

RCNJ

First-Generation Student Success

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What is First-Generation?

Ramapo College of New Jersey defines a first-generation student as a student where neither parent(s) nor legal guardian(s) have completed a bachelor's degree in the U.S.

About 48% of the incoming first-year class identify as first-generation!



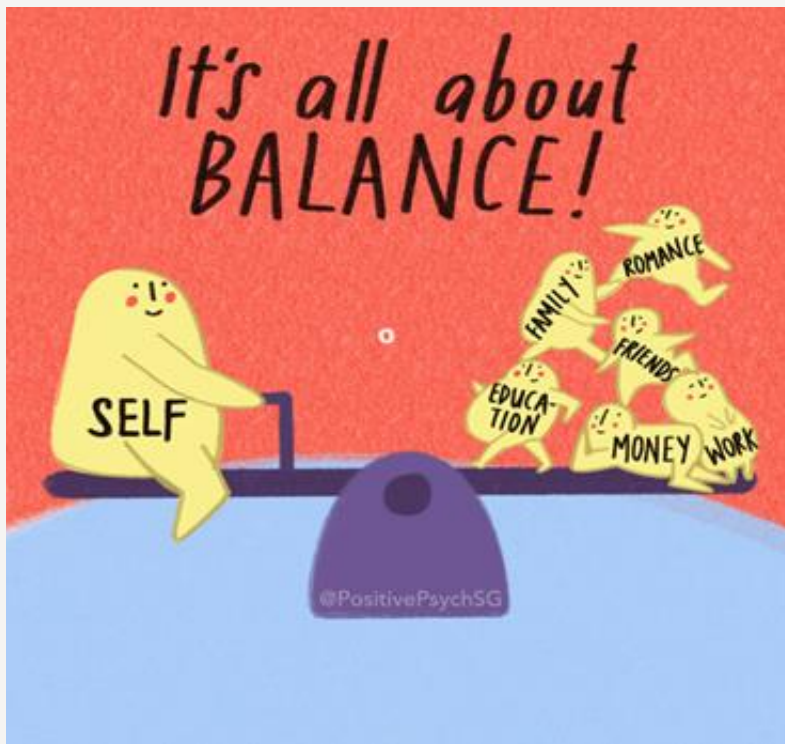
Our Mission

- To provide purposeful support and engaging services to create an equitable environment for first-generation Roadrunners.
- To promote first-generation student success through learning experiences that cultivate a sense of belonging and encourage holistic student development.



Today's Purpose

The reality is most high-school graduates are challenged by college work. Why?



Today's Purpose

We will discuss ways in which you can support your first-generation Roadrunners throughout their college journey.



Making the Most of Courses

Tips:

- Review course syllabi.
- Visit faculty office hours.
- Form study groups.
- Proactively plan. (Google Calendar/paper)

Digital Platforms:

- Canvas (to access course material)
- Connect (to schedule appointments)

Academic Support Resources:

- Center for Reading & Writing
- STEM Center & Tutoring



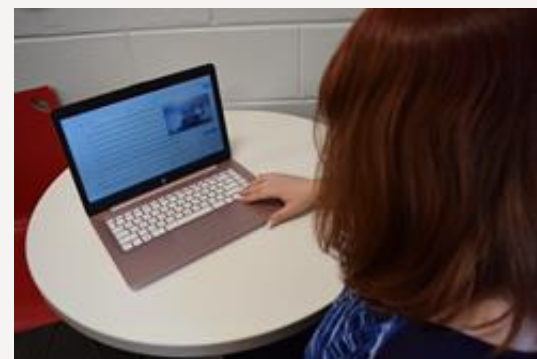
Time Management

- *Remind your student* that for every 1 hour a student spends in class, 2 hours should be set aside for studying/completing assignments.
- Students taking a full-time load of 16 credits should set aside about 32 hours per week.
- *Encourage your student* to familiarize themselves with the syllabi for their courses.



Center for Reading & Writing

- Offers one-on-one consulting sessions in writing and reading to students on all academic levels, both virtually and in-person.
- Assists in all stages of the writing process, from brainstorming to polishing final papers.
- Provides reading strategies for difficult texts.
- Facilitate a wide variety of workshops from study skills to MLA, APA, and Chicago documentation styles.



The STEM Center

- Walk-in tutoring and tutoring by appointment in many of the 1st and 2nd year courses for the following majors:
 - Math
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Physics
 - Computer/Data Science
- Peer tutors chosen by professors.
- STEM professional staff support for student success.
- STEM workshops offered.
- STEM community building events.



Community Building



Tri-Alpha Honor Society


Alpha Alpha Alpha (Tri-Alpha) is a national honor society for first-generation college students that supports and recognizes their academic achievements.



Scholarship Opportunities



← → ↺ 🏠 <https://www.ramapo.edu/scholarships/> 🔍 ☆ 📄 🌐



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Ramapo College Foundation

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Scholarships for academic year 25/26 will open in mid-August. Please look for details and updates in the Daily Digest and on social media.

To be considered for any scholarship, including nominated awards, students must complete a general application.

The application process has been streamlined, and you will be automatically matched with scholarships for which you are eligible. A general essay is still required, with some scholarships requiring supplemental short essays and/or letters of recommendation.

Scholarships are awarded on a rolling basis throughout both semesters. Due to the volume of applications, you will only be notified if you have been chosen to receive an award.

[Apply for Scholarships](#)

Contact scholars@ramapo.edu with questions

Visit <https://www.ramapo.edu/scholarships/> to learn more!

Legacies in the Making

First-Gen Summer Pre-College Program



To assist first-generation students with their transition to Ramapo College through workshops, activities, and community building that foster a sense of belonging.

Dates:

August 19 – 23, 2025.

Encourage your student to visit
<https://www.ramapo.edu/first-gen/>
to apply today!

Deadline: July 23, 2025



Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a fee to sign up for the Legacies program?

No, the program is FREE.

How does my student sign up for the Legacies program?

Visit <https://www.ramapo.edu/first-gen/>
to apply.

Is the summer program available to commuter students too?

Yes, residential and commuter students are welcome.



Other Resources

- Center for Health and Counseling, First-Gen Counselor
- Learning Commons: First-Gen Library Connections
- Cahill Career Development Center
- Faculty/Staff First-Gen Action Team
- America Needs You (ANY)
- We Care Program
 - Student Relief Fund
 - Food Pantry
 - Clothing Closet
 - Laptop Upcycle @Ramapo



Thank you!



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