



THE WARREN ALPERT FOUNDATION

AID·GC

Alliance to Increase Diversity
in Genetic Counseling

The Alliance to Increase Diversity in Genetic Counseling at the University of Pennsylvania

Master of Science in Genetic Counseling Program

Providing full scholarships + living expenses for 40 genetic counseling masters students underrepresented in the genetic counseling profession at five MSGC programs over the next five years.

Genetic counselors help people understand and adapt to the medical, psychological, and familial implications of the genetic contributions to disease. They provide education about inheritance, testing, management, prevention, resources, and research; and they provide counseling to promote informed choices and help people adapt to the risk or condition.

The **Genetic Counseling profession currently lacks the diversity it needs** to best serve its diverse patient population. Diversity brings different viewpoints, new approaches to solving problems, culturally sensitive clinicians with firsthand knowledge of the barriers encountered by underrepresented groups.

The following groups are all **underrepresented among genetic counselors**:

- African Americans
- Hispanics/Latinas(os)
- Native Americans
- Asians
- Those with low-income backgrounds
- First-generation college students
- Individuals with disabilities

The Alliance to Increase Diversity in Genetic Counseling (AID-GC), funded by an extraordinary \$9.5 million grant from the **Warren Alpert Foundation** to the University of Pennsylvania, is a visionary partnership between five accredited genetic counseling training programs with the goal of increasing diversity in genetic counseling.

1. University of Pennsylvania
2. Boston University
3. Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
4. Sarah Lawrence College
5. University of Maryland

Over the next five years, these programs will recruit, train, and graduate forty genetic counseling students from groups that are underrepresented in genetic counseling, providing **full tuition scholarships, an educational fellowship to cover living expenses, mentoring and professional development and leadership opportunities.**



The Alliance to Increase Diversity in Genetic Counseling is funded by a generous grant from the Warren Alpert Foundation.

How to Apply

for the Warren Alpert Foundation AID-GC Scholarship and the University of Pennsylvania's Master of Science in Genetic Counseling Program

★ Applicants for the scholarship must also apply for admission to the UPenn MSGC program and/or one or more of the other four Alliance programs.

The admissions committee for the Penn's MSGC program welcomes scholarship applications from underrepresented individuals in genetic counseling. The following groups are all **underrepresented among genetic counselors**:

- African Americans
- Hispanics/Latinas(os)
- Native Americans
- Asians
- Those with low-income backgrounds
- First-generation college students
- Individuals with disabilities

Eligible applicants should follow these directions to apply for Warren Alpert Foundation Alliance to Increase Diversity in Genetic Counseling Scholarship at University of Pennsylvania.

1. Register for the NMS Match by December 15th at <https://natmatch.com/gcadmissions/>
2. Complete the online application (<https://www.med.upenn.edu/geneticcounseling/program-application.html>) and upload all required supporting documents. (The deadline for the University of Pennsylvania MSGC program is December 20th.)
3. Use the essay prompt on the website and application to complete the additional essay for the scholarship application. The essay prompt for the Warren Alpert Foundation Alliance to Increase Diversity scholarship is the same for all five participating programs.
4. Upload the essay to your CollegeNet application and submit the application by **December 20th**.

Learn more:

Visit the website of the University of Pennsylvania Master of Science in Genetic Counseling Program for more information: <https://www.med.upenn.edu/geneticcounseling/alliance-to-increase-diversity-in-genetic-counseling.html>.

Visit the AID-GC website at: <https://aid-gc.org/>.

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