
 [SWE First-Generation Students & Professionals Affinity Group](#)

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only **22%** of **first-generation college students** meet college readiness benchmarks for **math**

only **17%** of **first-generation college students** meet college readiness benchmarks for **science**

Garriott et al. 2016



much more work to be done to **empower** first-generation college students pursuing engineering degrees + careers



SWE's First Generation Students & Professionals Affinity Group created in 2023 to foster a **welcoming, supportive, and inclusive culture.**

**spotlight strengths** developed through this background / identity

create an **intergenerational support** network

**shared experience** of **forging own path** into the engineering profession **without** the advantage of **familial guidance**

- how to successfully **navigate university** and **industry** pathways
- peer-to-peer **mentoring**, future **growth, networking**, and **leadership** in SWE + workplace
- empower first-generation students and professionals within SWE from **all geographic locations, cultures, environmental experiences**, and **career paths**



Your first-gen identity is how **you** personally choose to define it! 😊