

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENT PROFILE

1. Most begin at two year institutions and later move to four-year institutions
2. More likely to be members of an ethnic minority group, to come from a lower socioeconomic background, to speak a language other than English at home, and to score lower on the SAT than other students.
3. May choose to attend college in order to gain the respect/status, bringing honor to their family financially after graduating college.
4. May fear failing
5. Generally feel less prepared for college and may have to put more time into studying than the typical college student.
6. May be older than traditional college students
7. Often have more difficulty integrating into campus activities and making friends.
8. Less likely to receive support from family while attending college

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE CAMPUS SUPPORT PROGRAMS

1. Provide personalized attention to each student
2. Programs specifically address the outlined needs.
3. Include direct help from Financial Aid and Admission offices
4. Facilitate peer-support
5. Can help students to handle the social-emotional issues related to attending college.

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENT LITERATURE RESOURCES

Adelman, Clifford. 1999. *Answers in the Tool Box: Academic Intensity, Attendance Patterns, and Bachelor's Degree Attainment.* (ERIC ED431363). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement. www.eric.ed.gov.

A Shared Agenda: A Leadership Challenge to Improve College Access and Success. 2004. Pathways to College Network: The Education Resource Institute (TERI). Boston, MA: Pathways to College Network Clearinghouse. www.pathwaystocollege.com

Ayala, Connie, and Al Striplen. 2002. *A Career introduction Model for First-Generation College Freshmen Students* (ERIC ED469996). *Thriving in Challenging and Uncertain Times*, ed. Garry R. Walz, Richard Knowdell, and Chris Kirkman, 57-62. Greensboro, NC: ERIC Clearinghouse on Counseling and Student Services. www.eric.ed.gov.

Choy, Susan P. 2001. *Students Whose Parents Did Not Go To College: Postsecondary Access, Persistence, and Attainment* (NCES 2001-126). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2001/2001126.pdf>.

- Edmonson, Stacey, Alice Fisher, and Judy Christensen. 2003. Project CONNECT: A University's Effort to Close the Gaps (ERIC ED477438). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association (Chicago, IL, April 21-25, 2003)
- Gullatt, Yvette, and Wendy Jan. 2003. How Do Pre-Collegiate Academic Outreach Programs Impact College-Going among Underrepresented Students? Washington, DC: Pathways to College Network Clearinghouse.
- Hsiao, Karin Petersen. Nov. 1992. First-Generation College Students (ERIC ED351079) ERIC Digest, November. Office of Educational Research and Improvement. Los Angeles, CA: ERIC Clearinghouse Products (071). www.eric.ed.gov
- Jones, Rhonda. 2003. Pre-College Academic Programs and Interventions. Washington, DC: Pathways to College Network Clearinghouse.
- Nunez, Anne-Marie, Stephanie Cuccaro-Alamin. 1998. First Generation Students: Undergraduates Whose Parents Never Enrolled in Postsecondary Education. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).
- Schmidt, Peter. 2003. Academe's Hispanic Future: The nation's largest minority group faces big obstacles in higher education, and colleges struggle to find the right ways to help. The Chronicle of Higher Education, v. 50, Issue 14 (28 November): A8. <http://chronicle.com>
- Striplin, Jenny J. 1999. Facilitating Transfer for First-Generation Community College Students (ERIC ED430627). ERIC Digest, June. www.eric.ed.gov.
- Thayer, Paul B. 2000. Retention of Students from First Generation and Low Income Backgrounds (ERIC ED446633). Opportunity Outlook (May), 2-8.
- Vargas, Joel H. 2004. College Knowledge: Addressing Information Barriers to College. Boston, MA: College Access Services: The Education Resources Institute (TERI). www.teri.org
- Warburton, Edward C., Rosio Bugarin, and Anne-Marie Nunez. 2001. Bridging the Gap: Academic Preparation and Postsecondary Success of First-Generation students. Education Statistics Quarterly, 3 (fall): 73-77. http://nces.ed.gov/programs/quarterly/vol_3/3_3/q4-2.asp

Source:

First-Generation College Students: A Literature Review
(www.tgslc.org/pdf/first_generation.pdf)