

BECOMING A CERTIFIED GENEALOGIST

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Making the Decision to Go on the Clock

- Evaluation by and feedback from judges
- Public confidence
- Validate research skills
- Online access to BCG community of professionals

Qualities of a Successful Portfolio

- Applies standards
- Determines reliability of sources and information
- Identifies and uses all available sources
- Accurately reads, transcribes, and abstracts old documents
- Understands applicable laws
- Incorporates DNA evidence where appropriate
- Assembles and presents findings in thorough and coherent manner

Application Requirements and The Process

- **BCG website (<https://www.bcgcertification.org/>)**
 - Ethics and Standards (*Genealogy Standards*, 2nd edition; Amazon via BCG website)
 - Application Guide (free download)
 - Document Work
 - Research Report
 - Case Study/Proof Argument
 - Kinship Determination Project
 - Rubrics
 - Evaluation



Steps to Success: Developing an Education Strategy

- **Honing Your Writing Skills**
 - College/Adult Education courses
 - Grammar software
 - Grammarly (<https://www.grammarly.com/>)
 - Whitesmoke (<http://www.whitesmoke.com/>)
- **Online email lists, social media, blogs**
 - APG List Serv
 - BCG List Serv (on the clock)
 - Facebook (e.g., *Boston University Cert. Program, Evidence Explained, Genetic Genealogy Tips & Tricks*)
 - Blogs (<https://evidenceexplained.com/>; <https://www.legalgenealogist.com/>)
 - *Our Portfolio Journey: Demystifying the Genealogy Credentialing Process*, hosted by Jill Morelli (<https://thecdgseries.wordpress.com/>)
- **BCG Learning Center**
 - Resources on Key Skills; self-tests
 - Recommended Reading (extensive list of publications)
 - Educational Activities
 - Related Resources
- **Home Study Course**
 - National Genealogical Society (https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/educational_courses)
- **Academic Programs**
 - Boston University (<http://professional.bu.edu/>)
 - Brigham Young University (<https://history.byu.edu/>)
 - Excelsior (<http://www.excelsior.edu/>)
 - Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies (<http://www.ihgs.ac.uk/>)
 - National Institute for Genealogical Studies (<http://www.genealogicalstudies.com/>)
 - University of Strathclyde Centre for Lifelong Learning (<https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/centreforlifelonglearning/>)
- **Institutes**
 - Genealogical Institute on Federal Records (<http://www.gen-fed.org/>)
 - Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (<http://www.gripitt.org/>)
 - Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (<http://ighr.gagensociety.org/>)
 - Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (<https://ugagenealogy.org/aem.php?eid=36>)



- Virtual Institute of Genealogical Research (<http://vigrgenealogy.com/>)
- APG Professional Management Conference (www.apgen.org)
- **Study Groups**
 - ProGen Study Groups (<https://www.progenstudy.org/>)
 - NGSQ Study Groups (<http://ngsqstudygroup.weebly.com/about.html>)
 - Gen Proof Study Groups (<http://www.genproof.org/>)

Conferences

- Association of Professional Genealogists (<https://www.apgen.org/conferences/>)
- Federation of Genealogical Societies (<https://fgs.org/cpage.php?pt=43>)
- Int'l. Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (<http://www.iajgs.org/blog/conferences/future-conferences/>)
- National Genealogical Society (<http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>)
- RootsTech (<https://www.rootstech.org/>)
- New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (<http://www.nergc.org/>)
- Ohio Genealogical Society (<https://www.ogs.org/>)
- Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree (<http://www.genealogyjamboree.com/>)

