

Genetic Counseling

Degree	<p>M.Sc. Master of Science</p> <p>Genetic counselors are health care professionals with specialized graduate training in the areas of medical genetics and counseling. Genetic counselors usually work as members of a healthcare 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.</p>
Prerequisite Courses	<p>The following are common prerequisite courses for genetic counseling programs. Requirements may vary from school to school, so it is your responsibility to check requirements of individual programs:</p> <p>Genetics: PCB3063 (prerequisite: BSC2011/L)</p> <p>Biochemistry: BCH4024 or CHM3218 (prerequisite: CHM2211)</p> <p>Statistics: STA2023</p> <p>Psychology: PSY2012</p> <p>Recommended:</p> <p>Cell Biology: MCB3020/L</p> <p>Calculus: MAC2311</p> <p>Additional social science coursework</p>
Major	<p>You may choose ANY major and go on to a genetic counseling program.</p> <p>Choose a major based on your own personal interests and strengths. It doesn't</p>

	<p>need to be a science major- majors in the social sciences or humanities are just fine as long as you take the prerequisite courses.</p>
<p>Application Services</p>	<p>Applications are through individual programs. There is no centralized application service.</p>
<p>Admissions Test</p>	<p>GRE General Test: Graduate Record Exam</p> <p>The GRE is comprised of the following sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Verbal Reasoning -Quantitative Reasoning -Analytical Writing
<p>Timing of Application</p>	<p>Applications are typically due in January (often January 1) of the year of your intended matriculation, but specific deadlines vary from school to school. See each school's website for information.</p>
<p>Reference Guide for School Selection</p>	<p>You will find links to all of the accredited Genetic Counseling programs in the United States, with their specific requirements and other valuable information, at the Accreditation Counsel for Genetic Counseling website.</p>
<p>Number of schools to apply</p>	<p>Most students apply to 2-5 schools.</p> <p>For guidance on choosing schools, watch our workshop on Choosing Schools, use</p>

to	the references above, and visit individual school websites.
Letters of Recommendation	Usually 3-4 letters of recommendation are required from individuals who are familiar with your academic and personal abilities and attributes (this varies by school, check individual school requirements):
Personal Attributes and Experiences	Many Genetic Counseling programs require or strongly recommend experience in a counseling setting such as crisis centers, Planned Parenthood, community counseling centers, or hospice programs. Students should also shadow a genetic counselor to gain a better understanding of the profession and the role of a genetic counselor.
Florida Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of South Florida
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation Counsel for Genetic Counseling • National Society of Genetic Counselors