



The First in the Family Peer-Mentor Program is for students whose parents did not pursue post-secondary education. Connect with an upper-year mentor and a small learning community.

Resource for Staff

The goals of the program:

- To support first-generation students in their transition to university through peer support and academic skills workshops
- The program has 3 primary goals for our students:
 - to support academic skills development;
 - to help students navigate both the physical space and resources of the University; and,
 - to help students develop a sense of belonging at U of T
- FITF is part of a tri-campus program, funded by the MTCU until April 2012

Being a first-generation student:

- A first-generation student is one whose parents or guardian(s) did not pursue post-secondary education
- About 1 in 5 students are first generation on the St. George campus
- We allow students to self-identify as first generation
- A student is considered first generation, even if their siblings had post-secondary experience

Basic structure of the program:

- 25 upper-year peer mentors in 4 communities: Arts, Commerce, Sciences, and Mature Students
- 250-300 student mentees who are making their transition to university (i.e., first- and second-year students)
- FITF targets first- and second-year students, but if an upper-year student wishes to become a mentee he/she can do so
- The program is a collaborative initiative between the Office of Student Life and the Academic Success Centre

How students access the program:

- Student mentees meet with an upper-year mentor with a similar academic background (Arts, Commerce, Sciences, or Mature mentors)
- Students attend specialized academic development workshops that are run throughout the year on a drop-in basis
- Students gain access to social events and co-curricular planning
- Students also gain access to a learning skills advisor, for one-on-one academic support

How students find out and join the program:

- Postcards and posters are available across campus (at Registrars' Offices and Student Life Departments)
- To join, students should be directed to our website: <http://firstgen.utoronto.ca>

Contacts:

- Website: <http://firstgen.utoronto.ca>
- Email: firstgen@utoronto.ca
- Phone: 416-946-7752
- Like us: www.facebook.com/firstinthefamily
- Follow us: www.twitter.com/UofTFirstGen

Who we are:

- Rahul Bhat (rahul.bhat@utoronto.ca)
- Roz Spafford (roz.spafford@utoronto.ca)
- Jesse Langille (jesse.langille@utoronto.ca)
- Tanya Lewis (tanya.lewis@utoronto.ca)



firstgen.utoronto.ca
Build Your Own Legacy

 First in the Family
 UofTFirstGen



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO