



First-Generation Mentorship Program – Mentee Role Description

Transitioning from high school to university or adjusting to a new environment can be overwhelming for anyone, but for first-generation students it can present greater challenges. **First-generation students are the first generation in their families to pursue post-secondary education, including international students who are the first in their families to do a degree in Canada.** While first-generation students bring incredible resilience, determination, and vision for earning their degrees, navigating their path with limited family guidance can lead to feelings of isolation and make their journey more difficult.

The Student Success Centre is excited to introduce the First-Generation Mentorship Program. Our program provides peer-to-peer mentoring to help first-generation students:

- Navigate 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 a mentor's help, first-generation students can gain confidence and knowledge to help them succeed and thrive in their academic journey. We welcome applicants from all faculties.

Complete the [Mentee Application Form](#) to connect with first-generation supports.

Mentee Responsibilities

- Establish and maintain a trusting relationship with your mentor:
 - Connect with your mentor at least **two times a month** (in person, over Zoom, through email or text messaging).
 - Attend at least **three First-Gen workshops, meetups, or learning lounges** each semester.
 - Engage with mentoring groups to build connections with other mentors and mentees.
- Complete a **mid-term check-in form** to ensure that the program meets your expectations, and your mentor-mentee relationship is going well.
- Commit to a minimum of **seven hours per semester** for mentoring.
- Discuss with your mentor what you want to learn, explore, or achieve each month; set guidelines and expectations; share hopes; follow up with your mentor, and be open to feedback.
- Demonstrate commitment to the program values.

Qualifications

- Be the first-generation in your family to pursue post-secondary education in Canada and new to the University of Calgary community.
- Enrolled in an undergraduate program during the mentorship period.
- Able to commit to the program for one academic year, including Fall and Winter semesters, to ensure ample time for relationship building and skill development.
- Would like to receive individualized and/or group support to learn more about different resources, tips and tricks on campus.
- Interested in building connections within the campus community.

Contact Us

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

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us at firstgenprograms@ucalgary.ca.

Values Statement

The First-Generation Student Programs is a team of staff and students committed to building a community of support for UCalgary students who are the first in their families to attend post-secondary education.

The First-Generation community...

- Values the **diversity** of identities that staff, mentors, and students bring to the community.
- **Respects** individual differences and the value they bring to our campus regardless of culture, race, ethnicity, gender, or ability.
- Demonstrates **accountability** and **inclusivity** through our words and actions, while owning the impact of what we say and do.
- **Commits** to Truth and Reconciliation, [ii'taa'poh'to'p](#), and learning together “in a good way”