2021 UGA First Awards
Call for applicants
(Coordinated by the UGA First Generation Committee)

**Purpose of Award:**
In honor of National First-Generation College Celebration Day (November 8th), the University of Georgia First-Generation Committee will grant the inaugural **UGA First Awards**. The First Awards will highlight and honor the contributions and achievements of UGA’s outstanding first-generation undergraduate, graduate, and professional students; faculty; and staff. The deadline to apply for the First Award is **Friday, October 22, 2021**.

**Eligibility of Award:**
To apply for this award, individuals must:
- Be a first-generation applicant (your parents/guardians/supporters within your household have not completed a four-year degree in the U.S.)
- Be a UGA faculty member, staff member, graduate, professional, or undergraduate student from any UGA affiliated campus
- Students must be in good academic standing (2.0 GPA)
- All applicants must have completed at least one year at UGA by the time of application

**Criteria of Award:**
The selection committee for this award will evaluate applicants based on the criteria below:
- Leadership
- Academic achievement
- Contribution to community and/or civil society
- Involvement and engagement in extracurricular and/or experiential learning

**Application Requirements:**
- A completed and submitted self-nominated Application
- 1 reference letter via the reference form link provided in the application*
- A resume/CV (optional)

*Please note* there are many important people in the lives of the UGA first-generation community members. Therefore, the qualifications of references will be equitable and inclusive—UGA affiliation is not required for references. Applicants will be responsible for sending the Reference Form (linked in the application) to their selected reference contact.

**Essay Questions:**
In the application link above, you will be asked the following questions according to your classification:

- **Essay Question for Faculty/Staff:** Please describe how your first-generation experience has impacted your contributions within your professional and/or personal sphere. (1000 words or less)
- **Essay Question for Graduate/Professional Students:** Please share what it means to be a first-generation scholar. How does this impact your work, study, and civil society? (1000 words or less)
- **Essay Question for Undergraduate Students:** Please share the strengths and skills you have gained in your journey as a first-generation scholar. (800 words or less)