If none of your parents or guardians completed a bachelor’s degree, then you are one of WEST CHESTER’S FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT?
HOW MANY FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS ATTEND WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY?

a. 25%  b. 5%  c. 53%  d. 30%
APPROXIMATELY 30%

That means MORE THAN 4,200 STUDENTS at West Chester University are first generation
WE CELEBRATE STUDENTS LIKE YOU! We’re proud that so many first-gens choose West Chester
WCU is one of only 80 universities in the country to receive this distinction in 2019.

West Chester University has been recognized by NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, a leading national organization, for our work with first-gen students.
Why is West Chester’s First Important?

- Nearly one-third of WCU’s undergraduates are first generation (“first-gen”)—that’s a lot of our students!

- We know that sometimes, the college experience can be overwhelming for any first-year student. Things like:
  - Making new friends
  - Getting comfortable with the campus
  - Applying for financial aid, selecting classes, and meeting your advisor (who’s similar to your high school guidance counselor)

- We’re here for you! We want to make sure our first-gen students and their families have all the information they need, right from the start!
WE WANT

ALL OUR FIRST-GENS TO BE

• INVOLVED
• CONNECTED
• INFORMED

and most of all...

PROUD!
• Participate in campus events, especially first-gen events! Stay updated on our website: www.wcupa.edu/wcfirst

• Make friends by joining one of our 300+ student organizations at the Fall Involvement Fair in September. Learn about student organizations here: Student Leadership and Involvement

• Participate in National First-Generation College Celebration Day on November 8

• By getting involved, we hope you love it here as much as we do!
WE WANT
ALL OUR
FIRST-GENS
TO BE
• INVOLVED
• CONNECTED
• INFORMED
and most of all...
PROUD!
• Reach out to your **Student Success Coordinator and faculty advisor**—they’re like your high school guidance counselor. They can answer questions about your classes.

  Student Success Coordinators  
  Academic Advising

• **Get to know your professors by visiting their office hours.** They’ll tell you when they’re available to meet on your first day of class

• **Take a virtual tour** so you’re familiar with the campus
WAYS TO BE CONNECTED IN YOUR FIRST YEAR AT WCU

• Receive your West Chester’s First t-shirt at the start of the semester. When you see someone wearing that t-shirt, you’ll know they’re first-gen like you!

• Participate in Welcome Week events to kick off the fall semester, and meet other students who are getting started at WCU

• Attend Meet & Greet events with other first-gen students, faculty and staff

• Watch the Family Engagement website for details about a special event for first-gens and their families this fall

• Don’t miss Homecoming on October 7 - 9

• Join the fun on Banana Day, a unique WCU tradition held each spring

• WCU’s big spring celebration, Ramboree, is a great time for all students!
Save the date!

NATIONAL FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE

CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Visit our website: www.wcupa.edu/wcfirst for more information
• Learn about West Chester University resources on our website: www.wcupa.edu/wcfirst

• Questions about Financial Aid? Visit their website Financial Aid and ask a question in the chat box

• It’s important for your family, and everyone who supports you, to be informed too! Check out our Family Engagement website
CHECK OUT ALL THE RESOURCES ON THE WEST CHESTER’S FIRST WEBSITE

www.wcupa.edu/wcf1rst
• You’re joining a proud community! West Chester University has hundreds of first-gen faculty and staff, and thousands of first-gen alumni.

• First-gen students are known for their creativity, resiliency, entrepreneurship and grit. West Chester is the place that will help you grow those strengths.

• First-gens want to make the most out of their college experience by doing their very best to achieve, both inside and outside the classroom.
Want to join a proud group of first-gen scholars? Apply to become a member of Alpha Alpha Alpha national first-gen honor society.

**Who’s eligible:** First-gens who have completed about three semesters at West Chester University (students usually apply for membership in their second year)

Minimum **3.2 grade point average**

Watch [www.wcupa.edu/wcfirst](http://www.wcupa.edu/wcfirst) for application information.
BE PART OF A

PROUD TRADITION

Questions? Call 610-436-3301 | Email wcfirst@wcupa.edu