

## **The American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics Launches E3 Program to Address Workforce Shortage in Clinical Genetics and Genomics**

**BETHESDA, MD – February 11, 2025** | The American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) announces an innovative approach to confronting the workforce shortage in the field of clinical genetics and genomics. With the launch of the first phase of its E3 (Engage, Equip, Empower) Program at its annual meeting in Los Angeles next month, ACMG and its partners will begin providing early exposure to genetics careers to high school, community college, and undergraduate students from underrepresented backgrounds.

A 2020 US Government Accountability Office (GAO) report stated there were only 1,240 certified medical geneticists and approximately 4,700 genetic counselors in the United States. “With advancements in genomic research and technology, the demand for genetic services has grown, yet there are not enough professionals to meet this need, and the workforce is aging,” said ACMG CEO Melanie J. Wells, MPH, CAE. “It is imperative for the College to expose students to the field of genetics and genomics earlier in their academic careers.”

Collaborating with its partners SACNAS (The Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science) and the Los Angeles Convention Center Career Academy, ACMG’s E3 Program will engage students in hands-on learning, career development activities, and networking with medical genetics professionals.

The E3 Program is structured in three phases:

- **Phase 1 Engage:** Local students will participate in a one-day immersive experience on Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at the 2025 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting in Los Angeles where they will engage in interactive learning, attend scientific sessions and network with medical genetics professionals.
- **Phase 2 Equip:** Students will gain ongoing support through monthly virtual experiences, including access to ACMG’s educational resources and webinars.
- **Phase 3 Empower:** Students will participate in quarterly virtual mentoring sessions with genetics professionals, providing long-term education and career guidance.

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"The ACMG E3 Program represents a pivotal step in addressing the growing shortage of professionals in genetics and genomics. By creating a pipeline to innovative training pathways, we aim to better meet the needs of the patient populations we serve and ensure that healthcare solutions are more effective and accessible to all," said Pedro Sanchez, MD, MSCE, FAAP, FACMG, Director, Pediatric Medical Genetics, Cedars-Sinai Guerin Children's and Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Cedars-Sinai, Los Angeles, CA. "By connecting students with professionals in the field, we can spark curiosity, foster understanding, and open doors to impactful careers."

Visit the E3 Program webpage at [https://bit.ly/E3 Genomics Pathways Program](https://bit.ly/E3_Genomics_Pathways_Program). For more information about the program, please contact [e3program@acmg.net](mailto:e3program@acmg.net).

### **About the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics**

Founded in 1991, the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) is a prominent authority in the field of medical genetics and genomics and the only nationally recognized medical professional organization solely dedicated to improving health through the practice of medical genetics and genomics. The only medical specialty society in the US that represents the full spectrum of medical genetics disciplines in a single organization, the ACMG provides education, resources and a voice for more than 2,600 clinical and laboratory geneticists, genetic counselors and other healthcare professionals. ACMG's mission is to improve health through the clinical and laboratory practice of medical genetics as well as through advocacy, education and clinical research, and to guide the safe and effective integration of genetics and genomics into all of medicine and healthcare, resulting in improved personal and public health. *Genetics in Medicine* and the new *Genetics in Medicine Open*, a gold open access journal, are the official ACMG journals. ACMG's website, [www.acmg.net](http://www.acmg.net), offers resources including policy statements, practice guidelines, and educational programs.

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