

(d) FY27 One-Time Request: First Gen Initiative

At the Center for Student Empowerment (CSE), our core mission is to support student success by providing a wide range of services designed to enrich the college experience and lay the foundation for a thriving future. Among our key objectives is expanding access and opportunity for first-generation students by equipping them with the resources and guidance needed to pursue upward social and economic mobility. Our comprehensive program integrates scholarship support, community engagement, and both personal and professional development through a holistic advising model that meets students where they are and helps them grow.

The Center for Student Empowerment (CSE) has emerged as a central campus resource for first-generation students seeking connection, support, and empowerment. Over the years, CSE has collaborated with offices such as UH Wellness, Global Learning Abroad, Bauer College of Business, LAUNCH, Counseling and Psychological Services, and the Dean of Students to host networking events, peer engagement, and educational workshops. The First Gen Success program stands as a signature initiative within CSE, offering students, faculty, and staff meaningful opportunities to engage with and celebrate the University of Houston's first-generation community.

The goals of First-Generation Success are:

- Promote Academic Achievement: Support students in navigating their academic journey through tailored advising, workshops, and access to campus resources.
- Foster Personal and Professional Development: Provide opportunities for students to build leadership skills, explore career pathways, and engage in meaningful mentorship relationships.
- Build Community and Belonging: Create inclusive spaces where first-generation students can connect with peers, faculty, and staff who understand and support their experiences.
- Increase Visibility and Engagement: Elevate the presence of first-generation students across campus through events, storytelling, and collaborative programming.
- Support Social and Economic Mobility: Equip students with the tools, knowledge, and networks needed to pursue long-term success and upward mobility beyond graduation.

Through a series of intentional activities, we aim to help faculty, staff, and students deepen their understanding of the first-generation experience. As the First Gen initiative continues to grow, we are committed to strengthening existing partnerships and cultivating new ones across campus and within the broader community.

DSA Strategic Initiative

- Increase Retention of First-Time in College (FTIC) students
- Promote increased student credit hours and GPA for FTIC
- Increase the retention rate of Pell-eligible FTIC

Marketing	\$3500
First Generation Professional Development	\$800
First Generation Leadership	\$3,000
First Generation Support Series	\$500
First Generation Mixer	\$2,000

Subtotal	\$9,800
6% Administration	\$588.00
Total Requested Amount	\$10,388