

The Society of Civil War Families of Indiana
P. O. Box 10507, Fort Wayne, IN 46852-0507

Application Cover Sheet

Part One: Applicant Information

Applicant's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Telephone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

Part Two: Veteran Information

Veteran's Name: _____

Dates of Civil War Service: From _____

To _____

Indiana County of Residence: _____
(If applicable)

Union Military/Naval Unit: _____

Part Three: Certification

My IGS Dues are paid for the year _____

I agree that this application and all documents tendered with it become the property of the Indiana Genealogical Society.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Part Four: Instructions

Fill in Parts One through Three above. Document your ancestral line on the forms provided. If you wish to document more than one ancestor, these forms may be copied. Please type or print all information except signatures. Please use black ink.

A check or money order for \$20.00 U.S. payable to SCWFI must accompany this application. This application fee is not refundable. Send all materials to the above address.

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Specifications

Any Indiana Genealogical Society member who is a direct descendant of any person who served with an Indiana Civil War Union military or naval unit, or who was a resident of Indiana upon joining a non-Indiana Union unit, may apply for membership in the SCWFI.

Interested members must complete an official SCWFI application form and must provide copies of documentation proving each generation, including proof of Civil War military or naval service. The application and document copies become the property of IGS.

A non-refundable \$20 application fee must accompany the application form. IGS must receive applications not later than December 31 of each year in order for potential members to be approved for induction during the following annual conference.

The SCWFI Governing Committee must approve the application and the IGS Board of Directors must concur. Standard genealogical rules of evidence will be observed. The SCWFI Governing Committee will hold applications requiring additional proof until the applicant provides the documentation required.

Rules of Evidence

1. The dates of service must be between 12 April 1861 [The Confederate firing on Fort Sumter] and 18 April 1865 [The surrender of Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston to Union General William T. Sherman at Durham Station, NC.]

2. The nature and extent of the evidence submitted must be sufficient to show that the applicant is a direct descendant of the person who performed for the Union. Documentation must differentiate between any two persons of the same name.

3. Each document submitted, primary or secondary, must include a full citation with volume and page number [As: Marriage Records, Allen County, Indiana, Vol. 1, Page 33] Copies of vital records must be from the appropriate government agency.

4. In the absence of a vital record, two secondary proofs are required, as a newspaper entry, contemporary county history, or family Bible record.

5. Proof of Military Service must be from official sources, as enlistment, discharge, pension, or other government documents.

6. Documents, either alone or with other acceptable materials, must actually state the fact to be proved. Assumed relationships, unnamed individuals, and generic terms are not acceptable as proof.

7. Female ancestors must be identified by their maiden names, and, if married, their marriages proved. Each legal name change must be documented.

8. Tombstone photographs may be acceptable if the inscription is legible and the stone is contemporary with the inscription. Cemetery burial records and funeral home records are acceptable.

9. Bible records must include a photocopy of the title page, the publication date, and the current owner's name and address.

10. Secondary evidence used, such as census pages, newspaper articles, county histories, must include full citations. These materials must be used in supporting roles only and must be combined in ways to convincingly support the relationship being documented.

11. Documents presented in a foreign language must be accompanied by a full translation, certified as true by an impartial translator.

12. Old letters, diaries, or family records can only be accepted as documentation for the facts the writer could know first hand. The writer must be sufficiently identified.

13. Printed or manuscript genealogies, family group sheets and charts, personal pedigree charts, family reunion records and similar compiled materials will not be considered as documentation. Lineage papers from other patriotic or hereditary societies will not be considered as documentation.

14. The judgment of the SCWFI Evaluation Committee as regards sufficient and proper evidence will be final. The Committee will notify applicants regarding which relationships are insufficiently proven, and applicants will be allowed to correct errors and submit additional required documentation.

[Applicants are not required to return this page.]

The Society of Civil War Families of Indiana
Ascent Chart for Direct Line Ancestor/Ancestress

Be sure to include a supporting document for each statement below. This might be a birth certificate, marriage certificate, or death certificate. Other evidence, such as Bible records, census, letters, etc., may be used when birth, death and marriage records cannot be found at the official level. List these documents and their document number on the 'Documents' page. If you have more than one document for an event, number them: #1, #1a, #1b, etc. Put your name and address on the back of each page of every document you submit. PLEASE do not use staples! If you check your papers and sort them carefully, number them correctly and submit them in the proper order, staples or paper clips will not be necessary.

No. ___ below is my Civil War ancestor\ancestress. The proof of service is contained in the attached documents.

Please check the appropriate space/s and be sure your name and address are on each document.

Discharge: _____ Pension: _____ Muster Roll: _____ Other: (explain) _____

These documents may be listed on page five.

I, _____
was born on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
and married _____
who was born (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
we were married (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____.

2. I am the child of, _____
who was born on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
and married _____
who was born (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
they were married (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____.

3. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
and married _____
who was born (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
they were married (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____.

continue please

Ascent Chart for Direct Line Ancestor/Ancestress, continued

4. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
and married _____
who was born (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
they were married (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____.

5. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
and married _____
who was born (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
they were married (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____.

6. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
and married _____
who was born (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
they were married (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____.

7. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
and married _____
who was born (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
died on (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____
they were married (date) _____ at (City) _____ (County) _____ (State) _____ (Doc #) _____.

DOCUMENTATION for the Ascent (direct line) Chart

Please read and use the SPECIFICATIONS and RULES OF EVIDENCE when preparing this page of documentation. Information for additional ancestral lines may be included on blank pages, showing a relationship to the lines on the basic application. You must include a four or five generation chart for each person you submit to show the inter-connection.

We suggest you use "Cite Your Sources" by Richard S. Lackey (New Orleans, Polyanthos, Inc., 1980) as an aid. Most libraries have a copy in their reference department.

If you have a photograph of your Civil War ancestor/ancestress, either in uniform or civilian dress (at any age), please consider submitting a copy with your papers. Do not send us an original. These pictures will make an excellent addition to the Indiana Genealogical Society's Civil War Archives.

List documents used for each generation on the Ascent (direct line) Chart.

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

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DOCUMENTATION for the Ascent (direct line) Chart, continued

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

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Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

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Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

Doc # _____ Description of document: _____

If you have more proofs of relationship, please use another page and title it 'DOCUMENTATION' No. 2.
Number your document copies accordingly.

MILITARY SERVICE DOCUMENTATION

Please list below documentation of Civil War service in an Indiana military unit, or residency in Indiana with service in another state or military unit, for the individual through whom eligibility is claimed:

Description of Document: _____

Description of Document: _____

Description of Document: _____

Description of Document: _____

Description of Document: _____

Description of Document: _____

Description of Document: _____

Description of Document: _____

Please print or type: I, _____, do hereby swear that the statements set forth in this application, are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____