

## Frequently Asked Questions

### General

**Q: What is SAR?**

A: Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) is a lineage society that is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) charitable organization dedicated to history, education and patriotism.

**Q: Who can be a member of SAR?**

A: Any man 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution, is eligible for membership. SAR defines a "patriot" as one who provided service or direct assistance in achieving America's independence.

**Q: Does SAR accept members who are minorities?**

A: Yes. SAR has members of all races and ethnic backgrounds.

**Q: What is the difference between NSSAR and SAR?**

A: These acronyms both refer to the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, and are used interchangeably. The acronym is pronounced by saying each letter "S-A-R" rather than one word "Sar."

**Q: Is SAR a political organization and does it lobby Congress?**

A: No, the SAR is not a political organization, nor does it lobby. SAR is a patriotic society composed of members who subscribe to different political philosophies.

**Q: Is membership limited to certain religious affiliation?**

A: No. SAR is proud to have members from many different religions, including Christian, Jewish, Buddhist and others.

**Q: Why should I become a member?**

A: Membership in the Sons of the American Revolution honors and preserves the legacy of your Patriot ancestor. Over two hundred years ago, American Patriots fought and sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. As a member of SAR, through participation in the Society's various programs and activities, you can continue this legacy by actively supporting historical events, promotion of education, and patriotic endeavors.

**Q: How do I become a member?**

A: Get in touch with the closest chapter where you live.

**Q: Do I have to buy a uniform?**

A: No, there is no uniform that needs to be bought. Only the Color Guard members wear special uniforms.

**Q: How many members do you have?**

A: The Washington SAR has eight chapters and about 550 members. There are over 34,000 SAR members nationwide.

## **Membership**

**Q: My sister is a DAR, can I use her application?**

A: Yes, providing the application was approved after January 1, 1985.

**Q: I'm adopted can I still become a member?**

A: Yes, but only through your birth parents' lineage, not that of your adopted family. All lineage for SAR membership must be bloodline descent.

**Q: My patriot is listed in your Patriot Graves Index; do I still need to complete an application?**

A: Yes, each member is required to complete an application. You can start your application at <https://members.sar.org/media/uploads/pages/201/tOyqUjkCqSoX.pdf>.

**Q: How do I get in contact with a local SAR chapter?**

A: The best way to get in contact with a local chapter is to go to <https://www.washingtonsar.org/> and click the “contact us” tab.

**Q: What is meant by “lineal descent?”**

A: Lineal descent means a direct bloodline descent, not a relationship through marriage. For example if your father is a member, you and your sons and grandsons are all eligible. If your wife’s father is a member, your connection is by marriage so you are not eligible, but your sons and grandsons are lineal descendants of your mother-in-law (through your wife) and eligible to join SAR.

**Q: Can you help me prove my Patriot lineage?**

A: Of course! Our Washington SAR has chapter genealogists willing to help organize your papers and help prove your lineage.

**Q: What are the application fees to join?**

A: The combined application fees and 2018 dues are \$165; after that the annual dues are \$65.