

University of Utah Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling Opportunities for Giving

As research on human genes advances, awareness of genetic diseases and the need for highly qualified genetic counselors increases. The University of Utah School of Medicine developed the Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling to help meet this demand. This is an important step in translating the knowledge of human genetics to clinical practice.

Genetic counselors are allied health professionals who undertake rigorous training in human genetics and counseling techniques. They work as members of a health care team, providing complex information and support to families who have members with birth defects or genetic disorders. They identify families at risk, investigate the problem present in the family, interpret information about the disorder, analyze inheritance patterns and risk of recurrence and review available options with the family. Genetic counselors provide supportive counseling to families, serve as patient advocates and refer individuals and families to community or state support services. Some counselors work in administrative capacities and many engage in research activities. They serve as educators and resource people for other health care professionals and for the general public. They help families to better understand genetic disorders and make important personal and family decisions. Genetic counselors are increasingly becoming an important part of the health-care team. Utah is a leader in the field of genetic counseling, being the first state in the country to have licensure for counselors.

National experts in cancer genetics, perinatal genetics, pediatric genetics, and genetic research teach in the Program. The Program is a product of the collaboration of the medical school's departments of Human Genetics, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology with the Huntsman Cancer Institute, ARUP Laboratories, Intermountain Health Care, Myriad Genetics Laboratories, and the Utah Department of Health. Graduates receive a Master's Degree in Genetic Counseling from the Department of Human Genetics. The Program is accredited by the American Board of Genetic Counseling.

The University of Utah School of Medicine has provided core administrative support for the program. Program faculty members are committed to providing teaching and supervision time, as well as serving on administrative committees. However, the Program is in need of additional funds, particularly in the areas of student scholarships/fellowships, student travel to national meetings, student research, and faculty development.

Your donation will help the Program achieve its goal of educating highly qualified, diverse students who will help fill the growing local, regional and national need for genetic counselors. This will improve the health care of Utah families, as well as fill an existing gap in the excellent genetics program at the University.

Yes! I would like to support the University of Utah Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling

STEP ONE: Let us know who you are.

Name _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Indicate if the gift is in memory of someone else _____

Please check if you do not want to be listed as a donor on the UUGPGC website.

No, do not list me as a donor

STEP TWO: Choose a payment option. (Check one)

My check payable for \$ _____ made payable to UUGPGC is enclosed.

Please charge my credit card \$ _____.

Please charge my credit card in installments of \$ _____ per month (minimum \$25) for _____ months.

Credit card information (check one): VISA MasterCard AMEX Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Cardholder's Name (as appears on card) _____

Cardholder's Signature (required) _____ Date _____

I am a University of Utah employee and wish to authorize payment through payroll deduction of \$ _____ per pay period (minimum of \$10) for _____ (insert number) pay periods.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

STEP THREE: Indicate the need you would like your gift to support.

University of Utah Student Fellowship Fund

This fund will be used to award fellowships based on merit to students in the program. Awards of half tuition regular tuition or more will also qualify students for the tuition waiver program.

Student research and meetings

These donations will be used to fund student research projects and send students to a national genetics meeting.

Unrestricted gift

The program administrators will direct these donations to areas of need.

University of Utah Student Fellowship Endowment Fund - General

This fund will be held in perpetuity for student fellowships and only the interest will be used to fund student fellowships. Awards of half tuition regular tuition or more will also qualify students for the tuition waiver program.

Individual Endowment Funds - Named

A minimum \$10,000 donation (contributions can be spread over a number of years) can endow a permanent fellowship or scholarship tailored to a donor's specific support interests and bearing the name requested by the donor.

For more information or donations for fellowships or named endowments, please contact University of Utah Health Sciences Development (801-581-4401) or the UUGPGC Program Director, Bonnie Baty (801-581-6914). Visit the program website at: <http://www.genetics.utah.edu/genetics-counseling>.

Please mail this form to: University of Utah Health Sciences Development, 540 Arapeen, Research Park, Suite 120, Salt Lake City, UT 84101