

ADVICE FOR RE-APPLICANTS

**EMORY UNIVERSITY GENETIC COUNSELING TRAINING PROGRAM
WEBINAR SERIES**

JUNE 20, 2025

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EMORY
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

Agenda



APPLICATION
REQUIREMENT
S



2025
APPLICATION
CYCLE
STATISTICS



EVALUATION
PROCESS &
TIPS



QUESTIONS

Components of Application

Academics

Experiences

Personal Statement

References

ACADEMICS

Overall GPA (Unofficial Transcript)

- 3.0 minimum
- If have more than one degree, higher GPA is utilized

Prerequisite Courses

- Biochemistry
- Genetics
- Statistics
- Psychology

International Applicants

- WES required
- TOEFL exam if degree was completed in a language other than English

EXPERIENCES

Research

- Any research can be helpful
- Human subjects research may be most applicable to GC

Genetic Counseling Exposure

- Informational interviews
- Shadowing
- Coursework
- Mentoring programs
- Webinars
- Conferences
- Program open houses
- Other means of self-exploration such as books, podcasts, and films.

Advocacy and Other Experiences

- Language abilities
- Crisis counseling (with training)
- Work with advocacy groups
- Other healthcare experiences
- Leadership
- Teaching/tutoring experience
- Resident assistant
- Peer mentor
- Experiences not otherwise categorized

Tips

- Include number of hours on CV
- It is expected that CVS will be longer than one page!

PERSONAL STATEMENT



5 questions (last question optional)



Updated questions available on our website in August



Re-applicants should use the last question to address how they have grown between applications cycles

3 RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

Academic Letter

- At least one recommender familiar with your academic abilities and potential to be successful with graduate level coursework (typically a former professor or academic advisor)
- Applicants who have been in the workforce for many years may feel that a work supervisor is a more appropriate choice

Additional 2 Letters

- Individuals you know from a work and/or volunteer setting who can tell us about your potential to be a genetic counselor
- Should have interacted with your recommenders within the last five years

****Re-applicants to Emory need to provide one new letter**

VIRTUAL INTERVIEW



Information Session



2 Individual Interviews



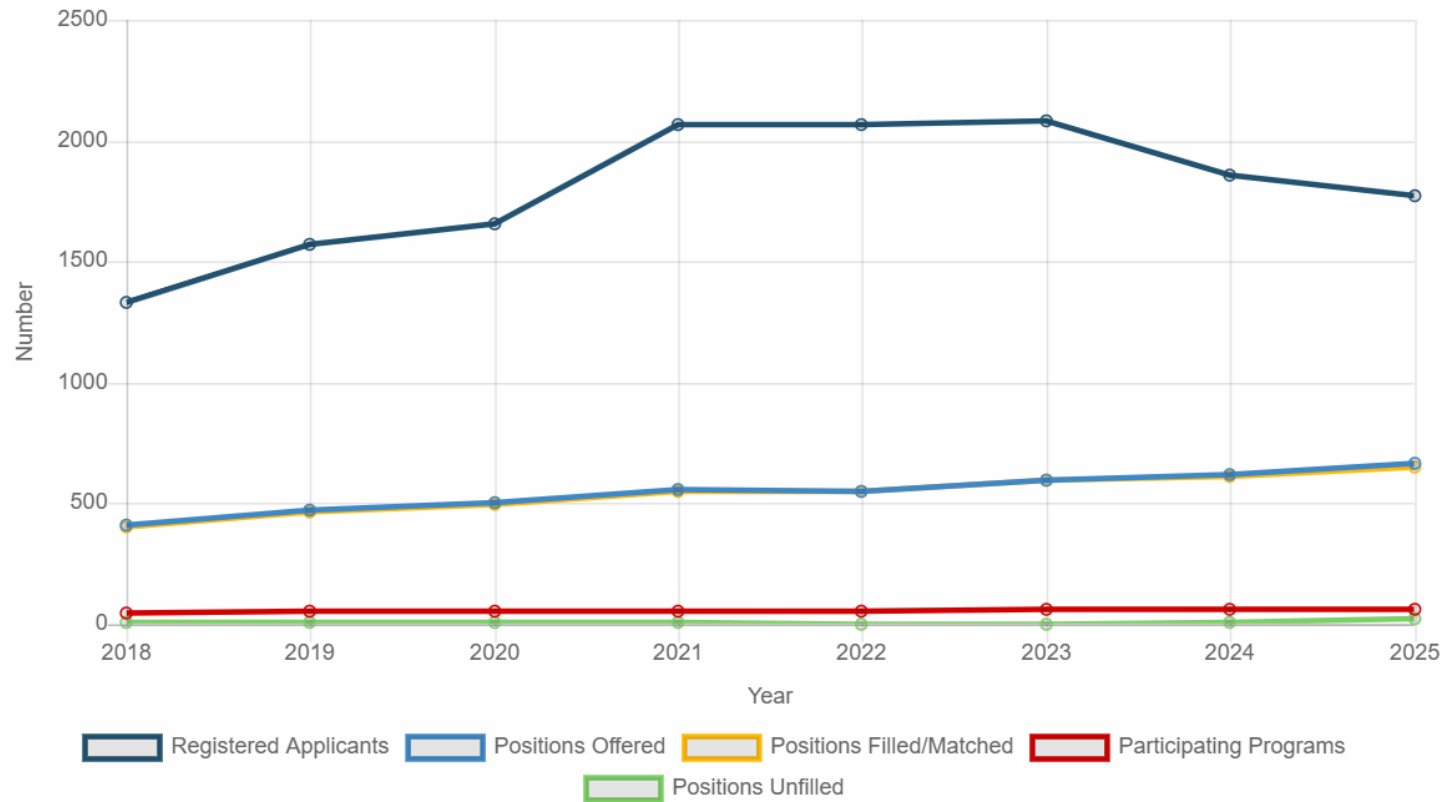
Group Interview



Student Presentation

2025 Application Cycle Statistics

Match Trends



- **Total Applicants:** 1771
- **Total Applicants Submitting Ranks:** 1073 (60%)
- **Matched Applicants:** 644 (60% of applicants who submitted ranks, 36% of original registered applicants)
- **Participating Programs:** 62

Emory Admission Statistics

	Total Applicants	Interviews	Cohort Size
2025	191	48 (25%)	12
2024	178	48 (27%)	12

EVALUATION PROCESS AND TIPS

ACADEMICS

If an extenuating circumstance contributed to your academic performance, **consider explaining more about your circumstances** in the last personal statement question

If any prerequisite grades are below a B, consider retaking to earn a higher grade

If GPA below NMS average, may consider taking graduate level classes to show ability to handle graduate level coursework

If GPA below 3.0, will need to pursue more extensive additional academic work to meet minimum GPA

EXPERIENCES

General CV/Resume tips

- **Follow directions**
- Proofread
- Avoid creative or very busy formats

Evaluation

- Variety of activities (all one activity or a mix)
- Timeline (did this all happen in the last 3 months or is there a pattern of activities over time)
- Amount of time spent on activities
- Do the experiences seem to demonstrate genuine interest vs. checking off boxes?

Follow your passions rather than what you think an admissions committee may want you to do!

Personal Statement

General tips

- **Follow directions**
- Proofread
- Show rather than tell
- Do more than summarize your CV

Evaluation

- Self-awareness
- Demonstrates understanding of GC
- Thoughtfulness
- Critical Thinking

Follow your passions rather than what you think an admissions committee may want you to do!

RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

General Tips

- Choose a variety of recommenders who can highlight specific skills/character traits
- Make sure they know you well, have a basic understanding of genetic counseling, and are able to write a positive letter

Traits we are looking for

- Mature, flexible, team-player, ability to multitask, inclusive, passionate, resilient, independent, confident, open-minded, compassionate, empathetic, thoughtful, hardworking, positive, committed, communicator, leader
- Recommenders may be able to put past challenges into context

Interview

General Tips

- Be familiar with what you wrote about on your CV and personal statement
- Be yourself!
- Make sure you try out your technology/space in advance
- Listening can be just as important as what you say
- Bring questions (that you genuinely want the answer to)

Evaluation

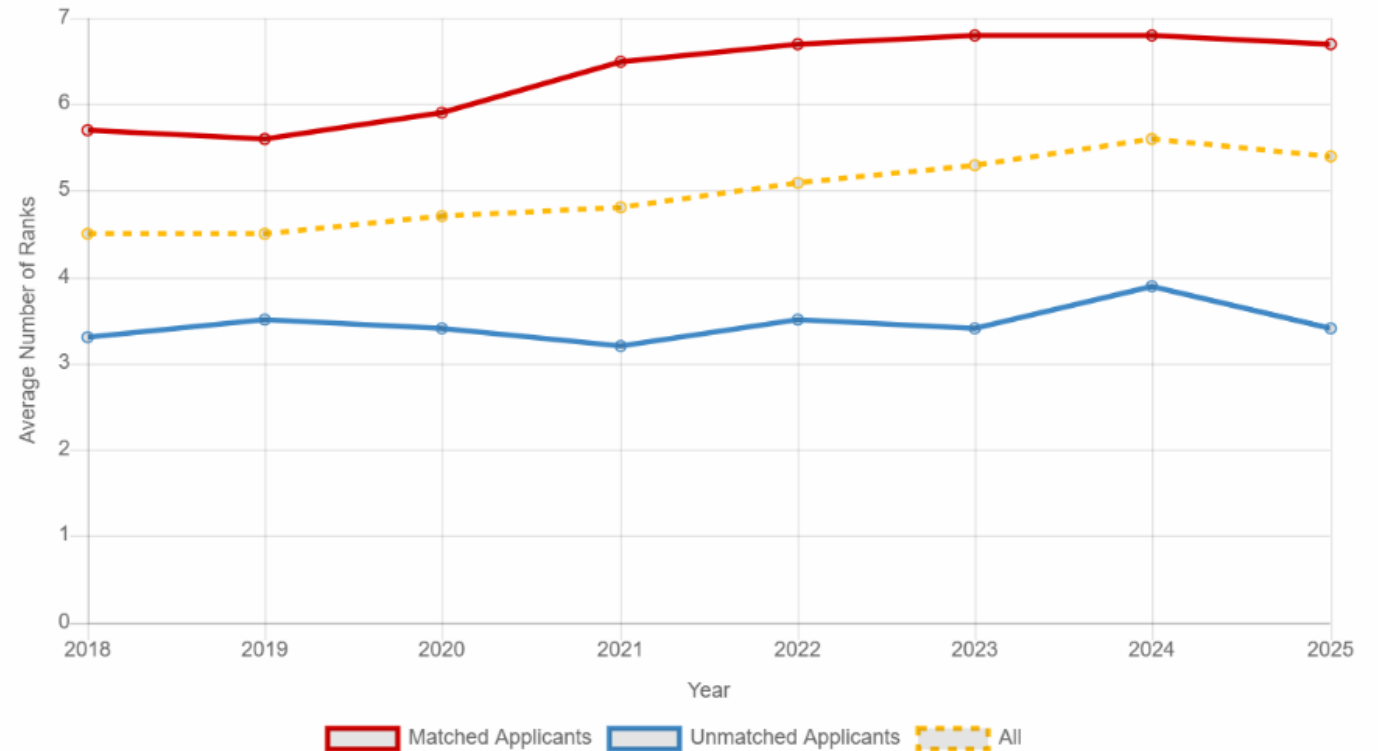
- Many of the same characteristics we are looking for in the personal statement and recommendation letters, but also:
 - Communication skills
 - Self-awareness
 - Confidence

Overall Advice

How many schools Should I apply to?

- Matched: 6.4
- Un-matched: 3.4
- All: 5.4

Average Number of Rankings Submitted Per Applicant



Considerations for Applicants

Program

- Rotations – type, when they start, patient population
- Courses – modality, interprofessional opportunities, unique course offerings/requirements
- Research – when does it start, type of opportunities available
- Unique Opportunities - community experiences, educational opportunities
- Cohort Size
- Location
- Support available – financial, educational, emotional, etc.

You

- Support needs
- Finances
- Learning style

What Are the Key Aspects of Emory's Program?

Rigorous curriculum with unique course offerings – public health genomics, epidemiology and biostatistics, boards review, Ethics, plus opportunities to take elective courses

Early start to rotations with many specialty options

In depth research experience (focus project), starts at the beginning of the program

Community experiences such as Project Home and Just People

Teaching and Leadership Opportunities

One of several health professions programs in an academic medical center --- opportunities for interprofessional interactions

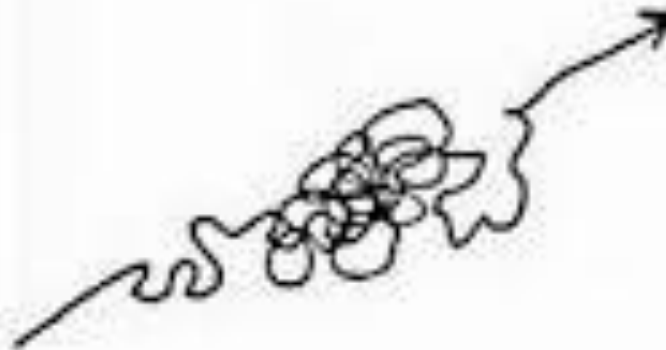
Support systems within the program and SOM

Success



what people think
it looks like

Success



what it really
looks like

Questions?
