



## **The Center for Multicultural Affairs First Generation Scholars Program**

### **Brief Description of Program:**

The First Generation Scholars Program (FGSP) is a comprehensive support program for recipients of the CU-Boulder's First Generation Scholarship awarded by the Office of Financial Aid. Students in this cohort are assigned to a counselor from the Center for Multicultural Affairs for individualized attention and support. Participants attend various workshops designed to assist with their academic endeavors, life skills, leadership development, and career exploration. Orientation meetings, retreats, and co-curricular activities are planned throughout the year with an emphasis on promoting community building. The First Generation Scholarship is renewable for up to five years if the student continues to meet the eligibility requirements.

### **Purpose of Program:**

The First Generation Scholars program (FGSP) seeks to retain students who are first generation in their families to pursue an education beyond the high school level. Parents of these students are often supportive of their student's educational goals, but may lack the knowledge of how to effectively guide and support their college students. The FGSP functions as a consistent and vital resource for these students by providing clarity and guidance, instilling knowledge and promoting the skills needed by these students to help them develop to their fullest academic potential.

### **Desired Outcomes:**

- ◆ Students will meet a minimum of two times with their CMA counselor in order to maintain their scholarship;
- ◆ Students will develop a sense of community through their shared experience as first generation college students;
- ◆ Students will experience a smooth transition to campus life during their first year at CU-Boulder;
- ◆ Students will understand their responsibilities as academic scholars;
- ◆ Students will learn about the various campus resources available to them in order to successfully navigate the system;
- ◆ Students will successfully graduate within five years.

### **Assessment:**

Qualitative and quantitative summaries primarily through personal interviews will be conducted to determine if students experienced a "common experience" and sense of community while in the program. Follow up with students through personal contact is one means of determines if they used what they learned (i.e., general campus policies and procedures) and are prepared to meet the academic rigors of the University.