Resources for Black students:

A document of resources for Black students in GAPSA. Resources include opportunities to connect with Black or BIPOC organizations and access resources related to support / wellness. Opportunities listed at the school, graduate, and G12-specific level. Please email us at gapsa.equity.access@gapsa.upenn.edu if any of our information is wrong or something should be added!

** Will be continuously updated as we obtain more info

School-Wide:

**Makuu:** Makuu is the Black Cultural Center at the University of Pennsylvania. Makuu provides student resource advising, program support, and help navigating the challenges as students maximize their Penn experience.

Location: 3601 Locust Walk; Main: 215-573-0823

**African American Resource Center:** Resource center dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of faculty, staff, and students at the University of Pennsylvania with a particular focus on those of African descent. Services include advocacy, counseling, information & referral, workshops and informational sessions, and many advertised events throughout the year.  
[https://aarc.upenn.edu/](https://aarc.upenn.edu/)

Counseling:

**Support and Empowerment for Racial Trauma Among Black Students:** 5pm to 6:30pm on Wednesdays via Bluejeans (email jazmynep@upenn.edu and evawils@upenn.edu to register).  
[https://caps.wellness.upenn.edu/supportandempowermentforracialtrauma/](https://caps.wellness.upenn.edu/supportandempowermentforracialtrauma/)

**Waiting to Exhale:**
A BIPOC Support Group. 3pm to 4:30pm on Fridays via Bluejeans (email deriky@upenn.edu and eburks@upenn.edu to register.  https://caps.wellness.upenn.edu/waitingtoexhale/

**Graduate / Professional Student - Specific:**

**Black Graduate and Professional Student Assembly:** “The Purpose of the Black Graduate and Professional Students Assembly (BGAPSA) shall be to enhance the quality of life for graduate and professional students of the African Diaspora at the University of Pennsylvania through a centralized, campus-wide organizational structure that addresses their academic, social, political and cultural needs and concerns. BGAPSA seeks to act as a support mechanism that will assist students in becoming acclimated to the university. Further, BGAPSA shall act as their advocate, lobby and political voice campus-wide.”  https://aarc.upenn.edu/

**Black Graduate Women’s Association:** “We exist to promote the visibility of black graduate women on campus and to strengthen the relationships between black women graduate students from all disciplines. We are devoted to providing a space that fosters well being, dialogue, scholarship, community and leadership development in the lives of graduate women of the African Diaspora at the University of Pennsylvania and beyond. We are committed to celebrating the successes and addressing the needs, unique challenges, and lived experiences of Black women, as well as those salient to black experiences.”  https://bgwaupenn.wordpress.com/

**G12-Specific:**

**GSE:**

**We Support Diversity of Mind (WSDM):** was founded to enhance the overall community for students of color at Penn GSE. Through academic, social/networking, and community engagement events, WSDM provides support, awareness, and leadership opportunities for Penn GSE students of color and seeks to build bridges to faculty and alumni of color to maximize the student learning experience. For more information, please contact Ufuoma Abiola at gse.wsdm@gmail.com.
SEAS:

**National Society of Black Engineers:** The mission of NSBE is to increase the number of culturally responsible Black Engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally, and positively impact the community. [https://www.dolphin.upenn.edu/nsbe/](https://www.dolphin.upenn.edu/nsbe/)

BGS:

**Ernest E. Just Biomedical Society:** aims to serve the general academic, social and professional needs of the biomedical community, with an emphasis on the retention and professional development of Black and underrepresented minorities in BGS. [http://www.upenneejust.com/](http://www.upenneejust.com/)

Law:

**Black Law Student Association:** “BLSA provides support, encouragement, and advice to students who identify themselves as African-American, Caribbean, or African. BLSA membership is open to all Penn Law students and provides valuable programming to inform and enlighten its members and the Penn community at large. BLSA serves its members and local community through many programs including the annual Sadie Alexander Conference; Project Peace; Pan-Africa Program; Frederick Douglass Moot Court; intensive first-year success program; exam prep workshops; professional development workshop series; networking programs with alumni; and mentoring program with pre-law students from local universities.” [http://pennlawblsa.com/](http://pennlawblsa.com/)

SP2:

**Association of Black Social Workers (ABSW):** “Committed to enhancing the quality of life and empowering people of African ancestry through advocacy, human services delivery, and research within the Penn student body, and the community. ABSW also embodies the values of the National Association of Black Social Workers, Inc. which works to create a world in which people of African ancestry will live free from racial domination, economic exploitation, and cultural oppression.”
Medicine:

Student National Medical Association (SNMA): The Student National Medical Association (SNMA) is the nation's oldest and largest national student-run organization focused on the needs and concerns of medical students of color. SNMA programs are designed to serve the health needs of underserved communities and communities of color. SNMA is also dedicated to ensuring that medical education and services are culturally sensitive to the needs of diverse populations, and to increasing the number of underrepresented minorities succeeding in medical school. Contact upenn@snma.org

Nursing:

Minorities in Nursing Organization: “Changing the face of nursing by promoting cultural awareness in the healthcare community through community service and providing social and academic support to our members—open to all nursing students.”
https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/mno/

Wharton:

African American MBA Association: “The mission of AAMBAA is to support the continued achievement of students of African descent and to provide extensive resources to foster the successful progression from prospective students to Wharton alumni. The mission of AAMBAA is to support the continued achievement of students of African descent and to provide extensive resources to foster the successful progression from prospective students to Wharton alumni.
https://www.blackatwharton.com/

Veterinary Medicine
VOICE (Veterinarians as One Inclusive Community for Empowerment): “VOICE is a student-run organization that seeks to increase awareness, respect, and sensitivity to differences among all individuals and communities in the field of veterinary medicine. VOICE also aims to celebrate diversity within our profession, to encourage campus environments that embrace diversity and promote the success of all students, and to emphasize the importance of cross-cultural awareness in veterinary medicine in order to meet the needs of our diversifying clientele. Lastly, in order to ensure a more diverse future for veterinary medicine, VOICE chapters provide leadership and mentorship to youth, particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds, who are interested in careers as veterinarians.”