

# BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF GENEALOGISTS®

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## PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FORM RESEARCH-CATEGORY CERTIFIED GENEALOGIST®

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The geographic area, time period, or other specialty that I select for the BCG-supplied document assignment is \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please initial each statement below.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed the preliminary application fee (\$75) by check or by money order payable through a U.S. bank.\*

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand I have one year from the date of this application in which to submit my final application portfolio as well as the final application fee of \$300.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand my application must follow the requirements set out in the 2017 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* is 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 maintenance fee each July 1.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\* The fee includes a one-year subscription to BCG's newsletter, *OnBoard*.

The following questions are for BCG informational purposes only. The answers will not be shared with any judge during the evaluation of your portfolio.

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

- (a) Friend or colleague
- (b) BCG website or blog
- (c) Social media (non–BCG blog, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.) or email list
- (d) Print advertisement
- (e) Conference or institute
- (f) Other (*please specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you

- (a) attend BCG's webinars regularly? Y / N
- (b) read *On Board* regularly? Y / N
- (c) consult BCG's website regularly? Y / N
- (d) read BCG's blog *Springboard* regularly? Y / N
- (e) visit or receive newsfeed from BCG's Facebook group regularly? Y / N

3. Have you

- (a) attended a national genealogical conference? Y / N
- (b) attended a week–long genealogical institute? Y / N
- (c) participated in an on–line study group? Y / N
- (d) attended a formal genealogical program of multiweek sessions? Y / N
- (e) attended a BCG certification seminar at a national conference or institute? Y / N
- (f) attended a BCG webinar or its October lectures at the Family History Library? Y / N
- (g) reviewed a portfolio at BCG's conference booth or elsewhere? Y / N

4. Do you read a peer-reviewed genealogy journal (*NGSQ, TAG, NEHGR, NYGGBR, or The Genealogist (US)*)?  
Always / Usually / Sometimes / Never

5. What is your *primary* reason for pursuing certification? (*circle or check one*)

- (a) to measure my work against the standards of the field
- (b) to do the best work on my own families
- (c) to be respected as a serious genealogist
- (d) to pursue genealogical research as a profession
- (e) to qualify for forensic work and federal government contracts
- (f) to be considered for more challenging and rewarding projects and jobs
- (g) other (*please specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

6. About how many hours *per week* do you work on genealogy? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you belong to

- (a) A local or state society? Y / N
- (b) A lineage society? Y / N
- (c) APG? Y / N
- (d) A genealogical organization with a non–US focus? Y / N

8. Age range (*circle one*): 0–30, 31–40, 41–50, 51–60, 61–70, 71–80, 81+

9. Highest level of formal education (*circle one*): HS, some college, BA/BS, MA/MS, doctorate or equivalent (*specify*)