



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

Providing full scholarships + educational fellowships for **40** genetic counseling master's students underrepresented in the genetic counseling profession at **5** MSGC programs over **5** 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 lacks the diversity it needs to best serve its diverse patient population with culturally sensitive clinicians who have firsthand knowledge of the barriers underrepresented groups encounter. Diversity brings different viewpoints and new approaches to solving problems.

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 five years from 2022-2027, these programs will recruit, train, and graduate forty genetic counseling students from groups that are underrepresented in genetic counseling, providing:

full tuition scholarships
educational fellowships to cover living expenses
mentoring
funding for research and conference attendance
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

★ **To be considered for the AID-GC Scholarship**, applicants must apply to the UPenn MSGC program and/or one or more of the other four Alliance programs. Scholarship-eligible applicants who meet the criteria for program admission, interview and are accepted for the program's ranked list will be considered for the scholarship

The Admissions Committee for UPenn's MSGC program welcomes scholarship applications from individuals from **populations underrepresented in genetic counseling**. The National Institutes of Health has defined populations underrepresented in the scientific workforce based on data from the National Science Foundation. Visit the NIH website to see if you identify with one or more of these groups: <https://diversity.nih.gov/about-us/population-underrepresented>

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

1. Register for the NMS Match by December 15th at <https://natmatch.com/gcadmissions/>
2. Complete the UPenn MSGC program's 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 Alliance to Increase Diversity in Genetic Counseling 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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