



QUALIFICATIONS FOR
LICENSURE:

GENETIC COUNSELOR
(246)

Effective Date: 12/2024

Revised Date: N/NNNN

READ ME FIRST

The Division of Professional Regulation hopes that you will find the below useful in successfully applying for a license in the State of Illinois. Carefully review this information as it will assist you in applying for your license and eliminate any processing delays.

Important:

- An application is active for three years from the date of receipt by the Department.
- Before contacting the Department, please review our FAQs for answers to most questions. <http://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/About/FAQ.html>)
- If your question is not addressed in our FAQ's, please contact the department at 1-800-560-6420.
- If you are issued an Illinois genetic counselor license, please be advised that your license will expire on January 31 of odd-numbered years.

LICENSE QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

- Initial licensure:
 - a) Master's degree in genetic counseling from program approved by the American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC); **or**
 - b) Completion of an accredited training program offered by the American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ABMGG); **or**
 - c) Completion of an equivalent program approved by the American Board of Genetic Counseling or the American Board of Medical Genetics.
- Endorsement:
 - a) Master's degree in genetic counseling from the American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC); **or**
 - b) Completion of an accredited training program offered by the American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ABMGG); **or**
 - c) An equivalent program approved by the American Board of Genetic Counseling or the American Board of Medical Genetics.

Examination:

- Proof of original/current certification as a Board Diplomate (original letter if recently certified or current certificate) issued by the American Board of Genetic Counseling or the American Board of Medical Genetics or Genomics.
- Proof of passage of the examination(s) are required for licensure in Illinois.
- All examinations must be taken through the ABGC or ABMGG.

Experience:

- Experience must comply with the requirements of Section 1251.20 of the Administrative Rules and be submitted on the VE form.

REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Official Exam Certification — Proof of original/current certification as a Board Diplomate (original letter if recently certified or current certificate) issued by the American Board of Genetic Counseling or the American Board of Medical Genetics or Genomics.

2. Official Transcripts — Submit proof of **one** of the following:

a) Master's degree in genetic counseling from program approved by the American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC); or

b) Completion of an accredited training program offered by the American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ABMGG); or

c) Completion of an equivalent program approved by the American Board of Genetic Counseling or the American Board of Medical Genetics.

Each transcript must be uploaded during the application. If you are unable to upload, the transcripts must be sent directly from the University to the department at FPR.PSSUNIT@ILLINOIS.GOV.

3. VE-GC Form— for your verified experience.

Each VE form must be sent directly from the supervisor to the department at FPR.PSSUNIT@ILLINOIS.GOV.

4. Official License Certification — for your current registration/license in another U.S. state/territory (for endorsement applicants only.) Certification must be sent directly from the state/territory to the department at FPR.PSSUNIT@ILLINOIS.GOV.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ONCE LICENSED

- All Genetic Counselor licenses expire on Jan 31 of each odd-numbered year, regardless of issuance date.
- It is your responsibility to update your contact information including email address with the Department to ensure that you receive all courtesy renewal email reminders and other notifications.
- For counselors who have completed their formal training outside of the United States and Canada, you must apply as an International Genetic Counselor Certification Examinee (IGCCE). This requirement includes those Canadian genetic counselors who have earned a degree from genetic counseling programs that are not accredited or did not have Recognized New Program or Provisional Accreditation status at the time of their matriculation. You are directed to the ABGC website for further information: <http://www.abgc.net>. NOTE: The final decision as to an individual's qualifications for entrance into, or completion of, the IGCCE program is at the sole discretion of the ABGC.