

# First-Generation Mentorship Program – Peer Mentor Role Description

**Position Title:** Peer Mentor

**Department:** Student Success Centre

**Hours:** Minimum 10 hours per semester

## **Role Description**

The Student Success Centre (SSC) is dedicated to supporting First-Generation students in their academic journey. We believe that every student deserves equal access to post-secondary education and want to do our best to eliminate any barriers that may hinder their progress. To achieve this goal, we are looking for dedicated and motivated student volunteers to join our mentorship program as **Peer Mentors**.

As a Peer Mentor, you will have the opportunity to make a significant impact on the lives of your fellow students, while promoting equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (EDIA) on campus. This position also offers a unique chance to develop valuable skills in communication, teamwork, leadership, and time management.

We welcome applicants from all faculties. We will provide comprehensive training and support to ensure your success in this program. Apply today and join us in creating a more inclusive higher education experience for First-Generation students!

If you are interested in this position, please complete this Peer Mentor Application Form.

### **Position Responsibilities**

- Attend **one mandatory training session** prior to mentorship.
  - Establish and maintain a trusting relationship with mentees.
  - Connect with your mentee at least two times a month (in person, over Zoom, through email or text messaging).
  - Attend two Mentor meetings each semester to share ideas and resources.
  - Attend at least three workshops, campus events, or study sessions each semester with your mentee.
- Provide suggestions, advice, and feedback to mentees; don't influence or control decisions.
- Attend two meetings each semester with other Peer Mentors and SSC Staff to check in, updates on activities, share ideas and resources.

- Complete a mid-term check-in form to ensure that the program is meeting your expectations, and your mentor-mentee relationship is going well.
- Maintain confidentiality of your mentees' information.

## Qualifications

- Completed at least one undergraduate academic year at the University of Calgary.
- Be in good conduct standing for non-academic misconduct and demonstrate behaviors that align with the program values.
- Commit to a minimum of ten hours per semester for mentoring.
- Commit to this program in both Fall and Winter semesters to ensure ample time for relationship building and skill development.
- Prior experience as a first-generation student is an asset, but not mandatory.

#### **Benefits**

- **EDIA Experience:** Volunteers will participate in a meaningful program that positively impacts student experience and success.
- Reference Letters: Peer Mentors will receive reference letters after completing the
  program. Students must have completed all required training, volunteered for a minimum
  of 1 semester, and meet the volunteer hours requirement before they can request a
  reference letter.
- **Professional Development:** Volunteers will be given the opportunity to improve their skills such as leadership, teamwork, communication, and time management through experiential learning opportunities, workshops, mentorship, and training.
- Community Building: Volunteers will have the opportunity to connect with like-minded students who share a passion for making a difference and become part of a supportive community.

#### **Contact Us**

To learn more about this program, please visit the First-Generation Mentorship website.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:firstgenprograms@ucalgary.ca">firstgenprograms@ucalgary.ca</a>.

## **Conduct Standing**

This position requires students to be **in good conduct standing for non-academic misconduct**. Students who are not in good conduct standing have an active sanction of "Probation for Non-Academic Misconduct" that has been assigned through formal conduct proceedings per the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. Students are informed in writing of the sanction by the Student Conduct Office. Note: Involvement in the Non-Academic Misconduct process does not automatically mean a student is not in good conduct standing; this applies only to those students

who have been assigned the sanction of Probation for Non-Academic Misconduct. If you have been found responsible of a violation of the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and you are unsure if you have received this sanction, please contact <a href="mailto:conduct@ucalgary.ca">conduct@ucalgary.ca</a>. Please note that in submitting your application, you are verifying that you are in good conduct standing and consent to this being verified by the Student Conduct Office. Note that details of non-academic misconduct cases are not shared through this process.

#### **Values Statement**

The First-Generation Student Programs is a team of staff and students committed to building a community of support for UCalgary students who are the first in their families to attend post-secondary education.

The First-Generation community...

- Values the **diversity** of identities that staff, mentors, and students bring to the community.
- **Respects** individual differences and the value they bring to our campus regardless of culture, race, ethnicity, gender, or ability.
- Demonstrates **accountability** and **inclusivity** through our words and actions, while owning the impact of what we say and do.
- Commits to Truth and Reconciliation, <u>ii'taa'poh'to'p</u>, and learning together "in a good way"