



Humane Genomics Education Award Application Form

Deadline: **31 August 2026**

Awards announced: **30 September 2026**

Are you passionate about making genomics accessible, ethical, and understandable for everyone? The American Genetic Association (AGA) is seeking innovative thinkers, educators, and community leaders for the **Humane Genomics Education (HGE) Award**.

This award recognizes and supports individuals and teams who are breaking down barriers in science education and fostering conversations about the ethical, humane, and societal impacts of genomic technology. Potential grant-supported activities could include, but are not limited to, curriculum and course development, continuing education for instructors, development of educational resources, travel to workshops, and support for guest speakers.

Overview

The Humane Genomics Education Award is a pilot program from the AGA to support educational activities and initiatives that improve genetics education and promote 'Humane Genomics'. 'Humane genomics education' is an approach to teaching modern genetics and genome science that improves understanding of genetics, decreases students' acceptance of non-scientific notions of genetic essentialism, and reduces racial bias by dismantling persistent misconceptions about race and genetics. As developed and described by Donovan et al (2024), humane genomics education focuses on teaching the complexity of human genomics that is not captured by a basic introduction to Mendelian genetics. This approach focuses on describing the distribution of genetic variation within and between populations and the multifactorial basis of complex human traits, including polygenic inheritance and genotype by environment interactions. Integrating these principles provides a comprehensive understanding of human diversity that directly counters the deterministic narrative that human traits and social identities are fixed, inevitable products of our DNA.

Who should apply?

We believe that great education happens everywhere, not just in the traditional classroom. We highly encourage applications from individuals with diverse backgrounds and perspectives, including:

- **Educators & Teachers:** K-12 teachers, university faculty, and community college instructors.
- **Science Communicators & Creators:** Writers, digital creators, museum curators, and public science advocates.
- **Community Leaders & Organizers:** Individuals running after-school programs, local science initiatives, or grassroots health literacy campaigns.
- **Researchers & Bioethicists:** Professionals working at the intersection of genomics, sociology, ethics, and public understanding.
- **Students & Early-Career Professionals:** Undergraduate and graduate students leading innovative educational projects.

Applications from instructors at under-resourced institutions are particularly encouraged to apply.

Award Details

Funding Amount: Applicants may request up to \$2,000 to be encumbered within 12 months of the award.

We anticipate awarding a total of \$4,000 this year.

Award Requirements: A ~1-2 page final report summarizing activities and outcomes to be published on the AGA Blog.

Allowable Expenses	Non-Allowable Expenses
Speaker honoraria	Stipends or salaries paid to the awardee
Conference registration	Support for research on human subjects
Travel for awardees or program participants	
Printing / duplicating / production of written materials	
Classroom or laboratory supplies and related expenses	

Please note that there will be no individual feedback for unsuccessful proposals.

Guidelines

Applications should describe the activities or products that will be supported through the grant, the specific learning objectives or educational goals to be served, and how the activities will advance the HGE award goals. The application must describe the intended beneficiaries of the program, including the numbers of students and faculty that will be involved or that will benefit from program activities. Applicants are encouraged to include descriptions of how the awards complements existing programs or resources and how the applicants will build on or extend program activities after the end of the award period. Note that although formal assessments of impacts and outcomes are strongly encouraged, the program will not support educational research or other studies involving human subjects.

Prepare your application using the attached form and submit as one PDF file. Replace the header identifier “HGE2026_ LASTNAME_Descriptor” with your last name and a short project descriptor (e.g., HGE2026_SMITH_ProjectName).

<https://forms.gle/QP4sFY5WMnhdSkfV9>

Save your application to the SAME NAME as the header title (e.g., HGE2026_SMITH_ProjectName). Please use this name in all correspondence. Expand boxes as needed.

References:

Donovan, B. M., Weindling, M., Amemiya, J., Salazar, B., Lee, D., Syed, A., ... & Snowden, J. (2024). Humane genomics education can reduce racism. *Science*, 383(6685), 818-822.

Application form for the Humane Genomics Education Award

Applicant details: Name: Email: Dept: Institute:	Position or affiliation: Expected project start date: Expected completion month/year: \$ Amount requested:
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Project title:

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Project summary (limit 300 words):

[illegible]

Provide a brief summary of the applicants' teaching experience and current teaching responsibilities, including characteristics of the school or institution with which they are affiliated (limit 300 words):

Please describe planned use of the funds, including educational programs or resources to be developed. Clearly explain how the activities will advance the HGE award goals, Describe anticipated outcomes, any planned assessments, and plans for sustaining or further developing funded programs beyond the end of the project (limit 1000 words):

Describe the intended beneficiaries of the project, including the numbers of students or faculty that will participate or be impacted by the project. Please include information about the demographic profiles of the beneficiaries such as the educational levels served and socioeconomic characteristics (limit 300 words):

Budget Table

Allowable categories include Lodging & Living Expenses, Travel, and Engagement Items/Services. Funds may not be used for conference travel

ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Total		

Please use this space for any justification/clarity about budget items, and to report any additional sources of funding for this project. (Limit 300 words)