

JOAN H. MARKS MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN

GENETIC COUNSELING

SARAH
LAWRENCE
COLLEGE
GRADUATE
STUDIES

Home of the nation's first—and still largest—Genetic Counseling Program, Sarah Lawrence has more experience educating and training genetic counselors than any other academic institution in the world. This celebrated program prepares genetic counselors to work at the crossroads of medicine, technology, and bioethics.

As health care professionals, genetic counselors utilize their expertise in genetics to evaluate comprehensive information about risk and the appropriate use of genomic technologies. They discuss genetic health issues with patients and their families while respecting the spectrum of personal beliefs and values that exist in society.

Students enrolled in the Genetic Counseling Program at Sarah Lawrence College:

- Study with a faculty comprised of top physicians, scientists, and genetic counselors from the region's most respected hospitals, medical centers, and research institutions
- Obtain hands-on clinical training in one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse metropolitan areas in the world
- Work with patients and their families affected with a wide range of genetic conditions throughout the lifespan
- Experience how clinical genetic services are delivered in a variety of health care settings—from large academic medical centers to community-based hospitals

- Engage in a dynamic and collaborative research project mentored by prominent researchers in the field
- Pursue areas of interest by doing elective rotations and co-curricular learning experiences
- Receive mentoring by a close-knit group of faculty and clinical supervisors
- Enjoy the benefits of a large network of program alumni covering all regions of North America as well as many international locations

THE PROGRAM

The Genetic Counseling Program provides students with the knowledge base, through didactic course work and supervised clinical training, to develop the practice-based competencies needed to provide genetic counseling services. By the end of the training program, students can obtain, apply, interpret, synthesize, and evaluate information appropriately in a wide variety of genetic counseling situations.

Most students complete the program on a full-time basis in 21 months. A total of 70 credits are needed to earn a Master of Science degree in human genetics. Students who successfully complete the program are eligible to sit for the American Board of Genetic Counseling Certification Examination. The program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT SARAHLAWRENCE.EDU/GENETIC-COUNSELING.
INQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO GENETICCOUNSELING@SARAHLAWRENCE.EDU.**

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JOAN H. MARKS GRADUATE PROGRAM IN GENETIC COUNSELING**

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

There is a tremendous need for genetic counselors in the health care workforce, providing graduating students with multiple job opportunities. In addition to clinical roles, genetic counselors have expanded and adapted their skills into areas such as research, industry, education, policy, public health, administration, and advocacy. The program supports students in their job search by assisting them with interviewing and negotiating strategies and by connecting students with the multitude of recruiters who contact the program.

ADMISSION

Qualified applicants will have a four-year baccalaureate degree and undergraduate course work. The following are required prerequisites for admission (to be completed before enrollment):

- Biochemistry
- General Biology
- Human Embryology or Vertebrate Developmental Biology
- Genetics (Mendelian)
- Molecular Genetics or Cell Biology
- Basic Chemistry
- Probability and Statistics
- Exposure to and/or shadowing of genetic counseling
- Experience in a health care-related and/or advocacy organization

Other requirements include:

- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Submission of official transcripts
- Letters of recommendation
- Personal statement

International applicants are required to take the TOEFL Examination to assess their English-language ability.

Applicants are expected to demonstrate an understanding of the genetic counseling profession and role of the genetic counselor. Shadowing and/or interviewing a genetic counselor often accomplishes this. Applicants should have firsthand experience working with individuals with a health condition, in a crisis, or undergoing some other difficulty. This is often accomplished through volunteer work and functioning as an advocate or counselor.

Visit the program's website for detailed information about prerequisites and other admissions information.

LEARN MORE

We invite you to visit
sarahlawrence.edu/genetic-counseling
for more information.

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