UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
Student Experience and Support

First-Generation Scholars Program (FGSP)
Mentorship Excellence Award

The Mentor Excellence Award recognizes mentors who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, empathy, reflexivity, community-building, and ambassadorship during their participation in the First-Generation Scholars Program. Recipients will be celebrated at the end of the academic year and receive formal recognition for their contributions to the FGSP community.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive the FGSP Mentor Excellence Award students must:

- Be a current or past First-Generation Mentor at the University of Calgary.
- Have completed at least one term of active mentorship.
- Be in good academic and conduct[1] standing.
- Submit an application between March 1-May 15 at 11:59PM through self-nomination or be nominated by a mentee or peer.

Application Process

Nominations

- Mentors may self-nominate or be nominated by a mentee.

Submissions can take multiple forms:

- Written statement (max. 500 words) which outlines three competencies you have showcased within your contributions to the program.
    - This can be completed in Word or PDF format and submitted by email to firstgenprograms@ucalgary.ca.
- Short video or audio recording (3–5 minutes) which outlines three competencies you have showcased within your contributions to the program.
    - This can be completed with your own audio or video recording equipment or through Lab NEXT on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library labelled TFDL on the map of campus. Recordings can be submitted to firstgenprograms@ucalgary.ca.
- The First-Generation Scholars Program Mentorship Excellence Award Reflection Assignment can be completed by answering the guiding questions for three competencies. Choose three competencies and answer all the questions for those competencies.

Application Support

- Structured prompts and rubrics are provided to ensure transparency and clarity.
- Workshops in February will support students in preparing strong applications.
- Students can book an appointment with a member of the First-Gen team to discuss application.

Evaluation Criteria

Select three competencies to showcase your contribution to the program that also highlights your strengths

Competencies	Description	Guiding Questions
Leadership	Volunteered at events, initiated activities, showed initiative in program roles.	What events/activities did you volunteer for? How did you show initiative?
Empathy & Support	Actively listened to mentees, responded to concerns, made referrals, demonstrated care.	How did you show care and responsiveness? Can you share an example of supporting a mentee?
Reflexivity & Growth	Showed self-awareness, reflective learning, and growth from feedback.	What did you learn about yourself? How did you adjust based on feedback?
Community-Building	Fostered belonging, built connections, contributed to program culture.	How did you create belonging or connect students?
Ambassadorship	Represented the program positively and promoted it to peers.	How did you encourage others to join/recognize FGSP?

Each application will be reviewed by at least two independent reviewers. Final selections are made by the **Mentor Award Committee**.

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[1]*This award requires students to be in good conduct standing for non-academic misconduct.*

If you are currently involved in a non-academic misconduct process, or have been found responsible for a violation of the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and you are unsure of your conduct standing, please contact conduct@ucalgary.ca to verify your status. More information is available at: www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-conduct/faq.

Please note that in submitting your application, you are verifying that you are in good conduct standing and you consent to this being verified by the Student Conduct Office. Note that details of non-academic misconduct cases are not shared through this process.