Most Commonly Provided Supporting Documentation for an SAR Membership Application

A Photocopy (not a certified copy) of the applicant's birth certificate naming his parents is almost always submitted and required. Social Security Numbers can be blacked-out on the photocopy of the birth certificate.

The most common SAR acceptable supporting documentation for child-parent relationships after the applicant and for direct line ancestors born after 1830 are:
- Birth certificates naming parents.
- Death certificates naming parents.
- US Federal Census Records from 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1940 as these list children living in the households of their parents.
- Wills and/or probate records naming children.
- Published obituaries naming parents and children.
- SAR and DAR "Record Copies" of applications approved after January 1, 1985.
- Well source documented published family genealogies and local histories that include genealogies (provide title page and applicable pages that prove child-parent relationships).

The most common SAR acceptable supporting documentation for child-parent relationships for ancestors between the patriot ancestor and ancestors born before 1835 are one of the following:
- Death certificates naming parents.
- Wills and/or probate records naming children.
- Local town birth, marriage and death records.
- Well source documented published family genealogies and local histories that include genealogies (provide title page and applicable pages that prove child-parent relationships).
- SAR and DAR "Record Copies" of applications approved after January 1, 1985.

The most common SAR acceptable supporting documentation for the patriot ancestor's patriotic service are frequently one of the following:
- State published records of those who served in the Revolutionary War from their states (MA, NH, PA Archives).
- Pension records of those who served in the Revolutionary War.
- Well source documented published family genealogies and local histories that include genealogies (provide title page and applicable pages that prove the ancestor's patriotic service).
- SAR and DAR "Record Copies" of applications approved after January 1, 1985.
- The National Archives, including the branch in San Bruno, can provide access to Revolutionary War pension files.
- FoJd3. com, a subscription service and a subsidiary of Ancestry. com specializes in military records.

NOTE: Because SAR and DAR application standards and application approval standards have changed over time, SAR and DA R "Record Copies" of applications approved before 1985 may not be accepted as a sole source of supporting documentation for current SAR applications. Some pre-1985 SAR and DAR "Record Copies" are useful in that they list acceptable sources for information that can be obtained again.

The above and more are nicely covered in the NSSAR website: www.sar.org "Meet SAR" ➢ "Become a Member" ➢ "Membership Process". The SAR website has useful information and guidance on the SAR membership application process including an on-line system for entering application data for the SAR membership application form. The SAR website provides summaries of Qualifications, Acceptable Service and Documenting your Line.
Also under the "Genealogy" ➢ "Genealogical Copy Services" ➢ "Record Copy Request Form" you can download the form to request SAR "Record Copies" (previously approved SAR membership application forms). Patriot Searches, Document Searches and Research Services can also be requested from the SAR website. Also helpful are an SAR Membership Application Preparation Manual and the documented SAR application review and approval policies, the most current versions can be provided as pdf files by your local chapter Registrar upon request.