GENETIC COUNSELING INTERN POSITION
MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN

BACKGROUND:

Genetic counselors are healthcare professionals with specialized graduate training in the areas of medical genetics and counseling. Genetic counselors usually work as members of a healthcare team, providing information and support to families who have members with birth defects or genetic disorders and to families who may be at risk for a variety of inherited conditions.

Depending on the specific reason(s) for the consultation, the genetic counselor may:

- Review personal and family medical histories
- Identify possible genetic risks and discuss inheritance patterns
- Review appropriate testing options
- Discuss prevention strategies, screening tools, and disease management
- Provide genetics-related information and reliable resources
- Provide supportive counseling

(Adapted from www.nsgc.org)

ABOUT MCW:

Mission: To be a national leader in the education and development of the next generation of physicians and scientists; to discover and translate new knowledge in the biomedical sciences; to provide cutting-edge, interdisciplinary and compassionate clinical care of the highest quality; and to improve the health of the communities we serve.

At MCW, our genetic counselors work in a wide variety of settings and may provide different services. We currently staff the Froedtert Health Network clinics in: perinatology and family planning, oncology, cardiology, ophthalmology, and neurology.

OBJECTIVE:

To assist the genetic counselors in case preparation and program development projects. Also to observe genetic counseling sessions and learn about genetic counseling as a career.

DAYS AND TIMES:

The days and times of the internship are variable depending on the on-site needs and intern availability. We will adapt to fit to the student's schedule. Our commitment is typically 140-160 hours per semester.
DUTIES:

- Shadow clinicians and observe patient care.
- Provide aide-related activities such as obtaining medical records, family medical history, pedigree construction, relevant medical literature searches, other case preparation work, and communication follow-up.
- Aid in the development of patient education tools.
- Work on program development projects that may involve data collection/entry, data analysis, contacting referring physicians, enhancing access to services, etc.
- Participate in community education events.

PREREQUISITES:

- Actively enrolled as an undergraduate in their junior or senior year. Minimum GPA of 3.0. Currently enrolled or completed a college level biology and genetics course.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

The application process is through MCW’s PURE Program:

[http://www.mcw.edu/Graduate-School/Prospective-Students/Internship-Program-PURE.htm](http://www.mcw.edu/Graduate-School/Prospective-Students/Internship-Program-PURE.htm)

The MCW Genetic Counseling Internship Program does accept students year round.

LINKS OF INTEREST:

For more information about the field of genetic counseling: [www.nsgc.org](http://www.nsgc.org)

For more information about the MCW Genetic Counseling Program:

[http://www.mcw.edu/Human-and-Molecular-Genetics-Center-HMGC/Genetic-Counseling.htm](http://www.mcw.edu/Human-and-Molecular-Genetics-Center-HMGC/Genetic-Counseling.htm)