

## Empowering first-generation students through community, advocacy, and mentorship at UVU

### Mission

The First-Generation Student Success Center is dedicated to empowering first-generation students through personalized mentoring, academic resources, and community-building initiatives. We aim to address the unique challenges faced by first-generation students and provide them with the connections and support needed to thrive in their education, careers, and beyond.

### Vision

We are a beacon of support, empowerment, and opportunity for first-generation students, fostering their academic success and personal growth within a welcoming and nurturing community.

### Student Learning Outcomes

- Students know where the First-Generation Student Success Center is and how to access its resources
- Students feel safe, welcome, respected, and appreciated in the First-Generation Student Success Center
- Students are confident in navigating day-to-day life at UV
- Parents and guardians know how to contact us and locate information they need to support their students

### Programs and Services Goals

#### First-Generation Crew:

Create a student leadership program that allows students to explore their strengths and weaknesses while cultivating an environment of connection.

#### Campus Community:

Build awareness of the First-Generation Student Success Center and its location. Would like to see an increase in emails and collaborative efforts across campus.

#### Mentoring Programs:

- First Steps: 100% persistence of students from year to year for 2-6 years
- First Steps: Course success rates. Identify courses where students struggle on a granular level and discover how we can provide better support in these areas.
- FGE: Measure post-college career/education outcomes.

### Academic Navigation and Success:

- Equip first-generation students with the skills, resources, and support necessary to excel by providing academic mentoring, study strategies, time management techniques, and access to academic resources. Peer mentors will proactively identify and reach out to at-risk students and leverage family and community to increase student success.
- Promote growth and resilience among first-generation students by implementing workshops and activities focused on personal development, stress management, and resilience.
- Create a supportive and welcoming community for first-generation students by facilitating regular UVU community-building events, peer support groups, and networking opportunities.

### General:

- Increase first-generation student retention by 3%, measured by the percentage of first-generation students who persist from freshman to sophomore year.
- Increase first-generation student graduation rate by 2%.
- Increase first-generation student engagement in activities and events by 10%, as measured by attendance and participation rates in campus clubs, organizations, internships, and mentorship programs.
- Create a robust and engaging social media presence, providing a platform for students to be informed and engage with the First-Generation Student Success Center, measured by the number of followers, post interactions, and reshares.
- Increase traffic and usability by launching a new, simplified website.
- Request and implement a first-generation-focused dashboard with BIRS to increase easy data access.

## 2023-2024 Impact Data

- UVU had 16,308 first-generation college students in fall of 2023, accounting for 36.5% of the total student population. Of these students, 3,734 are also adult learners.
- 33.05% of spring 2023 graduates were first-generation students. This percentage has been maintained since 2019.
- UVU awarded \$208,051 in first-generation scholarships and waivers for the 2024-25 academic year
- 18% of first-generation students earn a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 65.47% of first-generation students persist from fall to fall. This rate has been maintained since 2019. We are on track to have somewhere between 62%-65% for fall 2024.