



First-Generation Mentorship Program

Mentee Role Description

First-generation students are those whose parents, caregivers, or chosen family have not completed post-secondary education, or who are the first in their family to attend college or university in Canada. This includes domestic, international, and Indigenous students. You are still considered a first-generation student even if your siblings have attended college or university.

First-Generation students bring incredible resilience, determination, and vision for earning their degrees. However, transitioning from high school to university and adapting to a new academic and social environment can be especially challenging when there is limited family experience with post-secondary education.

To support this transition, the Chancellor Cuthbertson Student Success Centre offers the First-Generation Mentorship Program. Through peer-to-peer mentoring, the program helps first-generation students:

- Navigate the challenges of university life.
- Build a network of support and a sense of community.
- Identify and access available resources.
- Make informed decisions that contribute to a successful university experience.

With the support of a mentor, first-generation students can build the confidence and knowledge needed to succeed in their university journey.

We welcome applicants from all faculties.

If you would like to connect with a first-generation peer mentor, please sign up to be a mentee on the [First-Generation Mentorship](#) website.

Responsibilities

- Attend a **Mentee Orientation** session prior to mentorship.
- Establish and maintain a trusting relationship with your mentor:
 - Connect and communicate with your mentor at least **twice a month**.
 - Communicate needs, goals, and expectations to your mentor.
 - Be open to feedback and responsible for follow-up. If you're having troubles with communication with your mentor, reach out to First Generation Student Program team, firstgenprograms@ucalgary.ca.
- Attend/participate in a minimum **three First-Generation activities or events** each

semester.

- Connect with other mentors and mentees in your Mentorship Circle and participate in **bi-monthly gatherings**.
- Optionally contribute to planning group social activities in your mentorship circle.

Qualifications

- Self-identify as a first-generation student.
- Enrolled in courses during the mentorship period.
- Ability to commit to the program for one academic year, including Fall and Winter semesters, is strongly encouraged to ensure ample time for relationship building and skill development.

Application Process

If you would like to connect with a first-generation peer mentor, please sign up to be a mentee on the [First-Generation Mentorship](#) website.

Contact Us

To learn more about this program, please visit our website, [First-Generation Students Program](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the First Gen Team by email at firstgenprograms@ucalgary.ca.