

# AT-A-GLANCE **F<sup>1</sup>**ST GRADUATE 2011-2012

## Program Overview

First Graduate is a San Francisco-based college success program that helps students finish high school and become the first in their families to graduate from college. We make a 10-year commitment to each student, beginning the summer after sixth grade through the completion of college.

First Graduate recruits students from five public middle schools in San Francisco: Horace Mann, James Lick, Marina, Roosevelt, and KIPP San Francisco Bay Academy. We enroll 25-30 new students each year.

## What First Graduate Students Achieve

Once admitted to the program, students make the following commitments:

- Participate in all program activities
- Strive to maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher
- Apply for and gain admission to academically rigorous high schools
- Develop strong social and organizational skills

**FIRST GRADUATE HELPS STUDENTS FINISH HIGH SCHOOL AND BECOME THE FIRST IN THEIR FAMILIES TO GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE.**

- Gain admission to and graduate from a four-year college with a bachelor's degree

## How They Achieve It

We address students' needs through a complementary set of services, including:

- 1. Case Management:** Program Associates work closely with individual students, families and schools to ensure that students are successfully completing each step on the way to becoming college graduates.
- 2. Academic Support:** Through our rigorous summer and school-year academic sessions, each student participates in more than 300 hours of academic instruction and tutoring each year.
- 3. Mentoring:** First Graduate college and high school students serve as peer mentors, and share their experiences and knowledge with younger First Graduate students throughout the program - both during the academic school year and summer session. Peer mentors help younger students with the high school application process and the transition to high school, in addition to offering guidance around enriching summer opportunities
- 4. Career Exploration:** Students participate in a variety of activities—including career panels, resume and networking workshops, and job shadow days—that expose them to different careers and help them develop the skills necessary to succeed in the workforce.
- 5. High School and College Counseling:** We provide students with a wide range of high school and college prep resources, including standardized test preparation, application planning, financial aid workshops for families, access to summer enrichment programs, and school visits.
- 6. Family Engagement:** First Graduate educates whole families, enabling parents to encourage their children throughout the college admission and financial aid processes.
- 7. College Support:** First Graduate provides each of our college students with a minimum annual scholarship of \$1,000; when possible we offer additional funding to bridge gaps in financial aid. We counsel students on financial management, career development, and accessing campus resources. We support students through regular contact via email, phone calls and on-campus visits.

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Presidio of San Francisco  
37 Graham Street, Suite 100  
San Francisco, CA 94129  
415-561-3450 Tel  
415-561-3454 Fax  
www.firstgraduate.org



EACH KID WHO IS THE FIRST IN HIS OR HER FAMILY TO GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE ACTS AS A VERY POWERFUL MOTIVATOR FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.



PROFESSOR MARCELO SUAREZ-OROZCO  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

FIRST GRADUATE TAUGHT ME TO BELIEVE I WAS CAPABLE OF SUCCEEDING ACADEMICALLY. WITH THAT MENTALITY, MANY DOORS APPEARED; ALL I HAD TO DO WAS PRY OPEN EACH ONE WITH A BIT OF COURAGE AND EFFORT. I WANT TO BE THE FIRST IN MY FAMILY TO GO TO COLLEGE BECAUSE OF THE DOMINO EFFECT. IT STARTS WITH ME AND MOVES ON TO INFLUENCING MY FUTURE CHILDREN TO APPLY TO COLLEGE.

**Number of Students Enrolled** 230

**Student Demographics**

Female	62%
Male	38%
Immigrants or Children of Latino/a	86%
Asian/Pacific Islander	59%
African American	22%
Multi-ethnic	11%
Caucasian	6%
Middle Eastern	1%

**Sample Colleges Students Attend**

- American University
- Barnard College
- Cal Poly Pomona
- Chapman University
- City College of San Francisco
- Hampshire College
- Harvard University
- Mills College
- Pitzer College
- Saint Mary's College of California
- San Francisco State University
- San Jose State University
- Sonoma State University
- Tufts University
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- University of California, Santa Cruz
- University of San Francisco



GUILLERMO  
COLLEGE SOPHOMORE  
TUFTS UNIVERSITY

FIRST GRADUATE NOT ONLY HELPED ME TO GO TO COLLEGE, WHICH WAS ON MY MIND SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL, BUT IT GAVE ME INDEPENDENCE. THE PROGRAM ALSO HELPED ME CREATE A SITUATION THAT TOOK MONEY OUT OF THE EQUATION AND LED ME TO RECEIVE A FULL SCHOLARSHIP. FIRST GRADUATE'S CONTINUED SUPPORT HAS HELPED ME STAY ON TRACK. I KNOW THEY WILL CONTINUE TO PUSH ME AND OFFER OPPORTUNITIES TO GET BETTER AT THIS THING CALLED LIFE.

Post-Secondary Results	HS Class of 2009	HS Class of 2010	HS Class of 2011	HS Class of 2012	4-Year Totals
Enrolled in 2 or 4-Year College	100%	100%	100%	TBD	100%
Returning for Second Year of College	100%	100%	100%	TBD	100%
Eligible for Cal State Campus	94%	88%	92%	94%	92%
Eligible for UC Campus	40%	43%	72%	72%	57%
Accepted to 4-Year College	75%	75%	91%	TBD	80%



ANJIE  
COLLEGE JUNIOR  
BARNARD COLLEGE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [FIRSTGRADUATE.ORG](http://FIRSTGRADUATE.ORG), CALL US AT 415-561-3450 OR EMAIL [INFO@FIRSTGRADUATE.ORG](mailto:INFO@FIRSTGRADUATE.ORG).