



**First-Generation Advocate Award:**

The First-Generation Advocate Award recognizes one faculty and one staff member annually for their outstanding leadership, advocacy, and contributions in promoting an inclusive and welcoming climate for first-generation college students at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

**Eligibility:**

- All currently employed University of Tennessee, Knoxville employees including faculty, exempt staff, and non-exempt staff are eligible for this award;
- Individuals who have made significant contributions to the success of first-generation college students through mentorship, programs and initiatives, research, or the implementation of first-generation student success strategies into their everyday work;
- Recipients must be nominated by a UT faculty, staff, student, or student organization; and
- Nominations received by March 31 annually.

**T** FIRST-GENERATION INITIATIVES



**Stop by our office**

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# SCHOLARSHIPS *and* AWARDS



# FIRST GEN



### **First-Generation Pioneer Medallion:**

The Pioneer Medallion is awarded to first-year, first-generation students for their commitment to academic excellence, achievement, and leadership. Students eligible for this award will have demonstrated a commitment to campus engagement within their first year at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

### **Eligibility:**

- Be a first-year, first-generation student (no parent or guardian has received a 4-year college degree or higher);
- Enrolled full-time at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville;
- Attended six (6) qualifying programs throughout the academic year and record experiences in VOLink;
- Good judicial standing; and
- Submit medallion requests via VOLink by March 31 annually.

*\*Qualifying experiences include first-gen programs, academic or career workshops, leadership & professional development events, and diversity or cultural programs.*



### **First-Generation Emerging Leader Scholarship**

The Emerging Leader Scholarship is awarded to students classified as sophomores and juniors for their commitment to academic excellence and achievement and leadership. First-generation students are eligible to apply for the scholarship in the amount of \$500 dollars in the spring semester.

### **Eligibility:**

- First-generation sophomore or junior (no parent or guardian has received a 4-year college degree or higher);
- Enrolled full-time at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville;
- Attended six (6) or more qualifying experiences and recorded the experiences in VOLink;
- Demonstrated a commitment to campus engagement and an involvement in first-generation campus initiatives;
- Must have a 2.75 cumulative GPA or higher;
- Must be in good judicial standing; and
- Submit scholarship application via VOLink by March 31 annually.



### **First-Generation Trailblazer Award:**

The Trailblazer Award recognizes two exceptional first-generation seniors annually for their outstanding achievements throughout their matriculation at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

### **Eligibility:**

- Be a first-generation senior (no parent or guardian has received a 4-year college degree or higher);
- Enrolled at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville during the semester of nomination;
- Be graduating from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville during the year of nomination;
- Have a record of exceptional academic performance (preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher);
- Be in good judicial standing;
- Demonstrated noteworthy contributions to the campus and first-generation community; and
- Nominated by a faculty or staff member in order to be eligible to receive this award.