

First-Generation Students: A Guide



We are thrilled you are an Ichabod! Welcome to Washburn, we are excited and value the knowledge and experience that you are bringing here!



Why is it important?

They represent



of our Campus.

- In Fall 2019, 342 of the 732 total incoming direct from high-school students met the first-gen definition.

"A first-generation student means neither of the student's parents/guardians completed a bachelor's degree regardless of siblings and other relatives."

First-Generation WU Resources

First-Generation Specialist

- Teaches WU101 for First-Generation students.
- Researches and implements best practices in retention and graduation of first-generation students.
- Advises first-generation student organizations.

We Are F1rst

- Official organization for first-generation students.
- Provides opportunities for collaboration with first-generation students, faculty, administrators, and community members.
- Organizes meetings and events.

For more information contact:

Jenny Lieurance

jenny.lieurance@washburn.edu

First-Generation Living Learning Community

- Receive mentoring from first-generation Washburn faculty and staff.
- Monthly in-hall workshops hosted by the Center for Student Success & Retention.
- Students co-enroll in a designated first-generation section of WU101.

First-Generation Decal Outreach for Faculty/Staff

- Faculty and staff can receive a First-Gen or First-Gen ALLY office badge.



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National First-Generation Day

- Across the United States, colleges and universities annually celebrate National First-Generation Day on November 8 by recognizing the successes of faculty, staff, and students who are the first in their families to earn a college degree.
- Washburn has participated since 2018.

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Success Coaching

- Title III Federally funded initiative since Fall 2019.
- Coaches meet with students throughout each semester, access individual strengths and needs, and help students devise personalized plans of action that can facilitate student success.

For more information contact:
Valerie Mendoza
valerie.mendoza@washburn.edu

Ichabod Success Institute

- Collaboration with Topeka USD #501 schools for incoming first-generation students.

For more information contact:
James Barraclough
james.barraclough@washburn.edu

Recognitions:

- Member of the inaugural First-Gen Forward cohort, recognized by NASPA, for 2019-2020.
- We Are First New Student Organization of the Year, WU's SOAR Awards, 2017
- Ichabod Success Institute: Model of Excellence, University Business, Winter 2016
- Programs to Watch, Excelencia in Education, 2018
- Finalist - Ed Excelencia, Excelencia in Education, 2019

What our First-Gen say about WU:

“The faculty and staff make it a really great experience and always let you know it's okay to ask for help and remind you to ask for help when you need it most.”

- Precious Jackson

“Generous and caring students, faculty, and staff sets Washburn apart from all other colleges. The sense of community is something I haven't found anywhere else.”

- Tierney Kester

“Warm and welcoming staff and faculty. They are supportive and encouraging. All staff is always willing to go the extra mile for a student.”

- Jessica De La Rosa

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Washburn University We Are First



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washburn.edu/firstgen

