



Now accepting applications:

Genetic Alliance Advocates Partnership Program *with the* American Society of Human Genetics

ASHG Annual Meeting November 2-6 Washington, DC

Deadline to Apply: September 10, 2010

Genetic Alliance proudly partners with a number of the nation's leading health professional societies and organizations to offer an Advocates Partnership Program integrated into annual meetings across the country. Up to 20 advocates attend each conference and participate in exclusive meetings with genetics professionals, including representatives from healthcare, industry, academia, research, and government. The Advocates Partnership Program offers an unparalleled opportunity for participants to gain unique insight into a variety of professions while networking with advocates and professionals from around the world.

About ASHG:

The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG), founded in 1948, is the primary professional membership organization for human genetics specialists worldwide. The Society's nearly 8,000 members include researchers, academicians, clinicians, laboratory practice professionals, genetic counselors, nurses and others who have a special interest in the field of human genetics. Members of ASHG enter the 21st century with a commitment to become fluent in the language of the genome, understand human variation, and promote the public health. As the community transfers new knowledge to the next generation of genetics professionals and the public, it will translate new ideas into improved clinical practice.

What is the Advocates Partnership Program at ASHG?

The Genetic Alliance Advocates Partnership Program with the American Society of Human Genetics provides advocates with a different access point into human genetics: advocacy organization leaders will not only attend the ASHG Annual Meeting November 2-6, 2010 in Washington, DC, but also build upon their experiences by engaging with Genetic Alliance staff, ASHG leadership, and genetics professionals in intimate, collaborative forums throughout the meeting. For more information about the ASHG Annual Meeting, please visit <http://www.ashg.org/2010meeting/>

How will advocates benefit by participating in the Advocates Partnership Program at the ASHG Annual Meeting? Advocates will receive waived, full registration to the meeting; breakfast and lunch each day (Tuesday through Saturday); access to all program activities, including the Opening Reception, Exhibit Hall, Poster Sessions, and Symposia and Workshops; access to the American Society of Human Genetics President, Board of Directors, Committees Chairs, and leaders in human genetics research; the opportunity to interact with other advocates who have similar interests; and Genetic Alliance staff support for the advocates before, during, and after the meeting.

What resources will you offer to make sure I get the most out of each day?

Advocates will gather for daily, informal briefings with several genetics professionals to learn about highlights or important and significant events in the meeting program during that day.



Throughout the meeting, scheduled Advocates Partnership Program forums will provide space for advocates to ask questions of the genetics professionals and share impressions and thoughts about presentations at the meeting. These dialogues can lead to energetic brainstorming around solutions and improvements for health systems to better meet the needs of individuals, families, and communities.

How does integrating advocate perspectives benefit the genetic professional community?

Genetics professionals obtain a greater understanding of the impact of their work in the broader health community through engaging with individuals who have a different access point or perspective, and often times different solutions, to emerging challenges to translating genetic research findings into improved outcomes for healthcare and public health systems. Genetics professionals acknowledge advocacy organizations as a resource and together, can create policies critical to developing and broadening access to services, advancing research, and enabling translation.

How do I apply? What are the requirements?

Fill out the application on the Genetic Alliance website:

<http://www.geneticalliance.org/advocates.opportunities>

Applications are **due by Friday, September 10, 2010**. Please submit them to Andria Cornell by email, acornell@geneticalliance.org, or fax, (202) 966-8553. Applicants will be informed whether they were selected by Monday, September 20, 2010.

The Advocates Partnership Program provides you with waived, full registration to the meeting. Genetic Alliance will reimburse up to \$250 for transportation, hotel room, or airfare. (Please note that you will be required to cover your own travel and lodging upfront.)

To be eligible for reimbursement participants must:

- 1) Attend the entire meeting (11/2/10 – 11/6/10);
- 2) Fill out a survey about impressions of the meeting and write a two-page report about either a presentation or poster they found to be of interest and relevant to their organization at the end of the conference;
- 3) Submit an expense report with receipts by Friday, November 19, 2010 (expenses can be submitted for transportation, hotel, and airfare only; receipts must be dated Tuesday, November 2, 2010 through Saturday, November 6, 2010).

Priority will be given to individuals who previously have not participated in the Advocates Partnership Program.

Optional: Your organization may wish to exhibit at the meeting. If you do exhibit, your organization will need to send additional staff, since the booth must be staffed at all times, and this program precludes staying in the exhibit hall for extensive periods. For Further information about exhibiting at ASHG, go to <http://www.ashg.org/2010meeting/exhibits/>.