



PRESENTATION HANDOUT



First-generation Students And Their Families: What Do They Need? How Can You Help Them?

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Your presenters

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Agenda

- Who are first-generation prospective college students and their families?
- College planning
- College financing
- College planning information & experiences
- What can you do to help first-generation students and their families?





Who are first-generation students and their families?

U.S.
Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004/09 Beginning Postsecondary
Students Longitudinal Study
(BPS-04/09)



Being a first-generation college student means the you are the first person in your family to attend college

ie: neither of the student's parents/family members have a college degree

First-generation can also refer to a person born in the U.S. to immigrant parents (families) or a naturalized American citizen

Things to take into consideration:

- How is your institution collecting data?
- How is your institution communicating/engaging with first-generation families?
 - DACA students and families may be hesitant or uncomfortable engaging with the institution out of fear of deportation
 - Students may feel an overwhelming pressure to succeed because of the sacrifices their family is making for them to attend college

Join by Web



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- 2 Enter **RUFFALONL**
- 3 Respond to activity

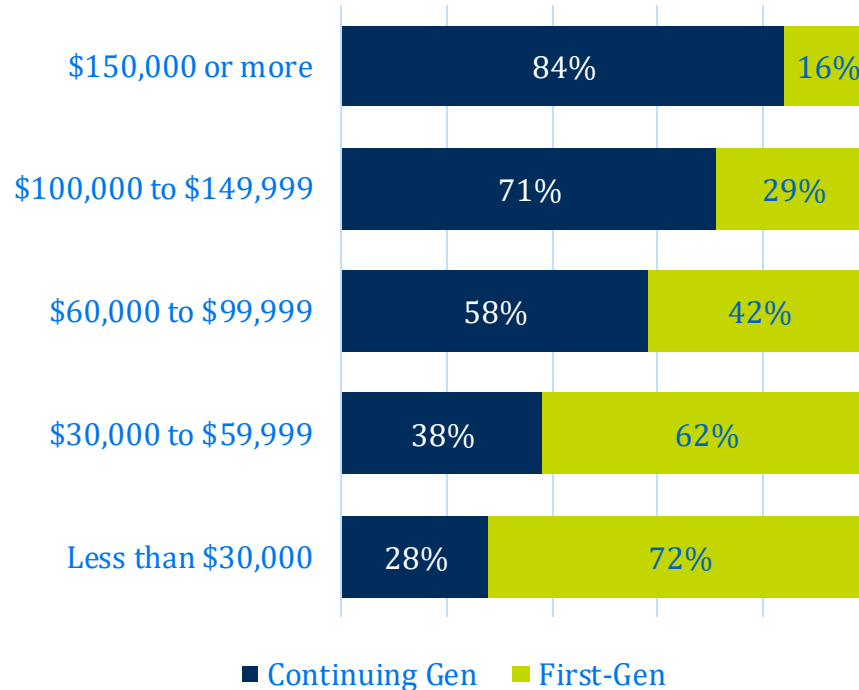
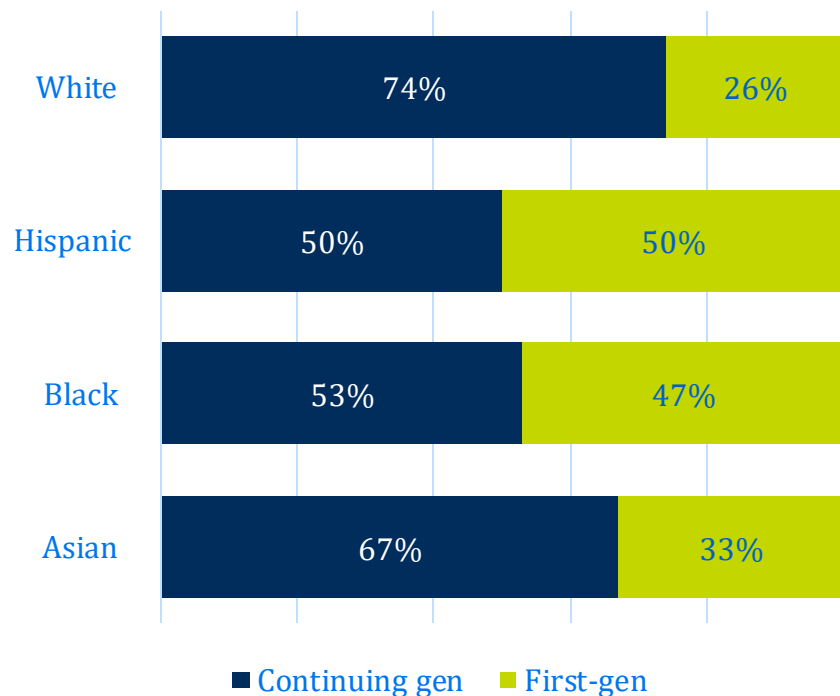
<https://pollev.com/ruffalonl>



College Planning

U.S.
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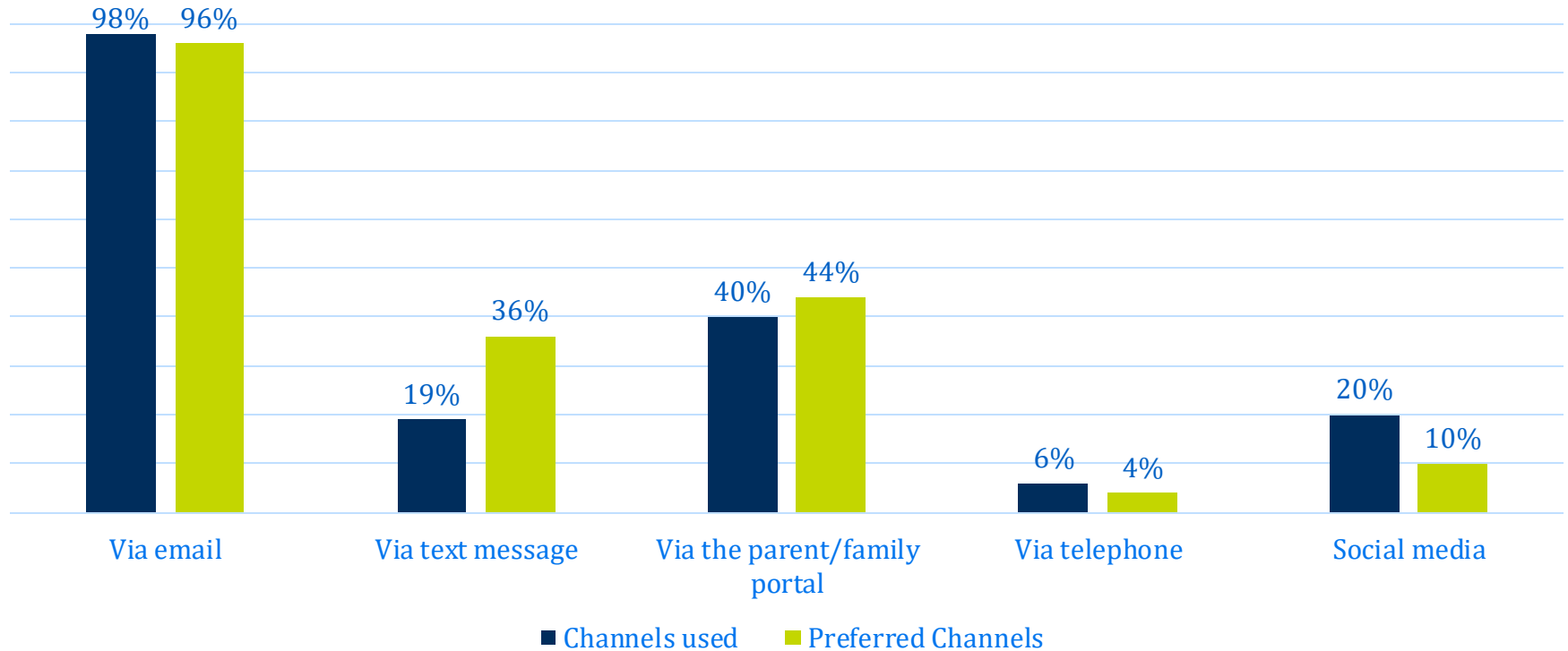
First-Gen Demographics in 2022 Prospective Family Study



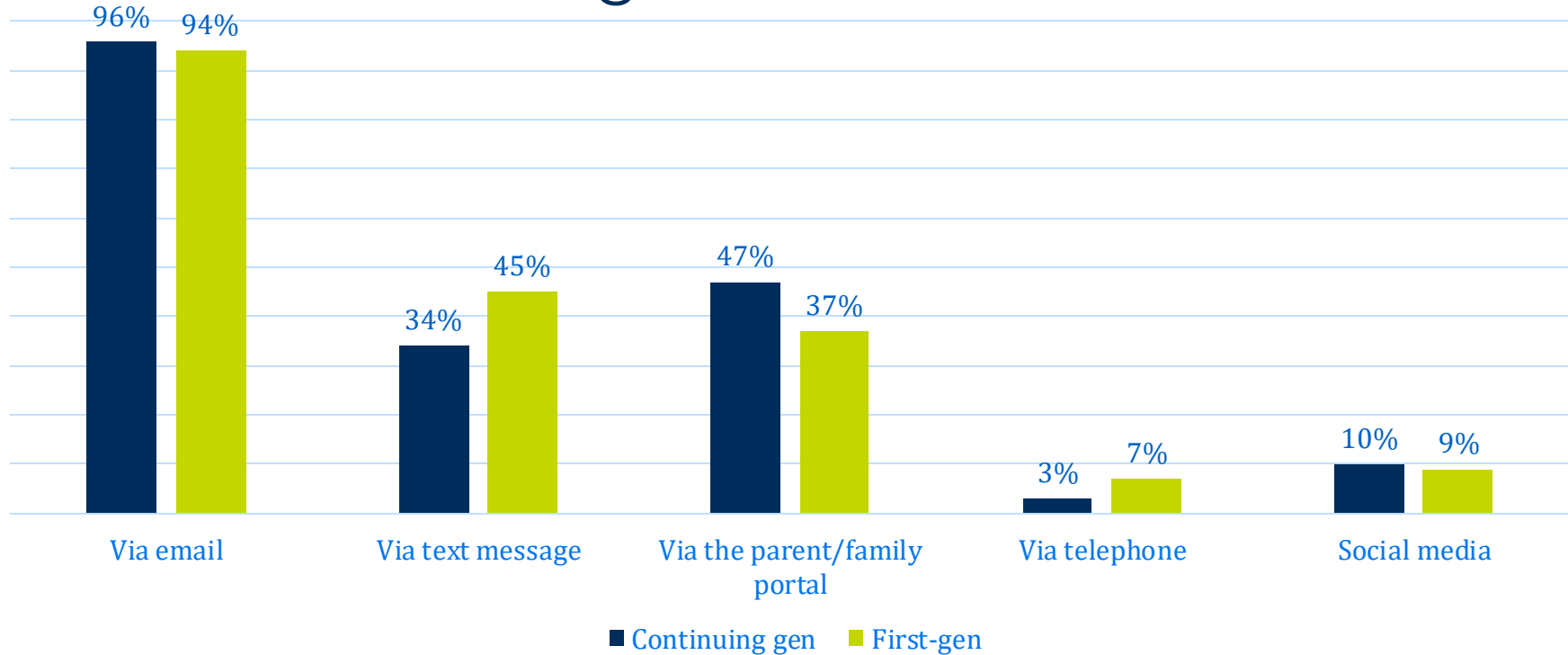
A blue-tinted photograph of three people in a meeting. A woman with curly hair is smiling and looking towards the left. A man in a suit is partially visible on the left, looking towards the woman. Another man in a plaid shirt is on the right, looking down. The word "Communication" is overlaid in white text in the center.

Communication

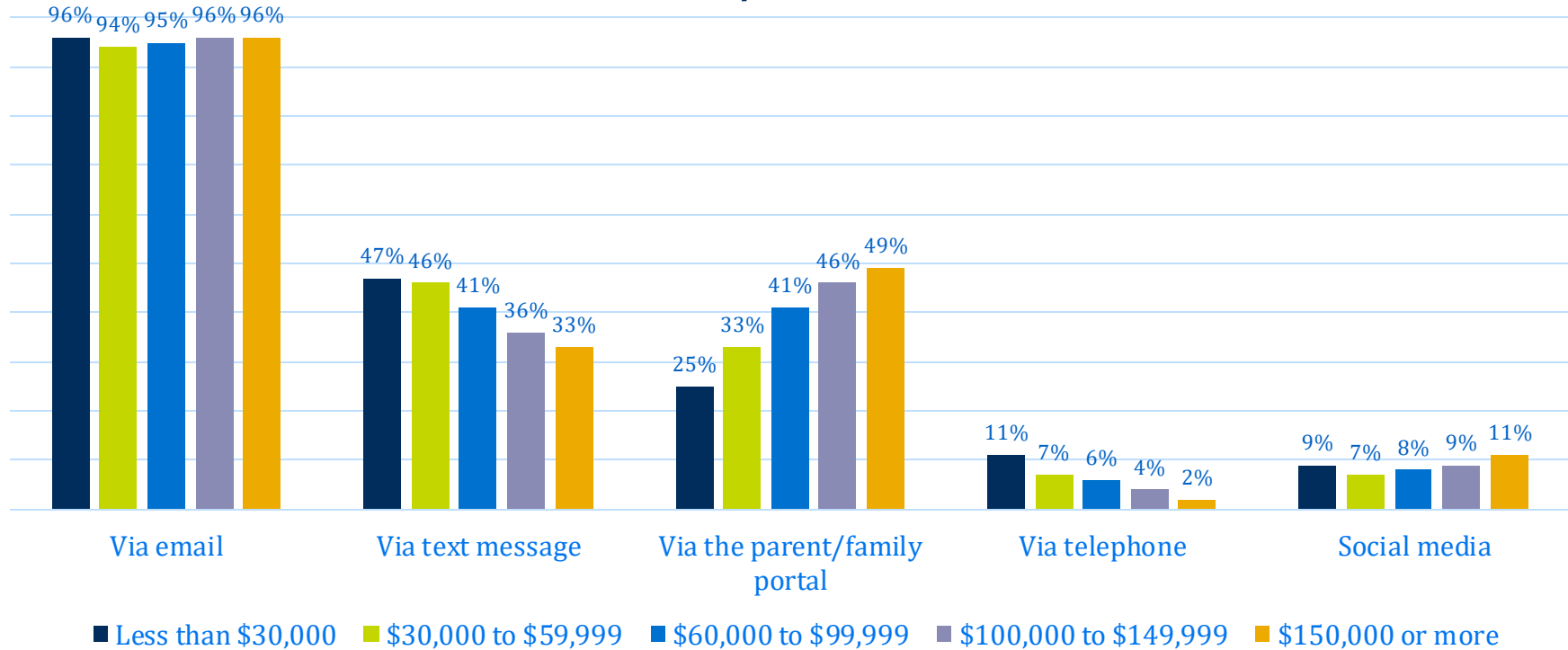
Communication Channels: Preference Vs. Reality



Preferred Communication Channels & First-generation Status



Preferred Communication Channels & Family Income

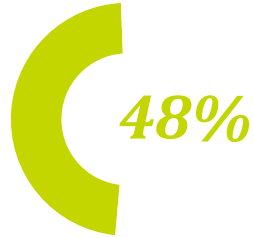


A blue-tinted photograph of three young people, two women and one man, smiling and looking at a document together. The text "Plans for College" is overlaid in white. The background shows a blurred indoor setting, possibly a classroom or office.

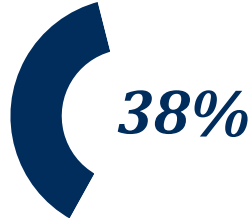
Plans for College



Want their student to enroll at a college that's close to home



First-gen



Continuing gen



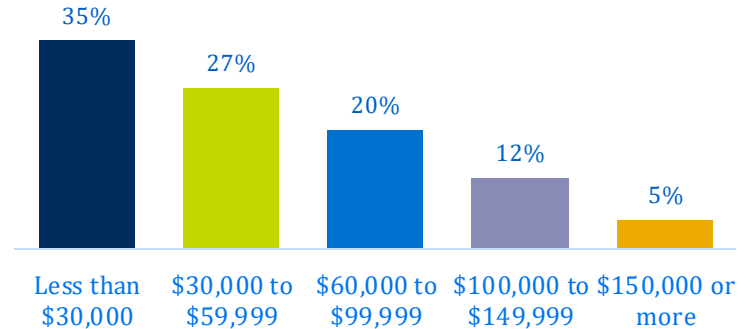
Want their student to live at home and commute to college



First-gen



Continuing gen



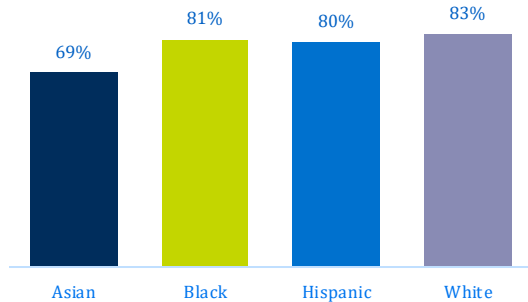
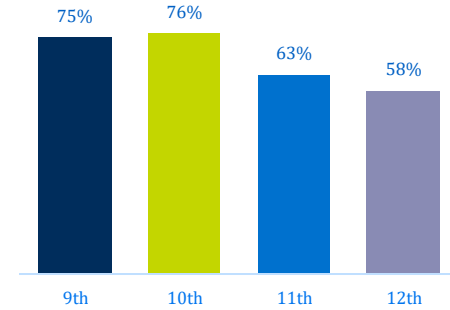
Considering Out-of-state Institutions



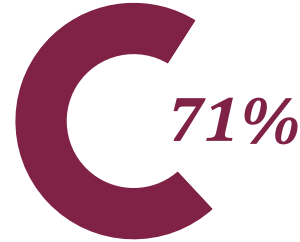
First-gen families



First-gen students



Continuing gen families

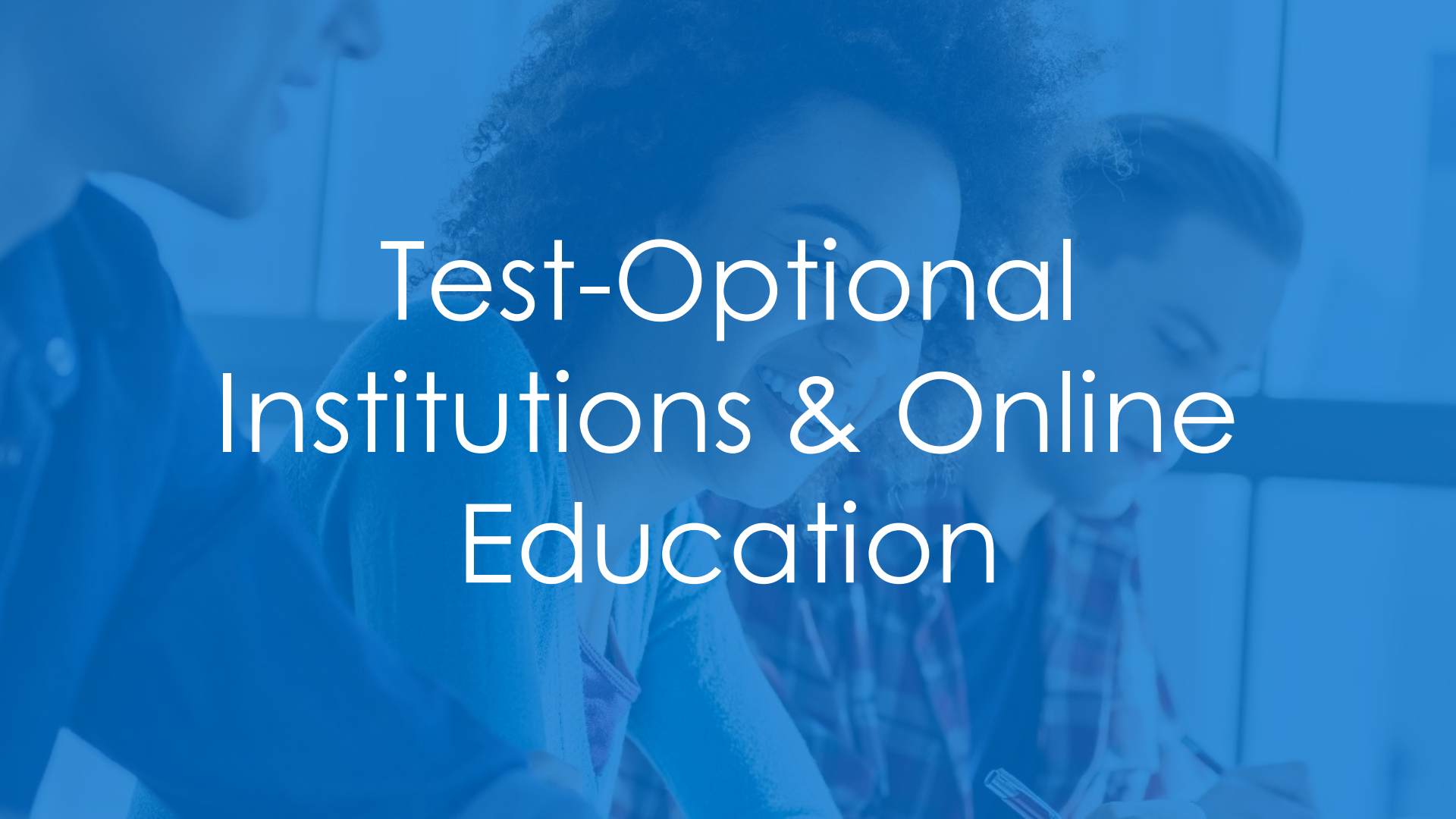


Continuing gen students

Take-aways

How do we communicate with families?

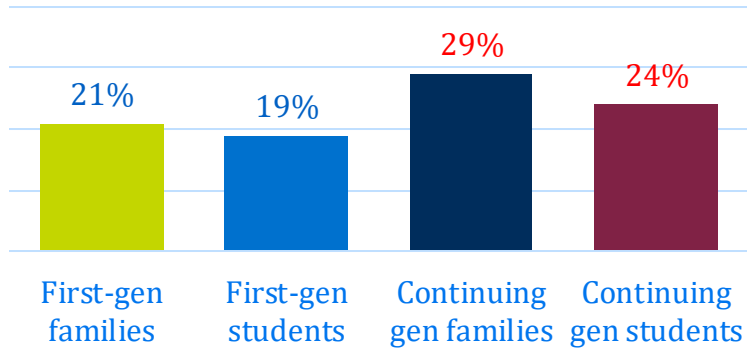
- Multiple departments communicating resources
- Ongoing communication with high school counselors
- Over-communicate bridge programs, financial aid/scholarship sessions
- Communicate deadlines
- Celebrate their success (student and family)



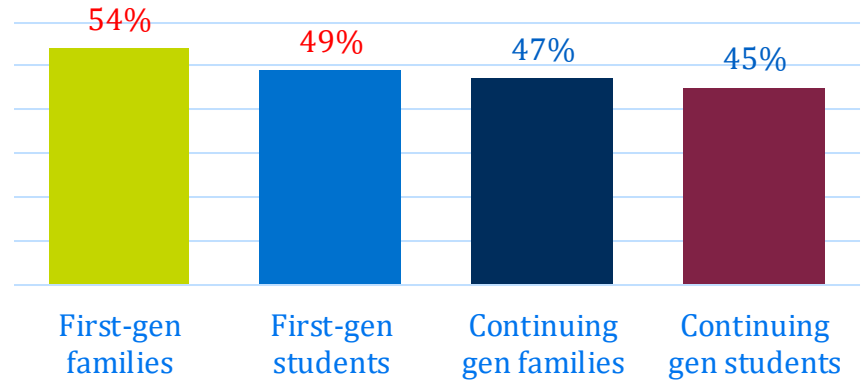
Test-Optional Institutions & Online Education

Perception of Test-Optional Institutions

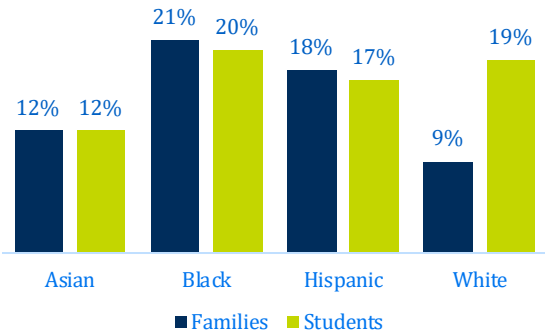
Institutions that require tests are better and more prestigious



All institutions should be test-optional



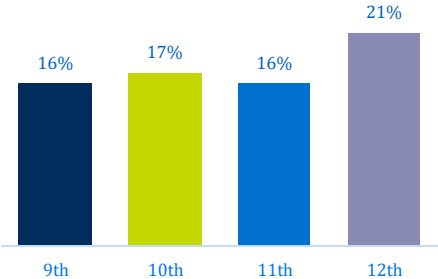
Would Consider Attending College 100% Online



First-gen families



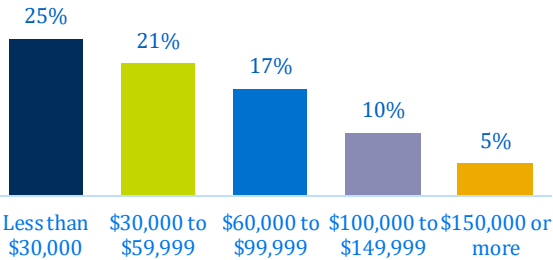
First-gen students



Continuing gen families



Continuing gen students





College Financing

U.S.
Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004/09 Beginning Postsecondary
Students Longitudinal Study
(BPS 04/09)



College Financing Perceptions



Financial aid and scholarships are important for **93%** of all families



First-gen



Continuing gen



Paying for college will be difficult for **84%** of families



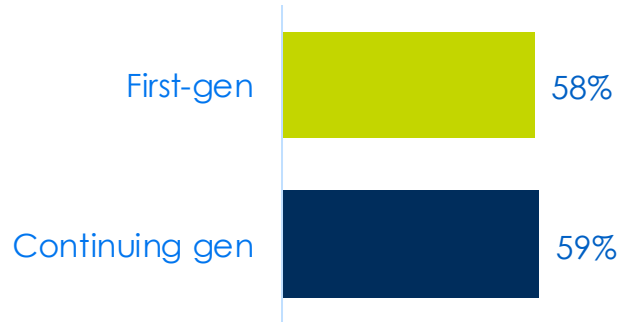
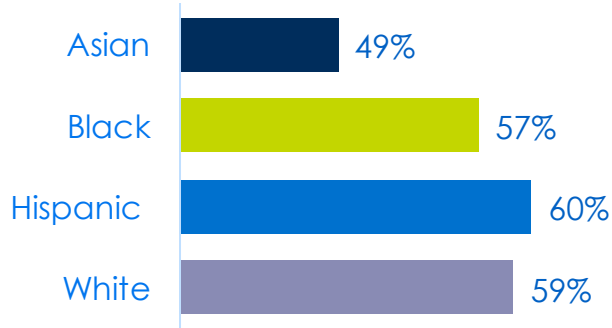
First-gen



Continuing gen



Ruling institutions out based on the sticker price

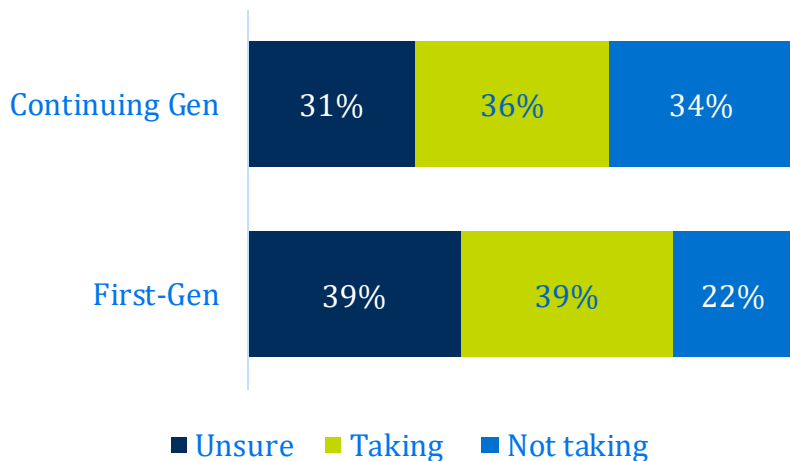




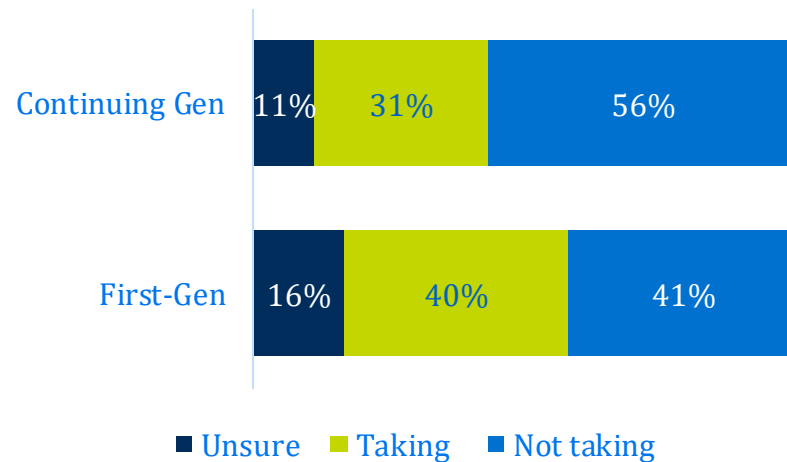
Student Loans Plans



Student Loans



Parent Loans



66%



68%

Of all families have concerns about borrowing money to pay for college

Believe borrowing concerns are affecting their students' college planning negatively



58%



Of families will rule out
institutions based on the sticker
price

Sticker price was defined to families as the full price including all components of college costs (tuition, fees, room and board, books, supplies, and personal expenses).



College Planning Information & Experiences

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Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004/09 Beginning Postsecondary
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What do families want to know?

Academics (programs, majors, minors, etc.)

Admission requirements

The strength of the academic programs (ratings, rankings, etc.)

The cost (tuition, fees, room, board, etc.)

Housing

Application process and timeline

Financial aid and scholarships

What makes the institution different

Account services and paying the tuition bill

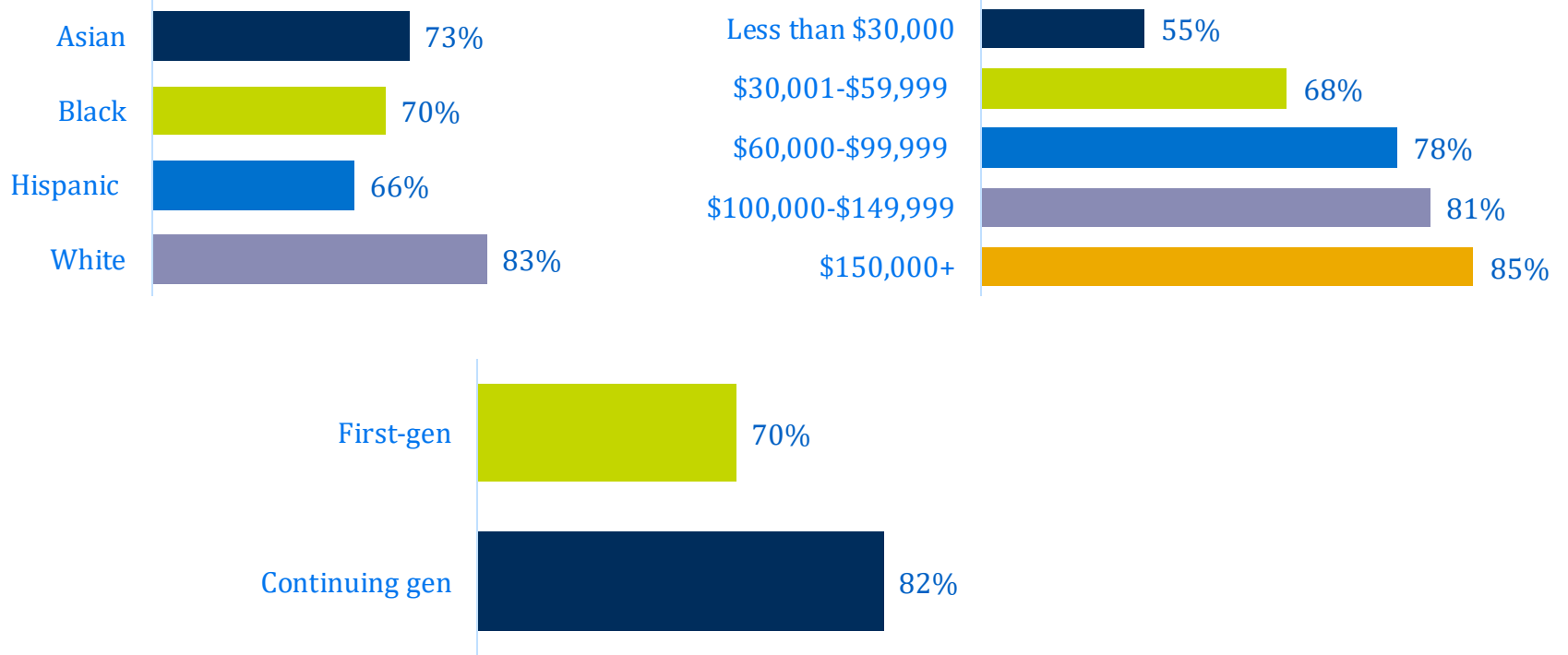
Options to finance college education (financial aid, loans, etc.)



Cost



Access to information about ...

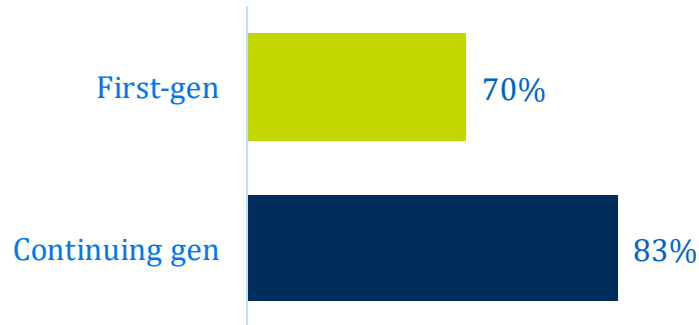
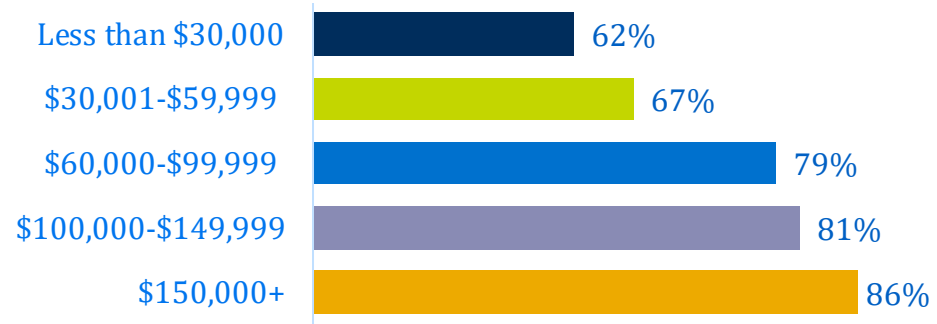




Financial Aid and scholarships



Access to information about ...

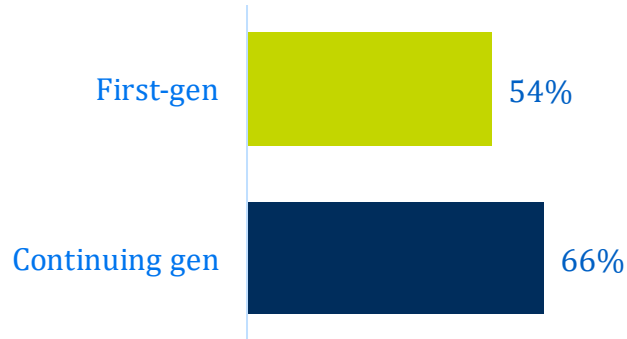
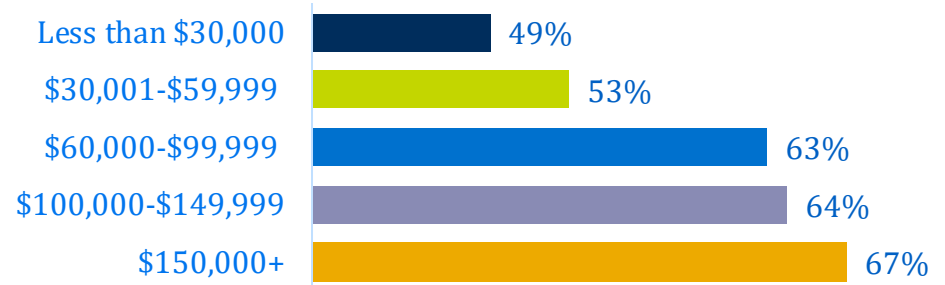
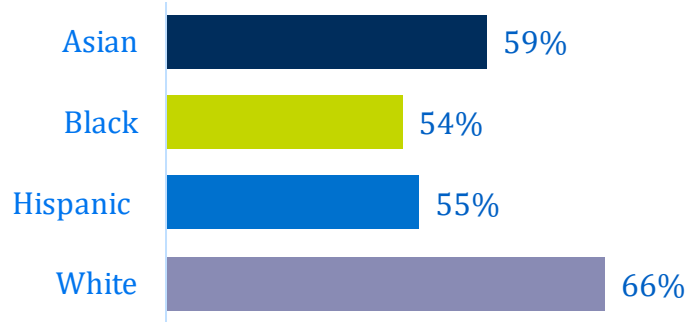




Financing options

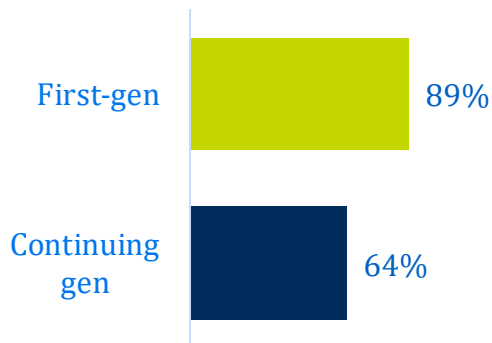


Access to information about ...

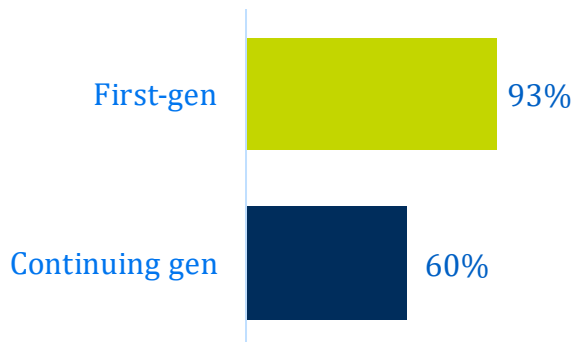


Experiences During College Planning

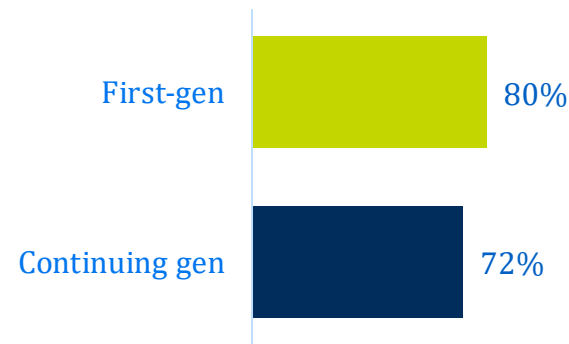
Experience (or information received) at a college fair



Experience with, or information received from, a high school counselor



Experience during a virtual tour



Take-aways

Intentional programming

- High school recruiter partnership
- After hour programming at the high school for FAFSA training
- Financial Aid and scholarship meetings
- High school field trips
- Information sessions for families in multiple languages

A person is shown from the chest down, wearing a blue checkered shirt. They are holding a black smartphone in their right hand, looking at the screen. In the foreground, the keyboard of a silver laptop is visible. The entire image has a blue tint. The text "How can we help first-generation families?" is overlaid in white, centered on the image.

How can we help first-
generation families?

Recommendations

College may feel foreign and terminology may be confusing

- Provide clear communication – explain terminology without the use of acronyms
- Share campus resources so families familiarize themselves with the college experience- use examples of students not having a traditional school schedule, late hours studying and what to expect at home
- Host sessions in Spanish, allow family members multiple opportunities to communicate with faculty and staff

The University of Arizona

Examples and ideas

- First Cats Family Welcome
- Resource Fair with Spanish speaking staff members easily identified
- Financial aid sessions at local high school
- Sunnyside partnership/investment
- Uaccess- guest access portal in English/Spanish and cell phone accessible

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Thank you

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