"UC San Diego is committed to being a student-centered university by putting students first; inviting and respecting their voices and existing strengths; and honoring the intersectional identities of our Triton community. As a campus, we hold ourselves and each other accountable to transformative action that ensures equity, inclusion, and success across all aspects of the student experience at UC San Diego, both inside and outside the classroom."

- UCSD Student Centered Statement

**UCUES ON FIRST-GEN STUDENTS**
Data obtained from the [2020 UC San Diego University Campus Undergraduate Experience Survey](https://example.com)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>71%</th>
<th>feel that they belong at this campus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Participate in programs for students that “scale down” the college experience, normalizing the process of connecting with university personnel.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Emphasize collaboration and learning together that may pose as a barrier for first-gen students in STEM.</td>
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<tr>
<th>76%</th>
<th>feel that assisting faculty members in research is important</th>
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<td>• Encourage engagement on the college campus to gain experience. Update students on possible opportunities to engage in their departments.</td>
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<td>• Create an environment that affirms students’ strengths and encourages their educational pursuit.</td>
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<tr>
<th>50%</th>
<th>feel reluctant to ask for help when needed</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Participate in advising, tutoring, and mentoring by faculty and peers, to build a network and culture in which seeking help is encouraged.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 30% of first gen students participate in paid employment on campus, serving as a source of income for their families back home. Consider allowing flexibility when appropriate.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PROGRAMS & RESOURCES**
Providing identity conscious services that address the specific needs of first-generation students is one way to aid their success. Here are some of the resources UC San Diego offers.

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS SUPPORT**
- OASIS
  - Math and Science Tutorial Program
  - Language Arts Tutorial Services
- Teaching and Learning Commons
  - Learning Strategies
  - Supplemental Instruction
- First-Gen Student Success Coaching Program
  - Individualized Success Coaching

**RESOURCE CENTERS**
- Student Veterans Resource Center (SVRC)
  - Peer Navigators
- RAZA Resource Center
  - Community Writing Collective
- Black Resource Center
  - Peer Guidance Program
- Asian Pacific Islander Middle Eastern Desi American (APIMEDA)

**ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES**
- TRIO Programs
  - McNair
  - Student Support Services
  - Outreach Programs
- Undergraduate Research
  - Faculty Mentor Program (FMP)
  - TREL (Triton Research and Experiential Learning Scholars)
- OASIS
  - Learning Communities
  - Research Methodology Training Laboratory (RMTL)

**WELLNESS**
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
  - Basic Needs Hub
    - Emergency Loans
    - Financial Literacy
    - Mobile Food Pantry
    - UC San Diego Emergency Housing
  - The Zone
    - Financially Savvy
    - Hungry for Healthy
Triton Firsts Initiative is an initiative to engage first-generation professors, lecturers, researchers, staff, students, and alumni at UC San Diego. This initiative invites those who were also the first in their families to graduate from college to support first-generation students through:
- Sharing their stories of resilience, setbacks and success
- Participating in high-impact faculty-student interactions
- Collaborating with campus departments to provide a culture of support for first-generation college students.

UC San Diego is a National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) first-gen forward advisory designated university. As part of the NASPA first-gen recognition, UC San Diego institutions will receive professional development, community-building experiences and more, while serving as a model for other campuses seeking to improve the outcomes of first-generation students.

Center for First-generation Student Success:
https://firstgen.naspa.org/first-forward

Student Retention and Success, Triton Firsts:
https://srs.ucsd.edu/initiatives/triton-firsts/index.html

First Generation Student Alliance
https://studentorg.ucsd.edu/Home/Details/10663

Instagram: @ucsd_firstgen
Email: firstgentritons@ucsd.edu

REFERENCES


Pendakur 2016, Closing the Opportunity Gap: Identity-Conscious Strategies for Retention and Student Success
