

1stGEN@HDX Program Summary



Hendrix College is committed to excellent, accessible education. Recognizing both the value of the perspectives that first-generation college students (students whose parent/guardian did not attain a bachelor's degree) can bring to the academic environment and the unique barriers such students face, we have developed programming that will address support for and retention of students who are the first in their families to go to college.

The 1stGen@HDX program consists of four components:

- Workshops: Focused curriculum that is designed to both anticipate and react to student needs as they progress through social adjustment and academic coursework.
- 2) **Staff Mentoring:** Staff and faculty members, many of whom are first-generation college graduates, will participate in ongoing mentor training and receive programmatic support to serve as a guide and model to their mentees. The matched mentor/mentee relationship will allow for a greater focus on the special needs of this student population, as well as on individual student needs and circumstances.
- 3) **Engaged Learning Projects:** First-gen students will have access to funding so that they may complete engaged learning opportunities related to their career interests. This program component provides students with an opportunity to gain experience, knowledge, and skills that they can apply to their next steps following graduation, whether they choose to enter graduate school or the workforce.
- 4) **Keeping Parents Involved:** The Keeping Parents Involved program component includes a series of workshops designed to provide parents with insight on what it means to be a college student, and on how they can best support their children as they navigate through college. This component also aims to provide ample opportunity for the parents and families of current students to visit Hendrix and become a part of campus life.