



FIRST GENERATION BRAG SHEET



“It’s natural to feel out of place and that you don’t belong in spaces like Penn. But remember that you do and that you have just as much of a right to these spaces as anyone else. Also remember the skills that you had to develop to even get here — you had to work really hard and those skills will come in handy. Make sure to make friends, seek out mentors, read widely, and to take advantage of all of the opportunities, as all of these strategies will add immense value to your life.” - Dr. Marybeth Gasman, Professor of Higher Education, Graduate School of Education

WHAT QUALITIES & CHARACTERISTICS DO YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORKPLACE AS A FIRST-GENERATION STUDENT?

Penn Career Services is excited to help First-Generation students explore their career options and prepare for professional success after graduation. Some of the assets that have enabled you to thrive in high school and college also make you highly competitive for job and internship opportunities and a valuable colleague for many employers. Among those assets are:

Perseverance and goal-driven outlook - As a First-Generation student at Penn, you have worked very hard to achieve many academic and extracurricular accomplishments. Employers want employees who have a strong work ethic and are motivated to contribute to the mission of the organization.

Resilience and optimism - As a First-Generation student, many of you have developed an ability to stay positive and overcome whatever obstacles may come your way. This has prepared you to handle different kinds of challenges in the workplace.

Time management skills - Many First-Generation students have other responsibilities and have learned to balance multiple and sometimes competing priorities. This is a great asset, as many jobs require employees to focus on multiple projects at a time while meeting tight deadlines.

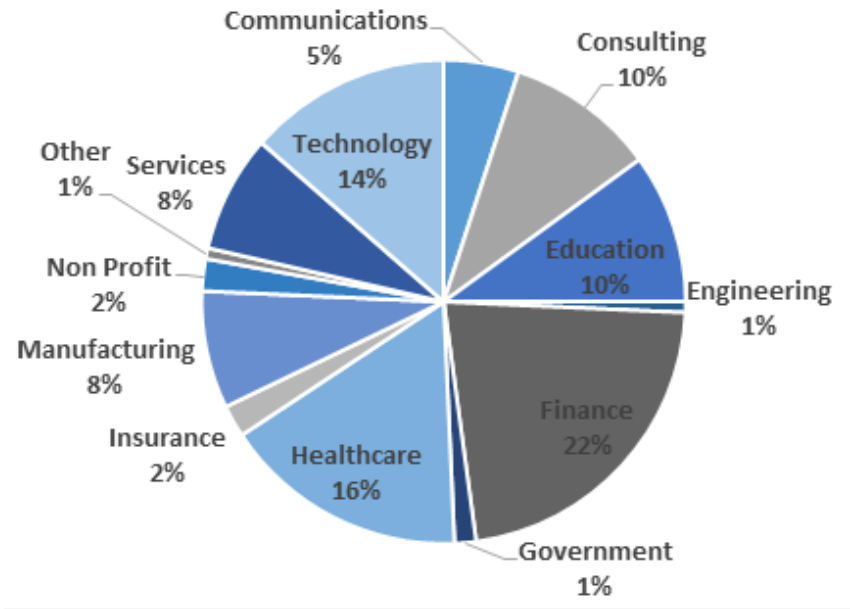
Initiative and resourcefulness - As a First-Generation student, you have paved the path and taken the initiative to attend college. This experience has likely equipped you with the abilities to be self-motivated and resourceful, qualities that employers find essential given that many jobs require you to be creative and innovative in an environment with finite resources.

Compassion and community-oriented mindset - Faced with being in a new environment, many First-Generation students have connected with each other to share their stories and to support each other. The experience of demonstrating compassion and building community is a crucial aspect of being a good colleague in an organization.

WHAT CAREERS HAVE FIRST-GEN PENN ALUMS PURSUED?

Penn students who identify as First-Generation have pursued a diverse range of rewarding and meaningful careers.

Here's where 140 First-Generation students from the class of 2017 have gone:



WHAT FIELDS OF GRADUATE STUDY HAVE FIRST-GEN PENN ALUMS PURSUED?

Penn students who identify as First-Generation have also pursued graduate study immediately after graduation. Here are the fields of graduate study that 26 First-Generation students from the class of 2017 have selected.

