

# Century Families of Richland County

## Rules of Evidence

The rules of evidence applying to membership in Century Families of Richland County, Ohio follow and use the standards by which all CFRC proof is judged. **There are no exceptions.**

The nature and extent of the evidence submitted as proof in all applications shall be sufficient to prove that the applicant is directly descended from the pioneer(s) named in box B of the CFRC application blank, and sufficient to differentiate between two persons of the same name residing in the same area at the same time. Proof must be included to show residence in Richland County, Ohio between Jan. 1, 1861 to 31 Dec 100 years prior to the application year. Example if applying in 2010 then the ancestor must be a resident of Richland County no later than Dec. 31, 1910. **Documentation MUST be provided for each date listed**, even if only an approximation (e.g. born c. 1810 per 1850 census).

## Basic Rules

1. All applicants must be current members of the Richland County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society.
2. Primary or collateral evidence from vital statistics, courthouse or other government records usually is considered excellent proof. Other primary evidence might include Bible Records (which must be contemporary with the publication date of the Bible or events), diaries or letters.
3. Secondary evidence such as census records and newspaper clippings (applicant must give the name of the newspaper, location, page and date of publication) might be used as corroborative evidence. County histories and family records **CONTEMPORARY TO THE FACTS REPORTED** is considered as supporting evidence only.
4. Circumstantial evidence **WILL NOT** be accepted as proof unless supported by primary or secondary evidence.
5. Oral, written, or published family traditions may be in error and **CANNOT** be accepted as documentation.
6. Printed or manuscript genealogies, genealogical records or compilations, family group sheets, and charts, family reunion records and similar materials are not considered proof. Unsupported information from an amateur or a professional genealogist is not acceptable, including such records printed in any genealogical, historical, or similar publication.
7. Lineage papers, accepted or unaccepted, from other patriotic or hereditary societies (including First Families of Ohio, Society or Civil War Families of Ohio, DAR or SAR, etc.) **by themselves** are not considered proof. The documents used to prove the lineage **MIGHT** be considered proof for CFRC if they follow these rules.
8. Material authored by the applicant or a member of his or her immediate family cannot be considered proof.
9. Documents use as proof must, either alone or in conjunction with other acceptable documents, actually **state the fact to be proved.**

Examples of implied proof that are not acceptable are:

- A. Unnamed individuals specified in court records as "heirs" or "heirs-in-laws" unless it is known that applicable laws at the time included only bloodline descendants.
- B. Census records which show the name of the head of the household only along with numbers of family members or other by age group prove only the family head actually named. The 1850 through 1870 census cannot be used as proof of relationship. Next door neighbors on a census or tax record do not prove any relationship **by themselves.**
- C. A father is not proved as being in an area just because his child was born there. The birth only proves the mother was there!
- D. Blood descent is not necessary proved by owning the same land as an earlier owner by the same name, whether the land was inherited or purchased.

10. Documents written or printed in a foreign language must be accompanied by a translation into English and the translation certified as a "true translation" by the translator (not the applicant or a family member)
11. Old letters or family records can be accepted as proof for only the facts that the writer could logically know as **contemporary knowledge**. Identification of the writer and the date is necessary. To be acceptable, county histories or other published biographies also should have been written by someone with contemporary knowledge **not hearsay**.
12. Land or tax records are acceptable only if they specify that the individual was a resident of Richland County, Ohio since many early landowners and speculators never lived in Ohio.
13. Female ancestors living in Ohio before 100 years prior to the application must be identified by their maiden names. Exceptions are made only in the case of African Americans and Native Americans, and only when such ethnicity is proved.
14. Illegitimacy is not grounds for denial.
15. A direct line from the applicant to pioneer ancestor must be proved at each step, including the spouse in each generation. Collateral descent is not acceptable. Adopted children do not qualify as a step in lineage. Bloodline descent only is acceptable.
16. include a full citation. The title, volume, and page number must be written on the copy itself. Bible records must include a photocopy of the title page with publication date and the current owner's name and address.
17. Photocopies or original documents are acceptable as copied if there are no changes on the original. If it is not possible to make a photocopy of a document, a typed or handwritten copy of the document must be certified as a "**TRUE COPY**" by a courthouse or other official, librarian, etc. An applicant or member of his or her family cannot certify a document as a "**TRUE COPY**".
18. Married female applicants, who use their husband's name, must include a copy of their marriage record to document their change of name. **Each legal name change must be documented.**
19. Photographs of tombstones are acceptable for proof of birth and death dates and for relationships **actually stated on the stone**. Published compilations of tombstone readings are acceptable, if no additional information has been included that is not actually on the stones.
20. If an ancestor has been proved previously by another individual, the applicant may submit proof only to the nearest common ancestor, if so desired. A citation to the name and number of the **CFORC member** must be included.
21. Deadline for applications is May 31 of each year.
22. Reminder: a statement is not necessarily true just because it's in print.



**Always put the man's name first and the wife's name second!**

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

At city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Location of marriage: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_ child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_ child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

**If needed, use the spaces below to add additional generations or to follow other family lines. Please write the number of the appropriate generation on the space provided before each generation.**

The said \_\_\_\_\_ is the child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

The said \_\_\_\_\_ is the child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

The said \_\_\_\_\_ is the child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

The said \_\_\_\_\_ is the child of \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Born: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse born \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse died: \_\_\_\_\_ city/county/state \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

