

# IGG Researcher (Investigative Genetic Genealogy Researcher)

**Reports To:** Executive Director of Institutional Strategy & Culture

**Commitment:** Flexible/As-needed case support (estimated 4+ hours per week per active case)

**Location:** Remote

**Status:** Volunteer (Uncompensated)

## Mission & Role Summary

The IGG Researcher is the backbone of Compass IGG & Advocacy's mission, dedicating expertise to resolve cases of unidentified human remains. This role deploys advanced investigative genetic genealogy (IGG) techniques and expert traditional genealogy to generate identification leads for unidentified human remains (UHR) cold cases.

IGG Researchers work within a team-based structure to ensure the highest standards of integrity, efficiency, and ethical practice are applied to every case.

## Key Areas of Responsibility

### Investigative Casework & Research

- Work collaboratively on teams to conduct end-to-end IGG research for unidentified human remains cases.
  - Utilize advanced genetic genealogy methodology and traditional genealogical records to build complex ancestry trees.
  - Analyze DNA matching data from databases that consent to law enforcement use to narrow down potential candidates for identification.
  - Actively participate in peer review and quality control mechanisms to guarantee the accuracy and reliability of all genealogical findings.
-

## Ethical & Logistical Compliance

- Adhere strictly to Compass IGG & Advocacy's Code of Ethics, confidentiality agreements, and data privacy policies, ensuring the security of all sensitive case information.
- Maintain professional maturity and demonstrate a commitment to a supportive, collaborative learning environment with fellow volunteers and professional staff.
- Successfully pass all required assessment exams and continuing professional development modules to maintain technical proficiency.

## Requirements & Vetting

- **Technical Proficiency:** Demonstrated expertise and experience in complex genetic genealogy methods.
- **Security Mandate:** Must have access to a reliable, private internet connection and a personal computer that is password protected and not shared with others.
- **Vetting:** The offer to serve as an IGG Researcher is strictly dependent on the candidate successfully passing a background check.
- **Confidentiality:** Must adhere to strict confidentiality agreements regarding sensitive case information.

## Qualifications & Desired Attributes

- Expert-level knowledge of genetic genealogy research, DNA analysis, and complex traditional genealogy research.
  - Demonstrated ability to use third-party tools to evaluate connections between shared DNA (e.g., triangulation, matrices).
  - Demonstrated proficiency in leveraging Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) methodologies for the ethical identification of DNA matches. This includes the ability to identify living persons using publicly available data sources and cross-referencing information.
  - Commitment to the mission of Compass IGG & Advocacy and the ethical advancement of IGG work.
  - Proven ability to work independently and collaboratively in a remote capacity while adhering to team-based communication standards.
-