



Steps on Becoming a Member

1. Start by collecting documentation to prove that you are descended from a passenger on the *Mayflower* voyage of 1620. If a member of your family (past or present) has joined this or another state Society, you will have a head-start in the process of proving your lineage. You may request a copy of your family member's lineage papers from the Society of which he or she was a member for a nominal fee.

Membership in the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New Hampshire, requires that parentage in each generation be supported by primary or secondary sources. Primary sources are preferable, as they include contemporary records of birth, baptism, or death; land or census records; family bibles; court records; and pension records.

All generations in the 20th and 21st Centuries should be fully documented using certified vital records for all events. Secondary sources include published family and town histories, newspaper accounts, obituaries and gravestone photos. The General Society of Mayflower Descendants has published the first five generations of *Mayflower* families, so you do not have to provide documents for these generations.

2. When you are reasonably sure that you have a provable *Mayflower* lineage, download a Preliminary Application from this website, fill it out and mail it, with the application fee, to the New Hampshire Society Historian, whose contact information is on the form.

3. You will then receive a worksheet to complete. Contact our Historian if you need assistance. Return the worksheet to the Historian, along with one photocopy of the supporting documentation. Keep the originals for your files.

4. The Historian will review your lineage records to make sure they are acceptable, according to General Society standards. He or she will then prepare the final lineage papers for your signature, and send them to the General Society in Plymouth, Massachusetts, for approval.

5. Upon approval by the Historian General in Plymouth, you will be notified by the New Hampshire State Society. Your certificates of Mayflower membership will be then mailed to you, or presented to you at the next meeting of the New Hampshire society.