

ABGC Research Committee

Charge

The Research Committee's purpose is to support the conduct, dissemination, and use of research to enhance the genetic counseling profession in alignment with the ABGC strategic plan through:

-) Developing and updating an annual research and assessment agenda for board approval; recommendations on how to complete the research will be included
-) Establishing a funding budget/program for research, including criteria for grant application process
-) Funding research and assessment projects through board-approved processes
-) Approving and monitoring grants
-) Promoting research agenda throughout genetic counseling community through collaboration with related organizations (ACGC, AGCPD, ACMG, ASHG, CAGC, and NSGC)
-) Promoting existing research through guidance/mentorship in publishing results
-) Encouraging a variety of research methods and perspectives
-) Evaluating the processes on a periodic basis

Composition

The committee shall be comprised of no fewer than 5 individuals certified by ABGC with experience in one or more of the following categories:

-) Significant experience in conducting and publishing research (first author)
-) Research in a clinical setting specific to genetic counseling
-) Evaluating grants from either a scientific or human subjects standpoint
-) Demonstrated expertise in research methodology (through successfully becoming a PI on a grant or additional research training beyond the masters level)

Furthermore, the committee shall include:

-) One board liaison
-) One committee chair

The committee may include external resources such as subject matter experts or research firm expertise as needed.

Term

The term shall be January 1 – December 31 for a period of three years.

The committee members will be staggered for succession planning.

Reporting Responsibilities

The committee's annual research and assessment agenda is subject to board approval. The committee must submit a budget request for financial resources and how they are to be applied (e.g., total amount in research funding request, resources needed for meetings, calls, etc.) The chair or board liaison will be responsible for reporting to the board status of funded research on a periodic basis. Additional reports to the board may be needed based on the research funded.

The research committee will keep the board apprised of the status of the committee through the board report of the liaison. The committee will generate additional reports, as needed.

Authority:

The committee has the authority to determine what projects will be funded based on review of application materials and subject to total amount budgeted. The committee will operate under the funding guidelines provided for in the organizational annual budget at the beginning of each year.

Deliverables:

Annual research agenda
Status reports for funded research on a periodic basis
Published research data
Determined by the grant

Meeting Schedule

The initial Research Committee should propose the meeting structure and schedule including estimated time commitment for volunteers.

Budget and Required Resources

The Research Committee Chair submits budget request to the Executive Director and Secretary/Treasurer in early fall for the following fiscal year.