How much does DNA banking cost?

**Personal Banking:** There is a $90.00 one-time fee to bank your DNA for personal use. This fee covers the cost of storing your DNA and withdrawing it at your request to either be tested by UW Cytogenetic Services or sent elsewhere for testing.

**Research Banking:** There is no charge for your DNA to be included in the Research Bank.

How safe is my DNA and my information?

Your DNA sample and all of your personal information are held in the strictest confidence. Our laboratory and our information systems are in compliance with multiple regulatory agencies.

How do I begin?

Talk to your healthcare provider or genetic counselor. They can help you decide which option may be more appropriate for you and your family, as well as assist with completing paperwork and submitting the sample to the laboratory.

Who can I contact for more information?

You can contact UW Cytogenetic Services at 608-262-0402.

Genetics Resources

UW Cytogenetic Services  
[www.slh.wisc.edu/cytogenetics](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/cytogenetics)

National Society of Genetic Counselors:  
[www.nsgc.org](http://www.nsgc.org)

American College of Medical Genetics:  
[www.acmg.net](http://www.acmg.net)

American Society of Human Genetics:  
[www.ashg.org](http://www.ashg.org)

International Society of Nurses in Genetics:  
[www.isong.org](http://www.isong.org)
What is DNA Banking?

A DNA bank is like a financial bank, but instead of depositing money you deposit genetic material from yourself or a family member to be stored. The DNA can then be withdrawn at a later date to be tested for genetic conditions or mutations.

Why use a DNA bank?

DNA banking is valuable for many reasons.

- If you’ve had genetic testing performed, you might want to save some of your DNA in case technology advances in the future lead to better tests that can provide more information on your condition.

- If you’re worried that family members may also be at risk for the same disease/disorder, you can bank their DNA for future testing and/or detect mutations that are not identified now.

- Also families for whom a genetic cause of a condition is not currently known can bank DNA from multiple family members so future testing can be performed.

DNA Banking Options at UW Cytogenetic Services

There are three options for DNA Banking at UW Cytogenetic Services at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene.

**Option 1: Personal DNA Banking for You and Your Family**

If you want to store your DNA or a family member’s in a safe location and be able to withdraw it for future testing either at UW Cytogenetic Services or elsewhere, then personal DNA banking is for you. DNA samples can be stored indefinitely and you don’t have to have any testing done at UW Cytogenetic Services in order to use the service. There is a one-time $90.00 fee per DNA sample for personal DNA banking.

**Option 2: DNA Banking for Research**

The Research DNA Bank is a place where your DNA can be stored for University of Wisconsin-Madison research projects related to your condition. The DNA that will be stored in the Research Bank will be given a code, so no one will know it’s your DNA. The hope is that these research projects will lead to a better understanding of how these rare inherited or congenital conditions are caused and find better treatments. While there will be no direct benefit to you, your participation in the DNA Research Bank can help future patients and their families. There is no charge to have your DNA stored in the DNA Research Bank.

**Option 3: The Best of Research and Personal Banking**

If you use the Personal DNA Bank, you can also choose to have a portion of your DNA sample included in the Research DNA Bank for no extra charge. This way you maintain the freedom to have your DNA sample withdrawn from the Personal Bank for future testing that could directly benefit you and your family, as well as contribute to research on your condition that might lead to better testing options and treatments for future patients.