

Genetic
Counseling
Description

Genetic counselors provide information and support to individuals and families who have concerns about birth defects or genetic conditions. The genetic counselor acts as a liaison between families and medical professionals. The genetic counselor communicates information about causes, implications and recurrence risks and provides appropriate psychosocial support to help families make decision and to make the best possible adjustments to difficult circumstances.

[American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics \(ACMG\)](#)

[American Society of Human Genetics \(ASHG\)](#)

[Day in the Life of Genetic Counselors](#)

[Genetic Counseling: A Sought-after Career](#)

[Genetic Counseling Admissions FAQ](#)

[Genetic Counseling and Precision Medicine](#)

[Genetic Counseling Books and Articles Online](#)

[Genetic Counseling Career Information](#)

[Genetic Counseling Career Path](#)

[Genetic Counseling Career Paths](#)

[Genetic Counseling Careers](#)

[Genetic Counseling Certification Process](#)

[Genetic Counseling Co-op/Internship Opportunities List, Rochester Institute of Technology](#)

[Genetic Counseling Field Expanding](#)

[Genetic Counseling in Healthcare](#)

[Genetic Counseling Master's Program, Vanderbilt School of Medicine](#)

[Genetic Counseling Overview](#)

[Genetic Counseling Profession](#)

[Genetic Counseling Programs Application Preparation](#)

[Genetic Counseling Prospective Student FAQ](#)

[Genetic Counseling Resources](#)

[Genetic Counselor Career](#)

[Genetic Counselor Career Guide](#)

[Genetic Counselor Career Info](#)

[Genetic Counselor Career Information](#)

[Genetic Counselor Career Overview](#)

[Genetic Counselor Career Path Guide](#)

[Genetic Counselor Career Profile](#)

[Genetic Counselor Degree](#)

[Genetic Counselor Education and Career Roadmap](#)

[Genetic Counselor Executive Summary](#)

[Genetic Counselor Interview](#)

[Genetic Counselor Interview Two](#)

[Genetic Counselor Occupation Information](#)

[Genetic Counselor Occupation Profile](#)

[Genetic Counselor Occupational Outlook](#)

[Genetic Counselor Profile](#)

[Genetic Counselor Q&A](#)

[Genetic Counselor Qualifications](#)

[Genetic Counselor Salary Range](#)

[Genetic Counselor Search](#) (useful for shadowing opportunities)

[Genetic Counselor Training](#)

[Genetic Counselors](#)

[Journal of Genetic Counseling](#)
[Simulated Genetic Counseling Session Videos](#)
[Northwestern University Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling Summer Internship](#)
[Wayne State University School of Medicine Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics Summer Undergraduate Research Program \(SURP\)](#)

Degree Usually master's degree from accredited program. Certification in genetic counseling is available by the [American Board of Genetic Counseling \(ABGC\)](#). Requirements include documentation of the following: a graduate degree in genetic counseling, clinical experience in an ABGC-approved training site or sites, a log book of 50 supervised cases, and successful completion of both the general and specialty certification examination.

Program Length 2-3 years

Professional Schools' Organization [Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling \(ACGC\)](#)
[American Board of Genetic Counseling \(ABGC\)](#)
[Genetic Counseling Graduate School Programs](#)
[Genetic Counseling Training Programs Accredited by the ACGC](#)
[National Society of Genetic Counselors \(NSGC\)](#)

Application Service None

Academic Admission Requirements Bachelor's degree in biology, chemistry, psychology, social work, nursing, or a related field, and work or volunteer experience in a counseling/helping environment.

Admission Exam Usually [GRE](#)

Personal Attributes & Experiences Genetic counselors are health professionals with specialized graduate Degrees and experience in the areas of medical genetics and counseling. Most enter the field from a variety of disciplines, including biology, genetics, nursing, psychology, public health and social work. They work as members of a health care team, providing information and support to families who have members with birth defects or genetic disorders and to families who may be at risk for a variety of inherited conditions. They identify families at risk, investigate the problem present in the family, interpret information about the disorder, analyze inheritance patterns and risks of recurrence and review available options with the family. Genetic counselors also provide supportive counseling to families, serve as patient advocates and refer individuals and families to community or state support services. They serve as educators and resource people for other health care professionals and for the general public.

Recommendation Letters As specified by individual school.