



"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

-HARRIET TUBMAN

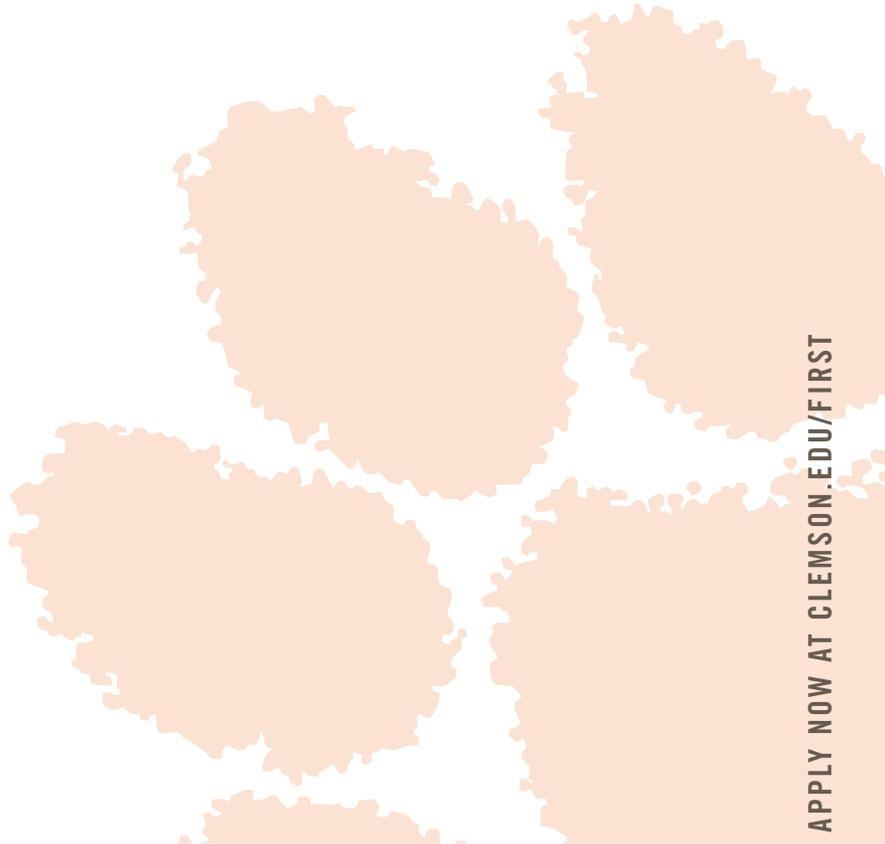
CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations from the FIRST Generation Success Program

Join us and take advantage of an awesome resource!



109-A Vickery
Clemson, SC 29634



APPLY NOW AT CLEMSON.EDU/FIRST



Academic Excellence for FIRST Generation Students

clemson.edu/FIRST



Clemson's President Clements is a first generation college graduate and champion of the FIRST Program. He knows how it feels to be the first in your family to attend college and he knows what it takes to succeed. Our mission is to increase the first generation graduation rate and celebrate when you walk across the stage to receive your diploma.



FIRST GEN
students are important
to Clemson



CONGRATULATIONS!

on your acceptance to Clemson! You are one of the best and brightest and we are excited to welcome you to the Clemson family.

WHAT IS FIRST GEN?

You indicated on your application for admission that you will be the FIRST generation in your family to earn a Bachelor's degree, so FIRST can be a great resource for you at Clemson. Offered since 2006 by the Division of Academic Affairs, FIRST offers resources to help you adjust to college and excel once you get here.

WHAT CAN FIRST DO FOR YOU?

FIRST helps students SUCCEED in the classroom. Because college is so much different than high school and comes with a new set of standards, many students are surprised and have to quickly adjust and acquire new skills. We can get you there quickly. In addition to academic support, FIRST offers a variety of fun and exciting activities, potential for leadership positions and opportunities to make lifelong friends.



"FIRST creates an environment that pushes students to do their best by providing a strong support group of other students, faculty and staff, who bring their own unique experiences and backgrounds. I've developed many friendships and I honestly don't know if I would still be here if I didn't make those connections." -Derek Holder

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO MAKE IT?

- #1 BELIEVE IN YOURSELF!
- #2 MASTER YOUR TIME!
- #3 LEARN NEW STUDY SKILLS!
- #4 USE YOUR RESOURCES!

Our mentors give tips and walk you through the many things that fall in to these categories



PEER MENTORS

What are the unwritten rules of college? Our mentors will guide you and help you learn the lay of the land. Mentors are successful and experienced college students. FIRST participants are matched with a mentor in the same or similar major. Mentors meet with students in small groups and individually each week. They stay in touch, teach success skills and also offer informal tutoring.



STUDENT ORGANIZATION

FIRST students have the opportunity to become officers who lead our social organization recognized by Clemson Student Government. The group plans two social events every month (like bowling, Halloween parties, tailgates, and dances). They also plan several service opportunities each semester both on and off campus (like Habitat for Humanity at Homecoming, collecting goods for those less fortunate, sending letters to soldiers). Students can join committees to get involved right away when they get to Clemson.

PROGRAM STATS

Students in FIRST have a higher retention rate than those who are not in the program. FIRST is a diverse group, with students from many different backgrounds, cultures, areas and majors. Get involved and be proud of your accomplishments. As a sophomore, you will have the opportunity to be a mentor and help educate new FIRST generation students.



BY THE NUMBERS

2017-2018

- 474** of 3795 freshman are first gen (12.8%)
- 20** FIRST mentors on staff
- 150** students join FIRST each year
- 1630** FIRST program graduates to date

JOIN FIRST



"After 12 years with FIRST, I enjoy leading this organization that is like a family. Getting to know students, giving them the tools to succeed and keeping in touch beyond graduation is rewarding. As a FIRST generation college graduate, I wish there had been something like FIRST when I was in school. First gen students are pioneers. Take advantage of FIRST, because there is no such thing as too much support. Be proud to be a FIRST generation student!"

*Sherry Dorris, Master of Arts in Educational Psychology
Director*



ACADEMIC SERVICES

- Mentoring by peers
- Academic coaching
- Faculty interaction
- Test review sessions and tutoring
- Study skills & time management training
- Workshops & speakers
- Newsletters
- Referrals to internships

OTHER FUN STUFF

- Student lounge
- Attend campus events together
- Excursions off campus
- Community service as a group
- Monthly socials
- Rec sports teams
- Free Tshirt

