



University of Minnesota Genetic Counseling Program

Undergraduate Research Assistant Opportunities

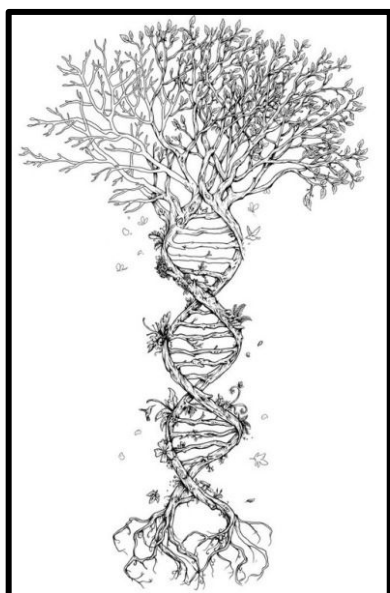
Are you a University of Minnesota Undergraduate Student interested in exploring research in the field of Genetic Counseling?

Richard King Fund Research Assistantships support Undergraduate students at \$15/hr. for a maximum of 100 hours (\$1500 total) per semester.

To get started and download an application, visit:

<https://cbs.umn.edu/genetic-counseling/resources/king>

Applications due 9/22/23



Current Research Opportunities

- **Community Based Research to improve Genetic Counseling and Genetics Service Delivery:** This study will be a scoping literature review. The student will work with a librarian and Dr. Heather Zierhut to review the available literature on the use of community based engaged or participatory research approaches in genetic counseling, genetic implementation, clinical genetic testing and genetic service delivery studies. The overall goal of the literature review is to summarize how researchers have used community based research to identify the needs, goals, processes, and use of the research findings on genetics service delivery. Undergraduate students working as research assistants will review published journal articles and gray literature for inclusion or exclusion in the review. Then research assistants will extract data from the articles into a database and synthesize themes identified in the included articles by comparing and contrasting the needs, goals, and use of the research findings in clinical practice. If time permits, they will also participate in writing an article for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
- **Professional Development Milestones of Laboratory Genetic Counselors:** With ~20% of the field now working at least part time in laboratory settings, it is critical we better understand how these careers are unfolding and determine markers of professional development unique to this specialty. Such markers have been explored for clinical GCs, and our study is replicating that work with lab GCs. We have already conducted interviews and coded most of the transcripts. You will work with Dr. Ian MacFarlane to finalize the coding of transcripts and conduct the final analysis looking at differences in themes across experience levels. You will learn to use the qualitative data analysis software NVivo and assist with developing a manuscript for publication.



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