

The SONS & DAUGHTERS of the FIRST SETTLERS of Newbury, Massachusetts



APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

Revised October 2024

General Information before Proceeding

Thank you for your interest in *The Sons and Daughters of the First Settlers of Newbury, Massachusetts*. Instructions for completing your application are outlined below. Please follow directions carefully.

Remember, you **must** be descended from a **First Settler of Newbury** to be a member of this organization. Please see the List of First Settlers at <https://www.sonsanddaughtersofnewbury.org/heads-of-families> to be sure that you qualify for membership.

When you are ready to begin your application, download the form at <https://www.sonsanddaughtersofnewbury.org/membership>. Some web browsers, such as Google's *Chrome*, will automatically ask you where to save the form on your computer. Other browsers, such as *Internet Explorer*, will allow you to open and view the form from your browser window.

Whatever the case, be sure to **save the blank version** of the form on your computer. This is the file that you will open each time you work on your application (if filling out electronically) or the file you will print to your printer (if filling out manually).

MANUALLY vs. ELECTRONICALLY FILLING OUT THE

FORM *Manually* filling out the form means that you will

- (1) open and print the form from the Sons and Daughters website, and
- (2) write in all of the pertinent information about your ancestry using **black ink**.

Electronically filling out the form means that you will

- (1) save the blank form to your computer, then
- (2) type the information into the various spaces ("fields") of the form.
When you are finished entering all of your information, you then
- (3) print your forms.

Throughout this document, we will indicate whether a direction applies to **MANUALLY** or **ELECTRONICALLY** completing the forms.

Helpful Hints for Completing Form A: Application for Membership

If you are filling out the form **ELECTRONICALLY**:

1. You will need Adobe Reader (your computer may already have it pre-installed, as it is a very common PDF file reader). If your computer says that it is unable to open the PDF file, go to get.adobe.com/reader/
2. Every place that you can enter a piece of information is called a *field*.
3. You can move from field to field in one of the following ways:
 - a. Use the [TAB] key to move from one field to the next, or
 - b. Position your mouse over each field and click once to activate the box for typing
4. Type the necessary information in each of the fields.
5. Helpful “sticky notes” have been added along the way. Simply click on a yellow question mark anywhere in the form to bring up some guidance.

SELECTING YOUR MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

1. First-time applications require a \$35.00 Application Fee. If you were formerly a member of the society, the reinstatement fee is \$10.00.
2. A **Life Membership** requires a one-time payment of \$500.00. Membership benefits never expire.
3. The **Annual Membership** is the most common type of membership. Your membership is complimentary from the date you apply through the next occurrence of July 31st. Beginning August 1st you will be billed for dues of \$35 per year as long as you wish to remain a member.
4. The **Associate Membership** is for either (a) the spouse of a Life Member or (b) the spouse of a deceased member. For a widow/widower, the Associate Membership continues the benefits of membership in the organization. A \$35 per year membership fee is due each August 1st.
5. A **Family Membership** extends the benefits of membership to both the descendant of the First Settler and his/her spouse. *Note: Children are NOT included in this level of membership. They may be enrolled as Junior Members.* Your membership is complimentary from the date you apply through the next occurrence of July 31st. Beginning August 1st you will be billed for dues of \$52.50 per year as long as you both wish to remain members of the organization.
6. A **Junior Membership** provides all the benefits of the Annual Membership at a reduced fee. Junior members must be under the age of 15 as of the next occurrence of August 1st. Beginning August 1st, you will be billed for dues of \$15.00 per year as long as you wish to remain a member of the organization.
7. A **Friend Membership** A Friend Membership is for those who cannot trace their lineage to a first settler but are interested in the history of Newbury, MA. Provides all the benefits of regular annual membership with the exception of voting and holding office. A \$35 per year membership is due on August 1 of each year.

8. Enter the total amount of money you will be enclosing with your application (either \$500 for a Life Membership, or \$35 to cover the Application Fee for one of the other levels of membership) (ELECTRONIC forms will automatically calculate how much you owe based on the boxes that you click).
9. If you are descended from *more than one* **First Settler**, you may choose to submit one or more *Supplementary Applications* to register yourself as a descendant of additional **First Settlers**. These *Supplementary Applications* are available from the website.

Helpful Hints for Completing Form B: *Line of Descent*

1. You must tie the generations together with documented proof between the parents and child of each generation, proving a direct lineage from the **First Settler** to you.
2. The name you list under “1st Generation” will be the same as the **First Settler** ancestor that you typed in the yellow box on Form A.
3. Please list all **dates** in the following format: **17 Apr 1865 22 Dec 1694**
4. Fill in the appropriate *vital record* (birth, marriage, death) information, listing as much information as possible.
5. You need to cite the *source* of the vital record information you have entered. You’ll notice that each line on the form is numbered. These relate to the areas on Form C for you to document your sources. For ELECTRONIC forms, simply click the number to toggle back and forth between Form B and Form C.

Helpful Hints for Completing Form C: *Documentation of Sources*

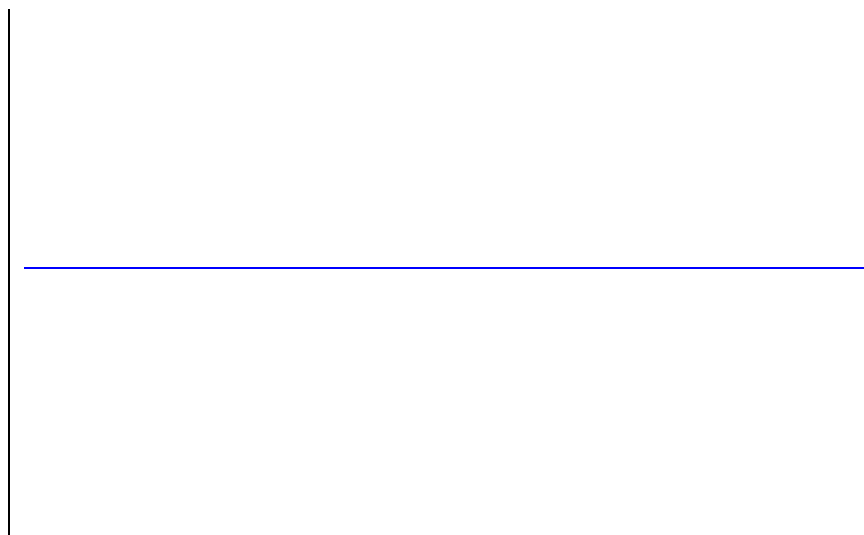
1. It is likely that you will be skipping back and forth between Form B and Form C using the numbered links provided on each line. Remember, if using ELECTRONIC forms, simply click the number to toggle back and forth between Form B and Form C.
2. When citing your sources on Form C, please list as much information as possible, including title, author, publisher, date, volume, page, etc. ELECTRONIC forms: If you type more information that can fit in the space, the type size will adjust accordingly so that all of the information can still be seen in the box.
3. You will need to make a **photocopy** of the page of text which you are citing. On the photocopy, please be sure to **highlight** the information that you are citing, and write the corresponding line number on the photocopy (*more information is listed below, under “Organizing Your References & Documentation”*).

Information about Sources

Primary sources are always best. Whenever possible, please submit more than one piece of evidence to verify and support the information you are providing. In many cases, written genealogies have inadvertently skipped generations, have incorrect dates and locations, and are subject to mistakes based on unfamiliar handwriting. Please try to verify what you have using other types of sources, as well.

Here are some examples of sources you may wish to use, with a list of what information and/or materials we would need with your application packet, should you decide to use one or more of those particular sources.

TYPE OF SOURCE	WHAT TO INCLUDE WITH APPLICATION PACKET
Web/Internet – Personal genealogies & personal web pages	Web and internet personal genealogies and personal web pages are not accepted.
Web/Internet – Electronic copies of official <i>Vital Records</i> or other previously-published books	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paper printout of title page 2. Paper printout of all pertinent information 3. Full web address of the location of the online books
Printed <i>Vital Records</i> , Town Histories, or Genealogies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photocopy of title page 2. Photocopies of all pertinent information
Birth, marriage, or death certificates	Photocopies
Bible Records	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photocopy of title page 2. Photocopies of all pertinent information 3. Location of repository
Deed, land, or probate records	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photocopies of all pertinent information 2. Identifying references (<i>volume/book, page numbers, file numbers, or docket numbers</i>)
Census Records (State or Federal)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photocopies of all pertinent information 2. Identifying references
Church Records, cemetery records, burial records, divorce records	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photocopies of all pertinent information 2. Identifying references 3. Location of repository
Military, pension, and bounty land warrants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photocopies of all pertinent information 2. Identifying references
Printed, dated, documented records (<i>e.g. newspapers, magazines</i>)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photocopies of all pertinent information 2. Identifying references



Organizing Your References & Documentation

1. Your documentation will most likely include many photocopied materials (See “Completing Form C” instruction #3, above).
2. **Underline or highlight** the pertinent information that you are referencing so that the committee will not need to search the entire page for names and/or dates.
3. **Label** each image or piece of paper using the corresponding line numbers from *Form B: Line of Descent*.
EXAMPLE: If line 32 of *Form B* states that John Smith died 11 March 1732 at Newburyport, Mass., label the photocopy containing that information with a “32” at the top.
4. Separate each generation’s documentation and, if submitting a paper application, fasten each generation’s materials together **with a paper clip** (no staples, please!)
5. Now assemble each generation’s materials in **chronological order**, starting with the **First Settler**
1st generation first, down through your own birth (and marriage, if applicable) last.
6. You should make a **master copy** of all materials you will be submitting –
Materials are not returned – they become property of the organization.

Assembling Your Application Packet

Complete application packets **must** contain:

Completed versions of:

1. *Application for Membership* (Form A)
2. *Line of Descent* (Form B)
3. *Documentation of Sources* (Form C)
4. Each generation’s materials (photocopies or images) correctly labeled and sorted with the 1st Generation’s materials first.
Please make a copy for your personal records! Submitted applications and materials will not be returned.
5. \$10 reapplication fee or \$25 application fee (or \$525: \$25 + \$500 life membership fee, if you are choosing to join as a life member)
6. Make checks payable to SONS & DAUGHTERS OF THE FIRST SETTLERS.
7. Email your application packet to registrar@sonsanddaughtersofnewbury.org or mail it to:

Membership
PO Box 444
Newburyport MA 01950