

# Building Blocks of the Genetic Counseling Profession



## American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC)

ABGC's mission is to protect the public by setting certification standards and providing leadership to promote the value of certified genetic counselors.

*\*Practice Analysis, Detailed Content Outline*



## Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling (ACGC)

ACGC advances quality in genetic counseling education by developing and maintaining standards for educational and clinical training of genetic counseling students and implementing a peer-review process to evaluate programs.

*\*Standards of Accreditation, Practice Based Competencies*



## Association of Genetic Counseling Program Directors (AGCPD)

The AGCPD promotes collaboration between genetic counseling program directors to facilitate recruitment, admissions, education, and guidance of genetic counseling students and to nurture new program development.



## National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC)

NSGC advances the various roles of genetic counselors in health care by fostering education, research, and public policy to ensure the availability of quality genetic services. profession.

*\*Code of Ethics, Scope of Practice*

*\*Documents of the profession that each organization manages*

## How the organizations interact/layer:



**ABGC** measures competency among genetic counseling graduates through the certification exam. ABGC certification is required for licensure in most states. ABGC reports back to accredited programs how its graduates perform on the exam. ABGC conducts a practice analysis which forms the basis for exam content and captures changes in practice. (Entrance to the profession)



**ACGC** applies rigorous standards to its accreditation process of genetic counseling programs, promoting competency-based graduate education and training, ensuring the development of a highly competent genetic counseling workforce. (Formalized education)



**AGCPD's** members are genetic counseling programs. AGCPD and its members must stay abreast of what constitutes competent practice and of changes in the genetic counseling profession. They must also anticipate changes in the profession in order to make timely changes in training. (Formalized education and current practice)



**NSGC** offers memberships to students and professionals alike, advocates for the profession and offers a forum for discussion regarding all aspects of genetics and genetic counseling. NSGC establishes positions on issues of policy and develops clinical guidelines that inform standards of professional practice. (Advocacy for the profession)