



Standards Committee

Charge

The purpose of the ACGC Standards Committee is to make recommendations to the ACGC Board of Directors as to necessary changes to the *Standards of Accreditation for Graduate Programs in Genetic Counseling*.

Membership Criteria and Restrictions

This committee shall consist of 5-7 individuals including:

- Experienced ACGC Site Visitor (within past 5 years)
- Experienced ACGC Program Review Committee member (within past 3 years)
- Program leadership from ACGC-accredited genetic counseling graduate program(s)
- Board-certified, practicing genetic counselor(s) with experience (minimum 3 years) serving as a fieldwork supervisor for at least one ACGC-accredited genetic counseling graduate program
- Senior faculty member within a genetic counseling graduate program who is knowledgeable about curriculum design and development
- ACGC Board Liaison

No more than one (1) member may have a current or recent (within 3 years) affiliation with the same genetic counseling graduate program, currently accredited or in development. Program leadership should not comprise more than 50% of the committee membership.

A Chair shall be selected from the existing committee members each year (July 1), members can serve more than one year in a row as Chair. After serving as Chair, this member shall serve one year as Immediate Past Chair. Serving as Immediate Past Chair should not extend the length of the term of that member.

Term

The term for each member (other than the BOD Liaison) shall be four (4) years to align with periodic review cycles and, beginning July 1 and ending June 30. Terms shall be staggered to allow for the continual presence of experienced members, particularly during years in which a comprehensive review of all Standards is occurring. The term for the Board Liaison may vary.

Responsibilities

The Standards Committee will have the following responsibilities:

- Monitor the environment in which genetic counseling graduate students are trained, as well as changes within the profession of genetic counseling, and be thoughtful as to how changes in training requirements impact all stakeholders
- Draft and submit recommendations to the ACGC Board of Directors on appropriate standards for genetic counseling educational programs, including but not limited to required curricular content, minimum staffing levels for administration and faculty, didactic teaching and clinical supervision, financial resources/requirements and sufficient physical space and resources to support learning

- Thoroughly review all Standards a minimum of every four years
- Review expedited requests and make recommendations to the Board of Directors for action regarding revisions to the standards. Expedited requests must be accompanied by rationale and evidence of need for requested revision.

Meeting Schedule

During years in which all Standards are reviewed, the committee will meet at least monthly by phone and may meet 1-2 times in person. During years in which all Standards are not under review, the committee will meet at least quarterly by phone and more often if needed.

Reporting Structure

The Chair will report to the President quarterly, the Board Liaison may provide updates to the Board on a more frequent basis. Standards Committee recommendations will be presented to the Board of Directors for deliberation and vote.

Budget and Required Resources

The Committee Chair will propose an annual budget (July 1-June 30) to the President and Executive Director based on anticipated needs.

*Approved by the ACGC Board of Directors on May 23, 2017
Revised and approved April 18, 2019*