.

The ancestor's generation – The applicant must document enough dates/places to prove that the ancestor lived in his/her area of service and was living at the time of the service.

Some unacceptable sources for most lineage societies would be:

- Photocopies that are not clearly legible. Any copy that appears to be tampered with.
- Find-a-Grave memorials. Legible tombstone pictures are acceptable.
- Undocumented records. Most family histories/biographies fit in that criteria. If it is documented, go to the original source.
- Genealogy forms. If family trees are documented, download and print the documentation.
- Indexes of births, marriages, and deaths. Go to the source and get the original documentation.
- Compiled records. Most are compiled from family histories.
- U.S. and International Marriage Records come from family trees.
- Census records prior to 1850. Only acceptable to place the head of household in the area if there is other proof that he was there during that time.

The following four lineage societies focus on patriotic, historical, and educational endeavors. They encourage patriotism, award ROTC and JROTC medals, support veterans, and encourage increasing the knowledge of the period of history their organization represents.

- Eastern Kansas Chapter, Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America (FDPA) (KC area)
- Kaw Valley Chapter, U.S. Daughters of 1812 (USD 1812) (Topeka)
- Margaret Dunning Chapter, Daughters of the American Colonists (DAC) (Topeka)
- Topeka Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) (Topeka)

Contact the registrar of the chapter you are interested in. She will help you with the application process. Mary Hoyt, Registrar for the above lineage societies can put you in contact with other chapters. Contact her at geme@cox.net.