



Board for Certification of Genealogists®

Post Office Box 14291 · Washington, DC 20044

www.BCGcertification.org

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PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FORM

RESEARCH CATEGORY – CERTIFIED GENEALOGIST

Name: _____

Full Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

The geographic area and time period I select for the BCG-supplied document assignment:

(Avoid requesting documents after 1900 as most are typewritten after that date. The choice for Requirement 3 does not limit the rest of your portfolio to only this time and place. Do not request specific counties of U.S. states. Requests for documents in a language other than English need prior consultation with BCG's Executive Director.)

In addition to English, my work entails use of the _____ language.

You must **initial** each statement below:

_____ I have paid the preliminary application fee (\$80) online at <https://bcgcertification.org/shop/all-products/product/preliminary-application-fee> or by mailing a check or money order payable through a U.S. bank to the address above. This fee includes a one-year subscription to the BCG newsletter *OnBoard*.*

_____ I understand I have one year from the date of this application in which to submit Part 1 as well as the final application fee of \$200.

_____ I understand my application must follow the requirements set out in the 2025 edition of *The BCG Application Guide*, which I have downloaded from the BCG website. I also understand that if I apply for an extension, I must follow whatever edition of the *Guide* then in effect.

_____ I understand that if my application is successful, I will be certified for five years, during which time I will be responsible for paying an annual fee each July 1st.

_____ I have read *The BCG Application Guide* (Introduction to page 9 and pages 23–27).

Signed _____ Date _____

Return the completed form to office@BCGcertification.org

* Please do not purchase a separate subscription of *OnBoard*.



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The following questions are for BCG informational purposes only.

The answers will not be shared with any judge for the evaluation of your portfolio.

1. How did you first hear about BCG? (*check one*)

☐ Friend or colleague	☐ Conference or institute
☐ BCG website or blog	☐ Print advertisement
☐ Social media	☐ Other (<i>please specify</i>) _____
2. Have you stopped to speak with BCG Associates at a conference or institute or viewed BCG portfolios?
If so, at which conferences or institutes? Choose all that apply:
Stopped at Booth and/or Viewed Portfolios at

☐	☐ National Genealogical Society Conference (NGS)
☐	☐ Association of Professional Genealogists Management Conference (APG)
☐	☐ RootsTech Conference (Salt Lake City)
☐	☐ Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG)
☐	☐ Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)
☐	☐ Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP)
☐	☐ Other: _____
3. Do you –

☐ Yes	☐ No	attend BCG's webinars regularly (via <i>Legacy Family Tree Webinars</i>)?
☐ Yes	☐ No	read <i>OnBoard</i> regularly?
☐ Yes	☐ No	consult BCG's website regularly?
☐ Yes	☐ No	read BCG's blog <i>Springboard</i> regularly?
☐ Yes	☐ No	visit or receive newsfeed from BCG's Facebook group regularly?
4. Have you –

☐ Yes	☐ No	attended a national genealogical society conference?
☐ Yes	☐ No	attended a week-long genealogical institute?
☐ Yes	☐ No	participated in a formal online study group with assignments and work review?
☐ Yes	☐ No	attended a formal genealogical program of multi-week sessions?
☐ Yes	☐ No	attended a BCG certification seminar at a national conference or institute?
☐ Yes	☐ No	attended a BCG webinar (through Legacy Family Tree or the Family History Library)?
5. Do you have experience with analyzing DNA in genealogical research? (*check one*)

☐ None	☐ DNA test only	☐ Beginner	☐ Intermediate	☐ Professional
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6. About how many hours **per week** do you work on genealogy? _____
7. Do you read a peer-reviewed genealogy journal (*NGSQ, TAG, NEHGR, NYGBR, or The Genealogist (US)*)?

☐ Always	☐ Usually	☐ Sometimes	☐ Never
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8. Do you belong to –

☐ Yes	☐ No	a state or local genealogical society?
☐ Yes	☐ No	a national genealogical society or genealogy organization with a non-US focus?
☐ Yes	☐ No	a lineage society?
☐ Yes	☐ No	the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG)?
9. Age range (*check one*):

☐ 0-30	☐ 31-40	☐ 41-50	☐ 51-60	☐ 61-70	☐ 71-80	☐ 81+
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10. Highest level of formal education (*check one*):

☐ High School	☐ Some college	☐ BA/BS	☐ MA/MS	☐ Doctorate or equivalent (specify) _____
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11. Do you currently have, or have you previously had a credential in genealogy? (*check one*)

☐ Accredited Genealogist®	☐ ForensicGenealogistCredentialed SM	☐ Other: _____
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