ACGC MESSENGER



A Newsletter from the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling

Welcome to the ACGC Messenger

Welcome to the 2026 Fourth Quarter ACGC Messenger newsletter. In this issue, you'll find important updates, information, and announcements from ACGC.

2026 Updates: ACGC Resources and Policies

In 2026, ACGC volunteers continued developing resources to strengthen the quality of genetic counseling education and provide clearer guidance for reviews and submissions.

Below is a list of resources and materials that were updated or created in 2026:

- **2026 Standards of Accreditation**
- **2026 Standards Change Guide**
- **All Biosketch types to align with the 2026 Standards**
- Candidacy Application
- New Program Application
- **ACGC Bylaws**
- **Program Leadership Personnel Change Policy**
- **Substantive Change Policy**
- **Policy and Resolution Process for Reports of Noncompliance** (includes the ACGC Report of Noncompliance Form)
- **Decisions Subject to Reconsideration**

Along with these improvements, there was a substantial upgrade done within Armature in September 2026. New features include (but are not limited to) auto-save, the ability to 'Preview' and 'Replace' documents directly within the system, and improved visual aids intended to aid in the user experience as you work to complete all submission types.

Substantive Change - Increase in Program Enrollment Reminder



If your program intends to increase the total number of students enrolled by more than 10% or four total students (whichever is smaller) for the next academic year, a Substantive Change for this adjustment needs to be submitted and approved by the ACGC Board of Directors prior to participation in the Genetic Counseling Admissions Match. Generally, review and approval of this submission type can take several months, depending on additional information requests, so please allow extra time within your planning for this change. It is recommended that if you intend to implement this change during the 2027 Match Cycle (rankings open March 22nd), the form should be submitted no

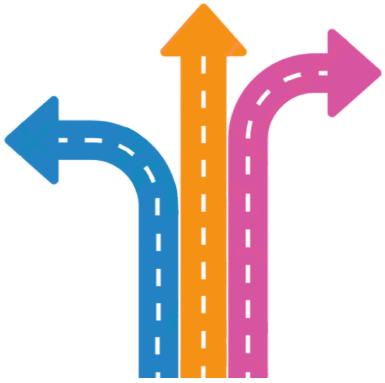
later than **December 23, 2026**. This timing does not guarantee approval but allows for the reviewers to begin the process in a timely manner.

To have any type of **Substantive Change form** opened in Armature, please **email the Executive Office** to start the process.

2025 Annual Report

Go behind the scenes of ACGC! Explore the newly released **2025 Annual Report**—and reports from previous years—to discover key milestones, accomplishments, and how the organization continues to evolve.

Which Standards Apply to Each Submission Type?



We know things can be a bit confusing anytime there is a transition period to a new set of Standards, so we wanted to try to get ahead of any questions you might have prior to the compliance date with the 2026 Standards of August 1, 2026. Therefore, you can expect the following:

- The 2027 RCS will be the last to follow the 2023 Standards. Any Remediation Plans assigned to those programs completing a 2027 RCS will also still align with the 2023 Standards.
- The 2027 Self-Study will align with the 2026 Standards. Any Remediation Plans assigned to those programs completing a 2027 Self-Study will align with the 2026 Standards.
- Any Remediation Plan Evaluations assigned as part of the 2027 Review Cycle will align with the 2026 Standards.
- Effective June 1, 2027, all Substantive Change types and Program Leadership Change submissions will need to comply with the 2026 Standards.

If you're still not sure what has changed between the 2023 Standards and the 2026 Standards, make sure to review the **2026 Standards Change Guide**!

Office Hours



December 3rd - 11 am - 12 pm EST

Come prepared with any questions you may have, or feel free to send them to us in advance to be answered live! This is a chance to collaborate with other program leaders and ACGC Board members on questions, clarifications, and generally engage with your accreditation community. Register **here**!

Program Development

2026 Application Status

Ongoing New Program Applications
Florida State University

2026 Programs Undergoing Reaccreditation
Bay Path University
Medical University of South Carolina
University of Connecticut
Thomas Jefferson University
Rutgers University
University of Alabama
University of Colorado
University of Manitoba
University of Pittsburgh

Announcements

2026 Site Visits: **September 2026 through January 2027**
American College of Medical Genetic and Genomics Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting - *Minneapolis, MN*: **April 13-17, 2027**
Accreditation Fees Due: **June 30, 2027**
Report of Current Status Application Due: **June 30, 2027**
Genetic Counselor Educators Association Annual Conference - *Kansas City, MO*: **July 12-14, 2027**
Self-Study Application Due: **August 1, 2027**
Canadian Association of Genetic Counselors 2027 Annual Education Conference – **TBD**
American Society of Human Genetics Conference – *Nashville, TN*: **October 26-30, 2027**
National Society of Genetic Counselors 46th Annual Conference - *Tampa, FL*: **November 7-11, 2027**

We encourage you to forward and share this newsletter on your social media platforms or with colleagues and associates.