Medical Genetics Scope of Practice

This document defines the scope of practice of clinical medical geneticists and genetics laboratory directors. Medical genetics is a broad and unique specialty of medicine, involving all organ systems, periods of life and disease entities. The American College of Medical Genetics provides the leadership for maintaining the high quality of clinical and laboratory genetic services. The American Board of Medical Genetics provides for accreditation of laboratory training programs and certification of physicians who have completed formal education and training in all areas of medical genetics. The residency review committee (RRC) for Medical Genetics provides for accreditation of Medical Genetics residency programs under the auspices of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

The professional trained in medical genetics has specialized education and training in basic genetics, inherited diseases, dysmorphology, metabolic disease, the genetics physical examination, ordering and interpretation of genetic tests, genetic susceptibility to common disease, the impact of genetic risks and diagnoses on individuals, families, communities and society and leads a team of professionals that cares for the patient and the family. The clinical medical geneticist is responsible for assuring the high standards of education and continuing education of the team, to maintain the quality of the genetics services being provided. Genetic services are not always provided by physicians who are board certified in clinical medical genetics, but the board-certified clinical medical geneticist, as team leader should oversee any provider who provides genetic services so that the same standard of care is provided in the delivery of that service.
**The Medical Genetics Health Care Team**

Members of the genetics health care team most commonly include clinical and laboratory medical geneticists, genetic counselors and nurse geneticists, and metabolic disease dieticians. Clinical and laboratory medical genetics service providers are certified by the American Board of Medical Genetics. Certification of other team members is through their respective boards, such as the American Board of Genetic Counseling.

**Clinical Medical Geneticists**

Optimum genetic health care provided by the clinical medical geneticist rests on the foundations of accurate genetic risk assessment, accurate clinical diagnosis, appropriate use and interpretation of genetic and other tests, case management, timely therapeutic intervention, and family centered education and counseling that facilitates adaptation and decision-making. The clinical medical geneticist is uniquely qualified to diagnose, treat, case manage, coordinate, and supervise this care for individuals and families with known and suspected genetic disorders over the entire lifespan.

The role of the medical geneticist is broad and may include:

1. Presymptomatic risk assessment, including family history risk assessment, genetic test selection and interpretation for individuals and family members, follow-up screening protocols, and treatment options.
2. Reproductive risk assessment including family history risk assessment, ethnicity specific screening, teratogen/pregnancy risk assessment, testing options, discussion of options for managing reproductive risk, and counseling regarding fetal therapeutic interventions to facilitate informed consent and empower decision-making.
3. Newborn (or other) population screening, including test interpretation, therapeutic intervention, and family counseling and carrier testing.
4. Proband evaluation including three generation pedigree, genetic physical examination, genetic/syndrome diagnosis, test selection and interpretation, case management, enzyme replacement or other therapeutic interventions, and family counseling.
The medical geneticist serves as the medical home for many patients with birth defects and genetic disorders. The provision of optimum genetic health care usually requires a team-based approach involving collaboration, cooperation, and coordination with other health care providers including other physicians, dentists, genetic counselors, nurses, dieticians, social workers, and additional non-physician providers working within their defined scope of practice. In these situations, the medical geneticist is uniquely qualified and trained to assume overall responsibility for the genetic health care of the patient and family.

**Laboratory Geneticists**

The laboratory geneticist is commonly involved in patient diagnosis and follow-up. Laboratory geneticists may have MD or PhD degrees. They take responsibility for the function and practices of their clinical laboratories to ensure that accurate testing results are provided to physicians and patients. The combination of accurate laboratory results interpretation and clinical evaluation allows the clinical medical geneticist and other physicians to establish the patient's diagnosis.

Genetics laboratory directors are distinguished from other providers of laboratory testing by their training and certification in human and medical genetics that is directly applicable to heritable disease testing; however, they may also be involved in genetic testing for non-heritable conditions (such as the somatic changes seen in cancer) because of their laboratory training. Laboratory geneticists are involved with direction of all aspects of the operation of a clinical genetics laboratory including the interpretation of laboratory test results, test development, supervision of technicians in the laboratory, and preparation and analysis of specimens submitted for genetic screening or genetic testing.
The role of the laboratory geneticist may involve a wide range of genetic testing and other activities, such as:

1. Heritable genetic disease testing, including diagnostic testing, family based evaluation, prenatal testing, population based screening, carrier screening, and newborn screening and follow-up.
2. Acquired genetic disease testing, including diagnostic and prognostic testing, and testing for disease monitoring.
3. Provider education.
4. Provision and supervision of genetic counseling services that address laboratory and testing issues

**Genetic Counselors**

Genetic counselors are members of the medical genetics team that is led by a clinical medical geneticist or other physicians. They are involved in development, documentation and assessment of family histories, facilitation of genetic testing decision-making, patient/family education, and they address the psychosocial needs of their patients. Genetic counselors also operate in a growing list of subspecialty genetic services including prenatal, pediatric, cancer and psychiatric (or neuro) genetics. These genetic counselors may be independent of the direct medical genetics team and are directed by the physicians in the respective areas.

**Telegenetics Services**

ACMG recognizes that telemedicine can expand access to genetic services and that the role of the clinical geneticist as the leader of the genetic services team can be facilitated through these technologies. The provision of telegenetic services alters the relationships among physicians, patients and other members of the team, and the clinical geneticist is qualified to oversee and ensure the proper use of telegenetics in patient management, particularly with regard to diagnosis and all stages of treatment.

Approved by the ACMG Board of Directors, March 11, 2008
Genetic privilege examples

During the past year, a number of academic medical centers have been required by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) to describe the hospital privileges of the medical geneticists in that institution specifically as those of a medical geneticist rather than as a pediatrician or other specialty group in whose department they may reside. In order to assist members to work with their medical staff offices to develop Genetic privilege forms for their institution we have received permission to post three examples of forms currently in use. The creators of these forms have used the genetic scope of practice information to create privilege forms for Medical Genetics and its subspecialties.

As one reviews the forms several parts are common to each:

- Definition of appropriate training
- Relevant certifying boards including eligibility, certification and maintenance of certification
- Core privileges for specialty. These are the descriptions of what medical geneticists and genetic counselors do in practice based on their training. Most institutions have gone to a core privilege document with broad description of practice rather than the extensive laundry lists of activities. Most institutions will need your assistance to create the core privilege. This is where the scope of practice document (when approved) will assist the institution.
- Most will also list a general section (sometimes called Category I) which generically applies to all providers in an organization.
- Privileges may be requested beyond the core privileges. These are sometimes referred to as Category 3. This would include sub-specialty training (cytogenetics, molecular genetics) or privileges that one is trained to do that are not within the core privileges (e.g. intubation, chest tube etc.) One must provide evidence of additional training for these privileges. This training may be specifically defined as in some of the examples provided.

These forms are provided as examples only. They may be used and modified without permission from the ACMG or any other agency or institution. If you have examples of genetic privilege forms at your institution that you are willing to provide as examples, please contact the ACMG staff. The forms will be modified to remove all institutional or other identifiable information.
APPLICATION FOR PRIVILEGES IN MEDICAL GENETICS

Name of Applicant
(Please Type)

APPLICANT’S CERTIFICATION OF MENTAL AND PHYSICAL COMPETENCY

To the best of my knowledge, I am not suffering from, nor undergoing treatment for any physical or mental condition which impairs my ability to discharge my responsibilities for patient care.

________________________________     ______________________________
Signature of Applicant     Date

CATEGORY I

A. Eligibility: An applicant must have Category II privileges in another area of specialty prior to granting of privileges.

Privileges: Include management of simple problems in this area.

B. Eligibility: An applicant must possess a [ ] State license to practice Medicine and must have completed at least two years of an approved residency program with experience in emergency care acceptable to the Director of the Service.

Privileges: Include the provision of initial comprehensive emergency care of patients for complex multi-system illnesses encompassing all aspects of diagnosis and management.

CATEGORY II

Designation of Category II privileges includes Category I-A privileges in every other clinical department other than Human Genetics.

A. Clinical Genetics

Eligibility: An applicant must have satisfactorily completed an approved residency and be board eligible or board certified in any medical specialty AND must have completed a Clinical Genetics Fellowship in an American Board of Medical Genetics approved program and be board eligible or board certified by the American Board of Medical Genetics in Clinical Genetics, OR have completed a Medical Genetics residency and be board certified or board eligible in Clinical Genetics.
Privileges: Include the provision of continuing, comprehensive, non-surgical care of patients with genetic disorders, birth defects and developmental disabilities including all aspects of diagnosis, management, counseling and treatment (except those specified in Category III). Applicants who are not board eligible or certified in Pediatrics must have a Secondary Pediatric Attending listed for patients admitted to a Pediatric inpatient unit. Applicants who are not board certified or eligible in Internal Medicine must have a Secondary Internal Medicine Attending listed for patients admitted to an Internal Medicine inpatient unit.

Evaluation: To be determined upon satisfactory review of work after two years with above privileges.

**CATEGORY III**

_______ IIIA. Medical Genetics Special Procedures

Eligibility: For members of the Department of Human Genetics, an applicant must have satisfactorily completed training in the techniques of performing the below specified activities in their residency or fellowship training or have demonstrated current experience acceptable to [Institution 1] and be ACLS or PALS certified.

Privileges: Designation of Category IIIA privileges includes Category II privileges in this Department to perform. This category of privileges is deemed to include conscious sedation:

_______ 1. Skin biopsy for diagnostic purposes
_______ 2. Suprapubic bladder taps
_______ 3. Lumbar puncture
_______ 4. Peripheral arterial puncture
_______ 5. Laryngoscopy
_______ 6. Endotracheal intubation

_______ IIIB. Clinical Cytogenetics

Eligibility: An applicant must have an doctoral degree AND have completed an American Bard of Medical Genetics accredited fellowship in Clinical Cytogenetics AND be board eligible or board certified by the American Board of Medical Genetics in Clinical Cytogenetics.

Privileges: Performance and supervision of analyses on human body fluids and tissues in a [State] licensed laboratory leading to laboratory diagnoses of chromosomal disorders.
Evaluation: To be terminated upon satisfactory review of work after two years with above privileges.

IIC. Clinical Molecular Genetics

Eligibility: An applicant must have a doctoral degree and have completed an American Board of Medical Genetics accredited Fellowship in Clinical Molecular Genetics AND be board eligible or board certified by the American Board of Medical Genetics in Clinical Molecular Genetics.

Privileges: Performance and supervision of molecular analyses on human body fluids and tissues leading to the laboratory diagnosis of genetic disorders and/or predisposition to disease.

Evaluation: To be terminated upon satisfactory review of work after two years with above privileges.

IID. Clinical Biochemical Genetics

Eligibility: An applicant must have a doctoral degree and have completed an American Board of Medical Genetics accredited Fellowship in Clinical Biochemical Genetics and be board eligible or board certified by the American Board of Medical Genetics in Clinical Biochemical Genetics.

Privileges: Performance and supervision of biochemical analyses on human tissues and body fluids leading to the laboratory diagnosis of genetic disorders and predispositions to genetic disorders.

Evaluation: To be terminated upon satisfactory review of work after two years with above privileges.

IIE. PhD Medical Geneticist

Eligibility: An applicant must have a doctoral degree and have completed a Fellowship in PhD Medical Genetics that is accredited by the American Board of Medical Genetics AND must be board eligible or board certified as a PhD Medical Geneticist.

Privileges: PhD Medical Geneticists may provide genetic counseling and non-surgical, non-medical supportive care for patients with genetic disorders and their family members within an appropriately medically supervised program under the direction of a Board Certified Clinical Geneticist.

Evaluation: To be terminated after satisfactory review of work after two years with above privileges.
Privileges in Medical Genetics

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Medical genetics core privileges

Qualifications
To be eligible for core privileges in medical genetics, the applicant must meet the following qualification:

• Successful completion of a two-year ACGME-accredited pediatric or internal medicine residency; and an additional two years’ residency training in clinical genetics; or
• Four years in an ACGME-accredited clinical genetics residency; and
• Current certification or active participation in the examination process leading to certification by the American Board of Medical Genetics.

*Requirements may be waived upon specific review and recommendation of the Service Chief based upon equivalent competence and/or program needs.

Privileges included in the core
Privileges to evaluate, treat, and consult on patients of all ages, both inpatient and outpatient, with common or uncommon genetic disease, congenital malformations, inborn errors of metabolism or heritable traits that might result in mental or physical disability. Scope of care includes:

• Diagnosing and managing genetic disorders;
• Providing patient and family counseling;
• Applying knowledge of heterogeneity, variability, and natural history of genetic disorders in patient-care decision making;
• Eliciting and interpreting individual and family medical histories;
• Interpreting clinical genetic and specialized laboratory testing information;
• Explaining the causes and natural history of genetic disorders and genetic risk assessment;
• Interacting with other health care professionals in the provision of services for patients with genetically influenced disorders;
• Performance of skin biopsies for diagnostic purposes;
• Dietary care of patients with rare inborn errors of metabolism using special formulas/diets, total parenteral nutrition, and other dietary products; and
• Management of rare inborn errors of metabolism and metabolic disorders of the bone with infusion therapies (enzyme replacement therapy, biphosphonates) for curative or palliative purposes.

☐ [ ] Core Requested  ☐ [ ] Core Recommended  ☐ [ ] Core Not Recommended

☐ [ ] Recommended with the following modification(s) and reason(s):
Core recommended/Not recommended with the following modification(s) and reason(s):

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Acknowledgement of practitioner

I have requested only those privileges for which by education, training, current experience, and demonstrated performance I am qualified to perform, and that I wish to exercise at [Institution 2], and

I understand that:

(a) In exercising any clinical privileges granted, I am constrained by hospital and medical staff bylaws, rules, and policies and procedures.

(b) Any restriction on the clinical privileges granted to me is waived in an emergency situation and in such a situation my actions are governed by the applicable section of the medical staff bylaws or related documents.

Signed    ________(original signature on file) ______________________ Date _____________________

Service Chief’s recommendations

I have reviewed the requested clinical privileges and supportive documentation for the above named applicant and recommend action on the privileges as noted above.

Signed    ________ (original signature on file) ____________________ Date ___________________

Department Head’s recommendations

I have reviewed the requested clinical privileges and supportive documentation for the above named applicant and recommend action on the privileges as noted above.

Signed    ________ (original signature on file) ____________________ Date ___________________
Preamble
The Department of Genetics professional staff includes physician medical geneticists, laboratory geneticists, genetic counselors, and nurse geneticists. This document provides criteria for appointment and reappointment and defines core privileges for active staff (physicians) and consulting scientist staff (laboratory geneticists and genetic counselors). Criteria for nurse geneticists are also defined, although these appointments are governed separately within the health system.

Source Documents:
- Clinical Privileges White Paper: Medical Genetics; A supplement to Briefings on Credentialing 781/639-1872 09/01
- Statement on the Scope and Standards of Genetics Clinic Nursing Practice (1998)
- Essential Nursing Competencies and Curricula Guideline for Genetics and Genomics (Established by Consensus Panel and published by the American Nurses Association in 2006)
Physician Medical Geneticist

Eligibility for Appointment: In order to be eligible to request clinical privileges in medical genetics, an applicant must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Education: MD or DO
- Licensing: State license to practice medicine
- Minimum formal training: The applicant must have completed a two-year ACGME-accredited clinical residency program in another medical specialty and a two-year ACGME-accredited residency training program in clinical medical genetics; or the applicant must have completed a four-year ACGME-accredited residency program in clinical medical genetics. For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the equivalency of other training must be confirmed and approved by the Department Chair.
- Board Certification: American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG) certification in Clinical Genetics is required. Applicants who have recently completed training must be eligible to take the ABMG examination and must pass the examination within two examination cycles after graduation from the training program. For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the Department Chair must certify equivalent credentialing or experience.
- Required previous experience: The applicant must demonstrate that he or she provided clinical medical genetics inpatient or consultative services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months.
- References: A letter of reference must come from the director of the applicant’s clinical medical genetics residency training program. Alternatively, a letter of reference describing participation in clinical medical genetics must come from the applicant’s department chair or chief of staff at the institution where the applicant most recently practiced.

Core privileges: Core privileges for clinical medical genetics include the following:

- Diagnosing, managing, and treating genetic disorders
- Providing patient and family counseling
- Applying knowledge of heterogeneity, variability, and natural history of genetic disorders in patient-care decision-making
- Eliciting and interpreting individual and family medical histories
- Interpreting clinical genetic and specialized laboratory testing information
- Explaining the causes and natural history of genetic disorders and genetic risk assessment
- Interacting with other health care professionals in the provision of services for patients with genetically influenced disorders

Reappointment: Criteria for reappointment include the following:

- Compliance with all institutional requirements and quality assurance mechanisms
- Evidence of having provided clinical medical genetics inpatient or consultative services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months
- Compliance with all maintenance of certification requirements of the American Board of Medical Genetics
- Completion of at least 25 hours of continuing medical education in genetics during the past 12 months
Clinical Cytogeneticist

Eligibility for Appointment: In order to be eligible to request clinical privileges in medical genetics, an applicant must meet the following minimum criteria:

- **Education:** PhD, MD, or DO
- **Minimum formal training:** The applicant must have completed a two-year fellowship in Clinical Cytogenetics accredited by the American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG). For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the equivalency of other training must be confirmed and approved by the Department Chair.
- **Board Certification:** American Board of Medical Genetics certification in Clinical Cytogenetics is required. Applicants who have recently completed training must be eligible to take the ABMG examination and must pass the examination within two examination cycles after graduation from the training program. For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the Department Chair must certify equivalent credentialing or experience.
- **Required previous experience:** The applicant must demonstrate that he or she provided clinical cytogenetics services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months.
- **References:** A letter of reference must come from the director of the applicant’s clinical cytogenetics training program. Alternatively, a letter of reference describing participation in clinical cytogenetics must come from the applicant’s department chair or chief of staff at the institution where the applicant most recently practiced.

Core privileges:
Clinical cytogenetic tests are defined as diagnostic tests involving analysis of chromosomes or DNA

- to diagnose a cytogenetic disorder in a symptomatic individual
- to diagnose inheritance of a cytogenetic disorder in a fetus or person at risk based on family history or other factors, such as advanced maternal age

Core privileges for clinical cytogenetics include the following:

- Supervision of laboratory technologists in the performance of clinical cytogenetic tests
- Development and validation of new clinical cytogenetic laboratory tests
- Interpretation of the results of clinical cytogenetic tests and signing of laboratory reports of these tests
- Consultation with referring physicians regarding the interpretation of clinical cytogenetic tests

Reappointment: Criteria for reappointment include the following:

- Compliance with all institutional requirements and quality assurance mechanisms
- Evidence of having provided clinical cytogenetics services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months
- Compliance with all maintenance of certification requirements of the American Board of Medical Genetics
Clinical Molecular Geneticist

Eligibility for Appointment: In order to be eligible to request clinical privileges in clinical molecular genetics, an applicant must meet the following minimum criteria:

- **Education:** PhD, MD, or DO
- **Minimum formal training:** The applicant must have completed a two-year fellowship in Clinical Molecular Genetics accredited by the American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG). For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the equivalency of other training must be confirmed and approved by the Department Chair.
- **Board Certification:** American Board of Medical Genetics certification in Clinical Molecular Genetics is required. Applicants who have recently completed training must be eligible to take the ABMG examination and must pass the examination within two examination cycles after graduation from the training program. For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the Department Chair must certify equivalent credentialing or experience.
- **Required previous experience:** The applicant must demonstrate that he or she provided clinical molecular genetics services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months.
- **References:** A letter of reference must come from the director of the applicant’s clinical molecular genetics training program. Alternatively, a letter of reference describing participation in clinical molecular genetics must come from the applicant’s department chair or chief of staff at the institution where the applicant most recently practiced.

Core privileges:
Clinical molecular genetic tests are defined as diagnostic tests involving analysis of DNA and/or RNA

- to diagnose a genetic disorder in a symptomatic individual
- to diagnose inheritance of a genetic disorder in a fetus or person at risk based on family history or other factors, such as ethnicity
- to determine risk of disease or potential response to therapy based on analysis of validated inherited or somatically acquired genetic markers

Core privileges for clinical molecular include the following:

- **Supervision of laboratory technologists in the performance of clinical molecular genetic tests**
- **Development and validation of new clinical molecular genetic tests**
- **Interpretation of the results of clinical molecular genetic tests and signing of laboratory reports of these tests**
- **Consultation with referring physicians regarding the interpretation of clinical molecular genetic tests**

Reappointment: Criteria for reappointment include the following:

- Compliance with all institutional requirements and quality assurance mechanisms
- Evidence of having provided clinical molecular genetics services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months
- Compliance with all maintenance of certification requirements of the American Board of Medical Genetics
Clinical Biochemical Geneticist

Eligibility for Appointment: In order to be eligible to request clinical privileges in clinical biochemical genetics, an applicant must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Education: PhD, MD, or DO
- Minimum formal training: The applicant must have completed a two-year fellowship in Clinical Biochemical Genetics accredited by the American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG). For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the equivalency of other training must be confirmed and approved by the Department Chair.
- Board Certification: American Board of Medical Genetics certification in Clinical Biochemical Genetics is required. Applicants who have recently completed training must be eligible to take the ABMG examination and must pass the examination within two examination cycles after graduation from the training program. For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the Department Chair must certify equivalent credentialing or experience.
- Required previous experience: The applicant must demonstrate that he or she provided clinical biochemical genetics services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months.
- References: A letter of reference must come from the director of the applicant’s clinical biochemical genetics training program. Alternatively, a letter of reference describing participation in clinical biochemical genetics must come from the applicant’s department chair or chief of staff at the institution where the applicant most recently practiced.

Core privileges:
Clinical biochemical genetic tests are defined as diagnostic tests involving analysis of biochemical analytes in tissues or body fluids

- to diagnose an inborn error of metabolism in a symptomatic individual
- to diagnose inheritance of an inborn error of metabolism or carrier status in a fetus or person at risk based on family history or other factors, such as ethnicity

Core privileges for clinical biochemical include the following:

- Supervision of laboratory technologists in the performance of clinical biochemical genetic tests
- Development and validation of new clinical biochemical genetic tests
- Interpretation of the results of clinical biochemical genetic tests and signing of laboratory reports of these tests
- Consultation with referring physicians regarding the interpretation of clinical biochemical genetic tests

Reappointment: Criteria for reappointment include the following:

- Compliance with all institutional requirements and quality assurance mechanisms
- Evidence of having provided clinical biochemical genetics services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months
- Compliance with all maintenance of certification requirements of the American Board of Medical Genetics
Genetic Counselor

Eligibility for Appointment: In order to be eligible to request clinical privileges in genetic counseling, an applicant must meet the following minimum criteria:

- **Education:** MS
- **Minimum formal training:** The applicant must have completed a two-year American Board of Genetic Counseling-accredited training program in genetic counseling. For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the equivalency of other training must be confirmed and approved by the Department Chair.
- **Board Certification:** American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC) certification is required. Applicants who have recently completed training must be eligible to take the ABGC examination and must pass the examination within two examination cycles after graduation from the training program. For applicants whose training occurred outside the United States, the Department Chair must certify equivalent credentialing or experience.
- **Required previous experience:** The applicant must demonstrate that he or she provided genetic counseling services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months.
- **References:** A letter of reference must come from the director of the applicant’s genetic counseling training program. Alternatively, a letter of reference describing participation in genetic counseling must come from the applicant’s department chair or chief of staff at the institution where the applicant most recently practiced.

Core privileges: Core privileges for genetic counseling include the following:

- Providing patient and family counseling
- Eliciting and interpreting individual and family medical histories
- Interpreting clinical genetic and specialized laboratory testing information
- Explaining the causes and natural history of genetic disorders and genetic risk assessment
- Interacting with other health care professionals in the provision of services for patients with genetically influenced disorders

Reappointment: Criteria for reappointment include the following:

- Compliance with all institutional requirements and quality assurance mechanisms
- Evidence of having provided genetic counseling services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months
- Compliance with all maintenance of certification requirements of the American Board of Genetic Counseling
- Completion of at least 2.5 CEU (25 contact hours) of continuing education during the previous 12 months
Advanced Practice Nurse in Genetics

Eligibility for Appointment: In order to be eligible to request clinical privileges in medical genetics, an applicant must meet the following minimum criteria:

- **Education:** graduate degree in nursing (MSN, DSN, PhD)
- **Licensing:** Current license by the State Board of Nursing as Advanced Practice Nurse (Clinical Nurse Specialist, Nurse Practitioner, or Nurse Midwifery)
- **Formal training:** Completion of graduate-level genetics coursework including human, molecular, biochemical, and population genetics, ethical, legal, and social implications of genetic information and technology
- **Credentialing:** Credentialing by the Genetics Nurse Credentialing Commission is required. Applicants who have recently completed training or experience must complete the credentialing process within two cycles.
- **Experience:** The applicant must have two years experience in nursing with at least 50% of time related to clinical genetics.
- **References:** A letter of reference must come from the director of the applicant’s school of nursing. Alternatively, a letter of reference describing participation in clinical medical genetics must come from the applicant’s department chair or chief of staff at the institution where the applicant most recently practiced.

Core Privileges: Core privileges for advanced practice nursing include:

- Case management for individuals and families with genetic conditions
- Collection and assessment of individual and family medical histories
- Interpreting clinic genetic and specialized laboratory testing information
- Collaborate with other health care professionals and client/family to develop and evaluate appropriate plan of nursing care and client focused health care goals
- Providing patient and family education and counseling

Reappointment: Criteria for Reappointment include the following:

- Compliance with all institutional requirements and quality assurance mechanisms
- Evidence of having provided genetics health care services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months
- Compliance with all maintenance of credentialing requirements of the Genetic Nursing Credentialing Commission and the State Board of Nursing
- Completion of at least 65 contact hours of continuing education during the previous 48 months
Genetics Clinical Nurse

Eligibility for Appointment: In order to be eligible to request clinical privileges in clinical genetics nursing the applicant must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Education: AD, BSN (recommended)
- Licensing: RN license in good standing
- Minimum formal training: The applicant must have completed an accredited program of nursing education. Coursework or continuing education in human, molecular, biochemical, and population genetics, ethical, legal, and social implications of genetic information and technology is required.
- Credentialing: Credentialing by the Genetics Nurse Credentialing Commission is recommended within three years of employment
- Required previous experience: The applicant should have two years experience with at least 50% related to clinical genetics.
- References: A letter of reference must come from the director of the applicant’s School of Nursing, Director of Nursing or immediate supervisor at the institution where the applicant most recently practiced.

Core Privileges:

- collection of detailed family history and pedigree
- identification of potential genetic conditions or genetic predisposition to disease within nurse’s specific area of practice
- provide genetic information and psychological support to individuals and families within nurse’s specific area of practice
- provide nursing care for patients and families at risk for or affected by diseases with a genetic component
- collaborate with other health care professionals for the provision of health care for patients with genetically influenced disorders

Reappointment: Criteria for reappointment include the following:

- Compliance with all institutional requirements and quality assurance mechanisms
- Evidence of having provided genetics health care services for at least 100 patients in the past 24 months
- Proof of RN license in good standing from the State Board of Nursing
- Completion of at least 25 contact hours of continuing education during the previous 48 months