Through involvement in FIRST, first-generation college students strengthen skills for academic success and build relationships with other students, faculty and staff. First-generation students are those whose parents do not have a four-year college degree. New students have the opportunity to sign up for the FIRST LLC, be matched with a successful first-generation student mentor, get involved in and lead a student organization, attend study sessions and experience a variety of engaging workshops and social events.

What To Expect
- Mentoring from a successful first-generation college student
- Study sessions
- Individual advising
- Planned meet and greets with faculty
- Engaging workshops
- Socialize with other FIRST students at on-campus and off-campus events
- Involvement in a student-led organization

Did You Know?
- FIRST enjoys the support of Clemson University's President James P. Clements and Clemson Tiger Head Football Coach Dabo Swinney
- FIRST has increased retention and graduation rates of first-generation students at Clemson

Student Perspective
“The FIRST program is a life-saving program for first-generation college students. The biggest benefit is the opportunity to make friends and socialize with other first-generation students. Overall, FIRST is a family that students can become a part of, not only to ensure their success in college, but also in life.”

– Robert Locke, FIRST student

Quick Facts
Size: 30 students
Location: Mauldin Hall
Restrictions: All majors, coed
Application: None required
Fee: None required

Contact Information
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FIRST has graduated over 800 active students since 2006.