

# Welcome Back Class Of 2021!

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## Welcome Class of 2021!

Dear Member of the Class of 2021,

My name is Robert McGowan, and I currently serve as the Program Coordinator for THRIVE, a new initiative designed to celebrate and support those of you who identify as first-generation college students. On behalf of my colleagues in the Center for Student Engagement, I wanted to welcome you back to the University of Scranton!

In addition to welcoming you back, I wanted to take a moment to share some information regarding the THRIVE program and what it means to be a first-generation college student at Scranton.



### The THRIVE Program

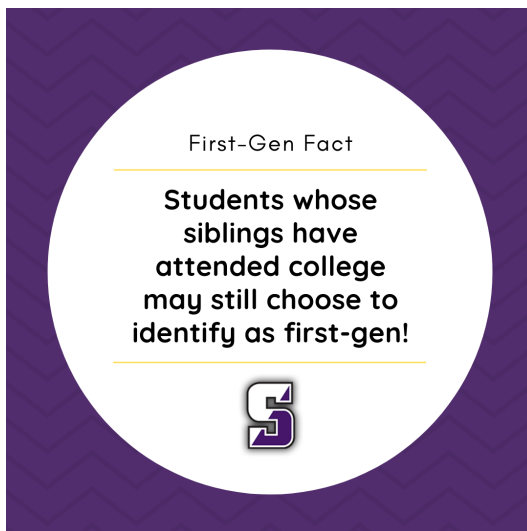
The THRIVE Program is a new initiative designed to both celebrate and support first-generation students (those whose parents did not attend college or complete a college degree) throughout their time at the University of Scranton.

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## THRIVE Events

The THRIVE Program hosts bimonthly programs designed to provide first-gen students with information on a variety of topics, including:

- Financial Wellness
- Postgraduate Plans
- Alumni Networking
- Stress Management



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## THRIVE Experiences

Our office offers several co-curricular experiences for first-gen students, including:

- The **IGNITE Leadership Conference** (a one-day opportunity for beginning and advanced leaders to augment their knowledge of various topics)
- The **Leadership Capstone Experience** (a year-long program allowing students to "make meaning" of their previous leadership experiences through learning reflection and advanced skill practice in a small cohort setting)

These experiences are designed to provide you with the skills you'll need to succeed after graduation, while allowing you to network with fellow first-gen students and staff!





## Getting Involved

Students interested in the THRIVE Program may participate by:

- Attending biweekly programs
- Registering for IGNITE and SEL
- Joining our Advisory Board
- Applying for a Student Coordinator Position

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## Staying in the Loop

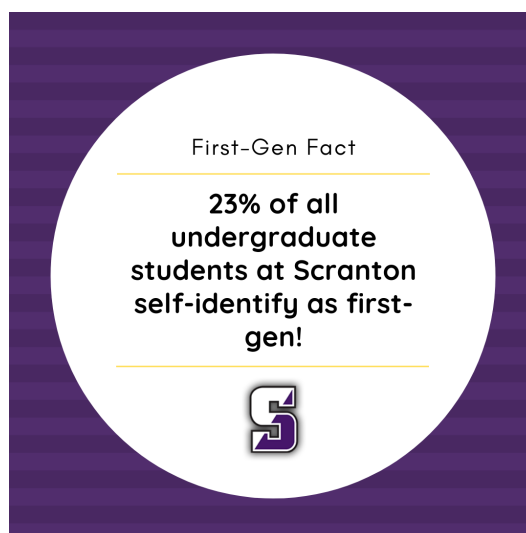
For information on upcoming events and involvement opportunities, please check out our website and social media (links below).

Those interested in the THRIVE program may also subscribe to our biweekly email newsletter. This publication will include:

- Upcoming events
- Important dates/deadlines
- Involvement opportunities
- Links to University resources

Interested students may also join our RoyalSync portal (the University's website for club and organization updates) by clicking below:

[Join Here!](#)



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## Still Have Questions?

Please feel free to reach out to me using the information provided below.

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THRIVE Program Coordinator  
Center For Student Engagement  
DeNaples 205 | 570.941.6233  
[thr1ve@scranton.edu](mailto:thr1ve@scranton.edu)

## Upcoming Events

- **Welcome Week Safe Zone Workshop**

- *Start the year off on an inclusive note by learning about marginalized gender and sexuality identities, while having your questions answered in a safe space.*
  - Tuesday, August 27
  - 5:30pm - 7:30pm
  - DeNaples Center Room 405
- *Can't attend? Check out our alternative dates throughout the semester by clicking the "Register Here!" button below.*

**Register Here!**

- **First-Generation Advisory Board Meeting (Wing Night)**

- *Help us plan our Fall events and learn how you can get involved in first-gen programming!*
  - Friday, September 6
  - 3:00pm - 4:00pm
  - Butler Student Forum Room 213 (DeNaples Center, 2nd Floor)

- **Financial Wellness Workshop #1 (Budgeting and Financial Planning)**

- *Learn how to create a spending plan in this interactive workshop! Those who attend all three workshops will have the chance to win a **\$100 Amazon Gift Card!***
  - Brennan Hall Room 105
  - 7:00pm - 8:00pm
  - Monday, September 9
- *Can't attend? Sign-up for the THRIVE D2L Group below, where we'll be posting videos of each session.*

**Sign-Up Here!**

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- **Center for Service & Social Justice (CSSJ) Volunteer & Service Fair**
    - *Meet with local non-profit agency representatives and find out what types of service opportunities are available in the Scranton community.*
      - Tuesday, September 10
      - 11:00am - 1:00pm
      - McIlhenny Ballroom (DeNaples Center, 4th Floor)
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