

GG 2021-2022 Email #3 to State Points of Contact 01 November 2021

Several of you commented about the application status report (ASR) and this letter will address several of your concerns.

As of 29 October, the ASR shows that the most recent new application reviewed was received on 04 August and the most recent supplemental application reviewed was received on 01 February. The staff is making progress working off the backlog. We are still short staff due a staff retirement. Hiring an additional staff member is in progress.

Several people from the field have written with concerns about the timing of the ASR and the frustration of having to check multiple times before seeing the update. Mike Scroggins, Director of Operations, points out that input from at least three people to make the report: Jon Toon inputs information on reviewed applications weekly, Jessie Hagen prepares the report and Mick Pitzer posts it to the website. Sometimes someone is off that day and their sub fills in. They're going to make an adjustment so Mick will post the update on Friday morning, allowing a little more time to get the report ready. The report should be posted by 8:00 AM, Friday. Please understand that we have a small staff with people wearing several hats. Let me know what you think of the new schedule.

The following information regarding application signatures may be useful. The Chancellor General has issued an opinion that there is nothing in the Bylaws prohibiting stamped approval signatures as the application proceeds through the state approval process. For example, the state approval form requires two signatures:

State Registrar	Date Approved:
State Secretary	Date Approved:
Accepted by the State Board of Management (optional):	Date Accepted:
Sent to National Headquarters:	Date:

Depending on your organization, you may also have a state treasurer. If authorized by your state society, there is no problem with just one person reviewing the application and then stamping approvals for the others. For example, the registrar could receive the application, deposit the applicant's check and write a check for the national fee, prepare the transmittal and stamp the signature for the secretary. It would be a state Board of Management decision but it could speed up the process and save postage!

State and chapter registrars, please keep in mind the need to pay special attention to the "state level errors" of incorrectly printing DAR record copies and submitting the unauthorized DAR "chapter copies." Both will result in pended applications. See the video tape of Genealogy FAQ #1 by clicking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=06JfgkT6udQ> And look for an announcement of the upcoming Genealogy FAQ #2. The invitation will issue later this week.

I'm always glad to receive your comments. Just hit the reply button!

Bob Fish
Genealogist General