



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Membership Application-Ver. 12-2022

- Initial Membership Application Supplemental Ancestor Application

PART I - MEMBERSHIP

Membership Request (Check One)

- Camp Membership. Camp Name & Number: _____
 Department Name: _____
- Department Membership-at-Large. Department Name: _____
- Camp-at-Large Membership. Camp-at-Large Name: _____
- National Membership-at-Large (if outside the United States)

Membership Type (Check One)

- Member (ages 14 years & older, hereditary, has lineage. Complete Pages 1 & 2)
- Associate (ages 14 years & older, without lineage or pending verification. Complete Page 1 only)
- Junior Member (ages 6 to 14 years, hereditary, has lineage. Complete Pages 1 & 2)
- Junior Associate (ages 6 to 14 years, without lineage or pending verification. Complete Page 1 only)

PART II – APPLICANT INFORMATION AND DECLARATION

Application of: _____
(First Name) (Full Middle Name) (Last Name)

Address: _____
(Street/P.O. Box) (City) (State) (Zip +4)

Telephone: Home: _____ Work: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Occupation: _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ Place of Birth: _____

- Check any that apply: I am a Veteran of United States Armed Forces or currently serving
 Eagle Scout
 I am a R.O.T.C. Graduate

I declare that this application has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is true, correct and complete and, if accepted, I will obey and support the National Constitution and Regulations of the Order, the Bylaws of the Department and the Bylaws of the Camp.

Dated this _____ day of _____ 20____

Signed: _____

Witness: _____

The witness must be a parent or legal guardian if the applicant is under the age of 18 years.

Recommended by SUVCW Brother: _____

PART III – APPLICATION FEES AND DUES

INITIAL APPLICATION:

Application Fee: \$_____ + Annual Dues: \$_____ + Surcharge* \$_____ = Total: \$_____

**Include a \$5.00 surcharge for all initial applications with an international mailing address.*

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION: National Application Fee: \$ 5.00

(Note: Applicants not joining through a camp should refer to Part III of the instructions for dues information located on page 4)

<p>To be completed by the Camp:</p> <p>Date member enrolled or transferred:</p>	<p>To be completed by the National Organization:</p> <p>Profile number:</p>
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PART IV – ANCESTOR SERVICE AND LINEAGE

ANCESTOR'S CIVIL WAR SERVICE (to be completed by those applying for hereditary Member or Junior status. A photocopy of your ancestor's Civil War military or pension record must be attached to this application.)

I base my eligibility to be a hereditary Member/Junior in the SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR (SUVCW) by right of lineal or collateral descent in the following line from:

(Ancestor's Name) my (Grandfather, Great Uncle, etc.)

who served and/or died honorably in the United States Army, Navy, Marines, or Revenue Cutter Service, or in a state regiment subject to the orders of United States general officers during the Civil War, 1861-1865. Neither I nor any of my ancestors through whom I claim eligibility ever voluntarily bore arms against the government of the United States.

My ancestor was mustered into service on _____, 186____, in Company _____ of the _____ with the rank of _____, and was honorably
(Regiment, Battery, Ship, etc.)

discharged or died while in the service of the United States, at the rank of _____ on _____, 186____, by reason of _____.

LINEAGE

2. I am the son of _____ born _____
and his ___ wife _____ died _____
born _____
died _____
married _____

Who is the son daughter brother sister of _____

3. _____ born _____
and his ___ wife _____ died _____
born _____
died _____
married _____

Who is the son daughter brother sister of _____

4. _____ born _____
and his ___ wife _____ died _____
born _____
died _____
married _____

Who is the son daughter brother sister of _____

5. _____ born _____
and his ___ wife _____ died _____
born _____
died _____
married _____

Who is the son daughter brother sister of _____

6. _____ born _____
and his ___ wife _____ died _____
born _____
died _____
married _____

Who is the son daughter brother sister of _____

7. _____ born _____
died _____
and his _____ wife _____ born _____
died _____
married _____

Who is the son daughter brother sister of
~~~~~

8. \_\_\_\_\_ born \_\_\_\_\_  
died \_\_\_\_\_  
and his \_\_\_\_\_ wife \_\_\_\_\_ born \_\_\_\_\_  
died \_\_\_\_\_  
married \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the son daughter brother sister of  
~~~~~

9. _____ born _____
died _____
and his _____ wife _____ born _____
died _____
married _____

Who is the son daughter brother sister of
~~~~~

10. \_\_\_\_\_ born \_\_\_\_\_  
died \_\_\_\_\_  
and his \_\_\_\_\_ wife \_\_\_\_\_ born \_\_\_\_\_  
died \_\_\_\_\_  
married \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the son daughter brother sister of  
~~~~~

11. _____ born _____
died _____
and his _____ wife _____ born _____
died _____
married _____

Certification

I, _____, the undersigned, hereby certify, to the best of my ability, as the Senior Officer, the Linage information provided on this application is true and accurate.

_____, _____ Date _____
(signature) (office)

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**Mailing and Processing**

Applicants are recommended to apply for membership through the local Camp or state Department. The Camp or Department Junior Vice Commander will provide the postal address and contact information below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Applicants not residing in an area covered by a Department, or who may not know how to contact the local Camp near their residence, should email the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief (JVCinC@suvcw.org) for instructions on where to send their membership application.

**Oath of Obligation for  
The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

(To be used for **Members** and **Associates** only) I, \_\_\_\_\_, in the presence of the Great Creator and witnessing members of this Camp, hereby voluntarily and solemnly pledge myself to support and defend the Government of the United States of America, to offer my life if need be to preserve the Flag from being lowered in defeat; to always observe the day set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic as Memorial Day, sacred to the memory of the Union Soldiers Sailors and Marines of 1861 to 1865 and do all in my power to persuade others to do the same; to be faithful in all duties of citizenship, to be obedient to the law of the land, to obey the Constitution and Regulations of this Order, and to promote actively its objectives and interests always and everywhere.

**So help me God.**

(To be used for **Juniors** only) I, \_\_\_\_\_, in the presence of the Great Creator and witnessing members of this Camp, hereby voluntarily and solemnly pledge myself to support and defend the Government of the United States of America, to always observe the day set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic as Memorial Day, sacred to the memory of the Union Soldiers, Sailors and Marines of 1861 to 1865 and do all in my power to persuade others to do the same; to be faithful in all duties of citizenship, to be obedient to the law of the land, to obey the Constitution and Regulations of this Order, and to promote actively its objectives and interests always and everywhere.

**So help me God.**

I have read the Oath of Obligation \_\_\_\_\_ (Initials, Parent or Guardian for Juniors)

# INSTRUCTIONS

The SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR (SUVCW) is a patriotic and educational heritage organization. It was founded on November 12, 1881 and incorporated by Act of Congress on August 20, 1954. The SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR is the legal heir to and representative of the Grand Army of the Republic.

SUVCW National Regulations Chapter I, Article II, Section 1, requires the following: Each application for membership shall be recommended by a Brother of the Camp who shall vouch for the applicant's eligibility and moral character.

**Application Type:** A new applicant will check the Initial Membership Application box. A member desiring to record a supplemental ancestor will check the Supplemental Ancestor Application box.

The SUVCW membership application requires prospective members to choose one ancestor under whom to join the organization. Many members of the SUVCW have more than one ancestor whose military service would be qualifying for membership. Members desiring to record these other ancestors, both lineal and collateral, may fill out a supplemental ancestor application.

## Part I - MEMBERSHIP

**ELIGIBILITY:** A **Member** (and Junior with lineage) is a male descendant, 14 years of age (6 to 14 for Juniors), who:

(1) is directly descended from a Soldier, Sailor, Marine or member of the Revenue Cutter Service (or directly descended from a brother, sister, half-brother, or half-sister of such Soldier, etc.) who was regularly mustered and served honorably in, was honorably discharged from or died in the service of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America or in such state regiments called to active service and was subject to the orders of United States general officers, between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865;

(2) has never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime and

(3) has, or whose ancestor through whom membership is claimed, has never voluntarily borne arms against the government of the United States.

An **Associate** (and Junior Associate without lineage) is not required to have the above lineage but is subject to the second and third provisions of eligibility.

**Membership Request:** The applicant will leave this section blank. The Camp Junior Vice Commander (or Secretary) or appropriate Department or National officer will complete this section. Visit the SUVCW website <http://www.suvcw.org> to find a listing of state organizations (Departments and local Camps).

**Membership Type:** The applicant will check the appropriate box for the type of membership desired per the eligibility requirements above. National Membership at Large is reserved for those who do not reside in areas covered by a Department, such as those residing or stationed overseas.

## Part II – APPLICANT INFORMATION AND DECLARATION

The applicant will complete this section and will sign the form in the presence of a witness. The witness must also sign the form. **If the applicant is under the age of 18 years, the witness MUST BE the applicant's parent or legal guardian.**

The recommender will write his name. He must be a Brother (Member or Associate) of the SUVCW.

## Part III – APPLICATION FEES AND DUES

**Application Fee:** The applicant will include with the application a check (U.S. funds) for the application fee and international mailing surcharge (if applicable), made payable to the SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

**Dues:** Prior to initiation into the SUVCW, the applicant will be required to be paid up on his annual dues. Annual dues are paid at the Camp, Department and National levels.

Applicants joining through a Camp will have the assistance of the Camp Secretary in determining the total dues amount to be presented as each Camp and Department determines its own dues requirement.

Applicants who send their membership application to the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief are required to pay a \$10.00 Application fee, plus \$50.00 (if received between 1 January – 30 June) or \$30.00 (if received between 1 July and 31 December). If applying for membership from an international address, applicants should include an additional \$5.00 surcharge to cover international mailing expenses. Confirm the dues amount to be attached to the application with the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief via email at [JVCinC@suvcw.org](mailto:JVCinC@suvcw.org) prior to mailing the membership application.

**Supplemental Ancestor Application:** Members desiring to register their lineage from other Civil War Union ancestors will check the Supplemental Application box. They are required only to pay the National Application fee.

#### **Part IV – ANCESTOR SERVICE AND LINEAGE**

Applicants who are applying for Member or Junior membership (not Associate or Junior Associate) will complete this section.

**Ancestor's Civil War Service:** Information regarding the ancestor's Civil War service is available in his military or pension records, obtainable from a variety of sources including, state archived Adjutant General Reports (if he served in a state regiment of volunteers) and from the National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20408-0001. Separate order forms (with instructions and fee information for copies of military or pension records) must be obtained from the National Archives and then submitted back to them.

**Supporting Documentation:** Copies of your ancestor's original service or pension records or Adjutant General records must accompany the application. Additional information about the applicant's Civil War ancestor, including but not limited to his affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), or other post-Civil War veterans' organization(s), and his resting place may be attached as well. Computer or internet generated secondary reports are not acceptable.

**Lineage:** The applicant will provide his lineage from himself to his veteran ancestor. The last line should end with the name of the Civil War ancestor. Use "Not Known" or "Not Applicable", as appropriate, when the information is not known or does not apply.