First-Generation Student Success
Maximizing your Holy Cross journey!
Welcome and Hello!

My name is Nikeitha Hallman and I am a graduating student in the Class of 2019. I am a sociology major with minors in Africana Studies and Education. As I reflect on my senior year, I look back to where my journey started.

Coming into Holy Cross my first year, I started my journey in the Odyssey orientation program. From there, I met other students who, like me, came from low-income backgrounds, were diverse in culture, and were first-generation college students. All those qualities were very important to my identity. Finding people on campus who shared some of those experiences and identities was a blessing. Having that foundation made my social transition to Holy Cross amazing!

Of course, there is more to college than just having fun - I struggled. That is normal! Instead of letting one bad grade get the best of me, I went to Academic Services and Learning Resources, where I was given a personal tutor, appointments in academic workshops, and one-on-one advice. From then, I always went to office hours to ask professors to look over my papers, talk through concepts, and just to check in on my progress and wellbeing. Once I felt fully acclimated socially and academically, I started to dip my feet in the world of extracurricular activities.

I started my first year on the Holy Cross cheer team, member of Black Student Union and the Caribbean African Student Assemblage, and a Dining Services worker. After that, I became more involved in giving back to the Holy Cross community.

By the time I graduate, I will have served for two years as a Resident Assistant in the first-year area, two years as an orientation leader, four years with Community Based Learning assignments, two years tutoring in the Worcester Public Schools, one year as a peer mentor, one year on the Student Government Association and obtained positions working in six departments across campus. After I graduate I plan on staying very connected to Holy Cross. I have met some amazing professors, students, and staff. Hopefully, Holy Cross is the first step in my journey through the field of education. I plan on obtaining a Ph.D. in education. One day, you will see me as the Secretary of Education and know that once you’re at Holy Cross, you can be and do anything!

This resource booklet did not exist when I attended Holy Cross but it is a great way to learn how to advocate for yourself. Take advantage of every opportunity HC has to offer by speaking up and speaking out. Hopefully, by the time you are a senior you will be more knowledgeable and contributing to this booklet as well.

Have a great year and good luck!

Nikeitha Hallman
Class of 2019
njhall19@g.holycross.edu
#FirstGenerationCollegeGraduate Campaign

**DEPARTMENT**
Office of Multicultural Education

**Description**
This event encourages students to engage with faculty and staff based on similar lived experiences. OME hosts the #FirstGenCollegeGrad campaign, to help First-Generation college students on our campus easily identify faculty and staff who are able to help guide them through their time on campus. The purpose is to encourage participants to take time to converse and share stories with each other about the First-Generation experience at the College of the Holy Cross.

This campaign will include a pin to be worn the first week of classes. All participants will receive a pin, bookmark with tips to help students, and a booklet of resources. The campaign will also consist of decals posted on office doors or laptops, signifying faculty and staff who are willing to help answer questions or provide support.

**Contact Person**
Mariel Aleman, Office Coordinator, Student Affairs

**Is the contact person First-Gen?** Yes

**Contact Email**
firstgenstudentsuccess@holycross.edu

**Office Location**
Hogan 109

**When does it take place?** Fall, Spring

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Financial Aid Awareness Month

**DEPARTMENT**
Office of Financial Aid

**Description**
Financial Aid Awareness Month is held in October each year. Throughout the month Financial Aid staff conduct sessions to assist students with completing their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and CSS Profile (online financial aid applications) for the next academic year. Sessions are held several times each week at various times of the day, including mornings, afternoons, and evenings in the computer lab in Hogan 410. Students are encouraged to bring all tax documents and complete all steps to apply for financial aid for the next year with help from the Financial Aid office staff.

**Contact Person**
Christa Gilmore, Associate Director of Financial Aid

**Is the contact person First-Gen?** Yes

**Contact Email**
cgilmore@holycross.edu

**Office Location**
Hogan 314

**When does it take place?** Fall
**HCF1RST Mentor Network**

**DEPARTMENT**
Office of Multicultural Education

**Description**
This event encourages participants to take time to converse and share stories with each other about the First-Generation experience at the College of the Holy Cross. This conversation includes perspectives from students, staff, faculty, and community members who are passionate about the success of our First-Generation college students. Each dinner focuses on a new topic from the First-Generation experience and community is build over dinner.

**Contact Person**
Mariel Aleman, Office Coordinator, Student Affairs

Is the contact person First-Gen? Yes

Contact Email
firstgenstudentsuccess@holycross.edu

Office Location
Hogan 109

When does it take place?
Fall, Spring

**HCF1RST Mentor Dinners**

**DEPARTMENT**
Office of Multicultural Education

**Description**
This event encourages participants to take time to converse and share stories with each other about the First-Generation experience at the College of the Holy Cross. This conversation includes perspectives from students, staff, faculty, and community members who are passionate about the success of our First-Generation college students. Each dinner focuses on a new topic from the First-Generation experience and community is build over dinner.

**Contact Person**
Mariel Aleman, Office Coordinator, Student Affairs

Is the contact person First-Gen? Yes

Contact Email
firstgenstudentsuccess@holycross.edu

Office Location
Hogan 109

When does it take place?
Fall, Spring
### The Odyssey Program

**DEPARTMENT**  
Office of Multicultural Education

**Description**  
Odyssey is a one-week summer program for first-year students who are First-Generation to college, people of color, or eligible for the Pell Grant. Odyssey helps incoming students build relationships with fellow students, faculty and administrators, and familiarizes them with campus resources and the local communities.

**Contact Person**  
Mariel Aleman, Office Coordinator, Student Affairs

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### HCF1RST Newsletter

**DEPARTMENT**  
Office of Multicultural Education

**Description**  
The newsletter provides communication to students and their families about the programs and events happening at Holy Cross affecting First-Generation college students. This initiative bridges the gap between family engagement and the student’s campus experience as a First-Generation college student.

**Contact Person**  
Mariel Aleman, Office Coordinator, Student Affairs

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| Contact Email | firstgenstudentsuccess@holycross.edu |
The Mentor Program

DEPARTMENT
Academic Services and Learning Resources
and the Office of Multicultural Education

Description
The Mentor Program is designed to support first-year students who are first-generation to college, people of color, and participants of Passport in their transition from high school to Holy Cross. A broad group of mentors can help define a truly exceptional academic experience for students. Groups of about five students are matched with a peer mentor for ongoing conversation, advice and friendship during their first year.

Contact Person
Justine Fisher,
Co-Director of the Mentor Program

Contact Email
thementorprogram@holycross.edu

Peer Assisted Learning (PAL)

DEPARTMENT
Academic Services and Learning Resources

Description
PAL is a series of free, collaborative twice-weekly review sessions open to all students enrolled in CHEM 181: Atoms & Molecules, and CHEM 221: Organic Chemistry 1.

The sessions are led by Peer Assistance Leaders (PALs), strong chemistry students who have previously taken and succeeded in the course. PALs will help answer questions about course material and encourage work with other students to practice learning strategies designed to encourage success in chemistry.

Contact Person
Haneen Jaara

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Contact Email
peertutoring@holycross.edu

Office Location
Dinand 204

When does it take place?
Fall, Spring
STEM+E Tutoring Workshop

DEPARTMENT
Academic Services and Learning Resources

Description
The STEM+E Tutoring Workshop is a peer-based tutoring program designed to provide one-on-one assistance and small-group support to Holy Cross students in intro and upper level scientific and quantitative courses, including accounting, biology, chemistry, economics, mathematics and computer sciences, physics and psychology. Peer tutors assist in several ways, including explaining conceptual material, guiding students on how to solve problems, and providing independent learning strategies.

- The workshop runs as a drop-in and appointment based service
- Students are welcome to walk in or join the waiting list at any time
- STEM+E Sessions last 40 minutes

Students can sign up for appointments online via www.holycross.mywconline.com

Peer tutors are available in:
Dinand Library 205
Sundays – Thursdays
6 – 9 p.m.

Contact Person
Haneen Jaara

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Contact Email
peertutoring@holycross.edu

Passport

DEPARTMENT
Academic Services & Learning Resources

Description
Passport is an academic program designed to assist promising first-year students in their transition from high school to College of the Holy Cross. Admission to the program is limited to invited students only and is free of charge.

Contact Person
Justine Fisher,
Associate Director of Academic Services and Learning Resources

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No

Contact Email
passport@holycross.edu

Office Location
Dinand Library 204

When does it take place?
Summer, Fall, January Retreat
The Writer’s Workshop
DEPARTMENT
The Center for Writing

Description
The Writer’s Workshop supports students’ development as writers and communicators at any stage of the writing process as they write in any genre, and in any discipline. At the Writer’s Workshop, Holy Cross students meet for 45 minutes with trained, peer consultants to talk about their progress as writers. Consultants guide students toward the path to becoming more confident writers by:

- discussing assignments
- brainstorming ideas
- creating outlines to organize and write a first draft
- improving organization and clarity of their already written drafts
- developing and better articulating their ideas from first to polished drafts

We take revision seriously and understand that writing and rewriting play a significant role in a liberal arts education. All writers, no matter their skill level, benefit from sustained conversations about their work. Consultants work with students on essays, seminar papers, lab reports, literature reviews, reflections, personal statements, and more. If a student is using words, we are ready to talk about it. Make an appointment at holycross.mywcoline.com or call (508) 793-3065.

Contact Person
Professor Kristina Reardon

Is the contact person First-Gen? No
Contact Email writersworkshop@g.holycross.edu

Crusader Internship Fund
DEPARTMENT
Center for Career Development

Description
The Crusader Internship Fund provides a stipend for students who secure unpaid internships. Last summer over 100 students received funding for internships in a variety of industries– non-profits, government, communications, healthcare, business and the arts. Juniors and sophomores are eligible to receive funding once during their time at Holy Cross. The application period takes place during the fall semester and is available on Crusader Connections.

Contact Person
Dorin Thibault, Administrative Program Coordinator

Is the contact person First-Gen? No
Contact Email careers@holycross.edu

Office Location
Hogan 203

When does it take place? Fall
Alumni Mentoring Program (AMP)

DEPARTMENT
Center for Career Development

Description
The program offers First-Generation and students of color the opportunity to interact with and receive advice from Holy Cross alumni, those that came before them, based on career interests, industry interests and geography. The minimum commitment we ask is for the mentor and mentee to engage in at least three email communications before the end of the academic year, engage in at least three to five phone/skype/google hangout or in person conversations before the end of the academic year, and whenever possible, make a serious commitment to arrange to meet in person and engage face to face.

Contact Person
Shirley Konneh

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Contact Email
skonneh@holycross.edu

Alumni Job Shadowing Program

DEPARTMENT
Center for Career Development

Description
The Alumni Job Shadowing Program is open to all class years (except first semester first-year students) and provides you with an opportunity to shadow an alumna/us in your career field of interest. Students are matched with Holy Cross alumni and spend ½-1 day shadowing during academic breaks.

Contact Person
Lauren O’Neill, Assistant Director

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No

Contact Email
careers@holycross.edu

Office Location
Hogan 203

When does it take place?
Fall, Spring
College to Careers Conference

DEPARTMENT
Center for Career Development

Description
This is a unique one-day free event offered only to a small group sophomores to help you consider where your academic passions, strengths, values and future goals can intersect in the world of work. The program will highlight various campus resources and opportunities that connect to your career goals, which you should take advantage of during your time at Holy Cross. Students who are interested in participating in the conference can reach out to Melisa Alves at any point during the fall semester.

Contact Person
Melisa Alves, Associate Director

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Contact Email
malves@holycross.edu

Office Location
Hogan 203

When does it take place?
Spring

Career Communities

DEPARTMENT
Center for Career Development

Description
Career Communities connect students to specific, tailored industry resources and programs to effectively explore career paths, identify and apply to opportunities and cultivate personal networks that shape their professional journey. Students can log into Crusader Connections to join one or more of the following career communities:

- Arts, Communications & Media
- Business, Consulting & Finance
- Education, Human Service & Nonprofit
- Government, International Affairs & Law
- Health Professions & Life Sciences
- Science, Technology & Engineering

Contact Person
Julie Draczynski, Associate Director

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No

Contact Email
careers@holycross.edu

Office Location
Hogan 203

When does it take place?
All year/Ongoing
**Strong Interest Inventory**

**DEPARTMENT**
Center for Career Development

**Description**
Are you not sure where to begin in the career development process? Are you curious about how your interests might align with careers and occupations? Stop into the Center for Career Development to talk to a counselor and complete the Strong Interest Inventory. The inventory looks at your interests and how those align with the interests of people in specific careers and occupations. It can provide you with a starting point to explore types of careers that you might enjoy!

**Contact Person**
Noriah Nor, Administrative Assistant - Center for Career Development

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No

Contact Email
careers@holycross.edu

**Office Location**
Hogan 203

**When does it take place?**
All year/Ongoing

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**Community-Based Learning Courses**

**DEPARTMENT**
Donelan Office of Community-Based Learning

**Description**
Community-based learning (CBL) is a teaching approach that connects classroom learning objectives with civic engagement. Civic engagement occurs through service that meets community-identified needs or through research and experience that holds value to the community. In this mutually beneficial process, students are able to gain a deeper understanding of course content by integrating theory with practice, while communities gain access to volunteers, resources, and the wide-ranging research and scholarly expertise housed in the College’s many disciplinary departments.

Two types of CBL courses exist: project-based (where students work in group or as a whole class on a project that benefits the community) and placement-based (where students volunteer each week at a community-based organization). To enroll in a CBL course, students should simply add the course to their course backpack during enrollment period. A list of CBL courses is available on the CBL website and CBL courses are indicated as such in the registrar’s list of courses.

**Contact Person**
Michelle Sterk Barrett, Director
Isabelle Jenkins, Associate Director

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No

Contact Email
msbarret@holycross.edu
ijenkins@holycross.edu

**Office Location**
Smith 332

**When does it take place?**
Fall, Spring
Non-Profit Careers Conference

DEPARTMENT
Donelan Office of Community-Based Learning

Description
The annual Non-Profit Careers Conference is held in January (the week prior to classes beginning) for students considering careers in non-profit and community-based organizations, activism, public service, and social change. The Non-Profit Careers Conference is a wonderful opportunity to build on your CBL experience, as it provides a window into the functioning of non-profits, the challenges non-profits may face, and the networks built in the non-profit world.

The workshop has three purposes:
- To introduce participants to the range of viable and diverse career options in the non-profit sector;
- To engage participants in reflection upon how they might utilize their unique skills in service to the broader society;
- To prepare participants to enter public service by providing experiences and skills helpful to them and their future organizations.

The program is taught by Holy Cross alumni, faculty and staff working within a non-profit or public service setting at the international, national, regional, and local levels. Housing and meals for the week-long conference are funded by the College. Over the course of the week, students will participate in workshops on various topics related to the non-profit sector, have the opportunity to meet alumni who are working in the non-profit sector at all levels (entry-level to senior management), reflect on their own gifts and career aspirations, and work in teams with a local non-profit agency on a case study. Through these experiences, students will leave the conference with a new network, new knowledge, and practical non-profit experience.

Students must apply to and be accepted into the conference to participate. Applications are available on the CBL website at the end of September and typically due at the beginning of November. Students from all course-years and majors are invited to apply and participate.

Contact Person
Isabelle Jenkins, Associate Director
Melisa Alves, Associate Director, Career Development
Michelle Sterk Barrett, Director

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No/Yes

Contact Email
ijenkins@holycross.edu, malves@holycross.edu
msbarrett@holycross.edu

Office Location
Smith 334 (CBL)
Hogan 203 (Career Development)

When does it take place?
Spring
Description
The J.D. Power Center for Liberal Arts in the World is the central hub for experiential learning at Holy Cross. Whether it is an academic internship, a community-based learning course, funding for research, or funding for an independent project, each Holy Cross student should be looking for opportunities to move their education off campus, and to integrate the classroom with the global community. These experiences, especially for first-generation students, can have a profound impact on one's time at Holy Cross and beyond. Many programs offered by the Center, including the Washington Semester Program, the New York Semester Program, and the Weiss Summer Research Program, routinely provide some financial assistance or stipends to participants. Support for travel to internships in the Worcester area is provided through the Academic Internship Program. Staff in the J.D. Power Center are available for advising sessions, to help students identify which programs align most closely with their academic and professional goals.

Contact Person
Daniel Klinghard, Director
Sue Finne, Administrative Assistant
Chris Ricciardi, Fellow

Is the contact person First-Gen? No
Contact Email dklingha@holycross.edu
sfinne@holycross.edu
cricciar@holycross.edu

Office Location Smith 325

When does it take place? All year/Ongoing

Weiss Summer Research Program

Description
The eight-week Weiss Summer Research Program enables students to work closely alongside a mentor on their own research or to dive deep into a problem of their own devising. Although this is an ideal experience for students interested in pursuing graduate studies, it also provides valuable critical thinking skills, experience in planning and executing an extensive project, budgeting project expenses, teamwork, and written and oral skills — all experiences valued by employers in a variety of fields. And students develop real substantive expertise in ways that cannot be matched in the classroom. With over 100 students participating in summer research every year, Holy Cross is a national leader in providing undergraduate summer research opportunities. The program has two divisions: the Natural Sciences and Mathematics division, and the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts division. The program has three divisions: the Natural Sciences and Mathematics division; the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts division; and the Economics division.

Contact Person
Daniel Bitran, Science Coordinator
Anthony Cashman, Director of the Humanities, Social Sciences, & Arts Program
Robert Baumann, Economics Department Chair

Is the contact person First-Gen? No
Contact Email dbitran@holycross.edu
acashman@holycross.edu
rbbaumann@holycross.edu

Office Location Beaven 426 (Natural Sciences)
Smith 333 (Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts)

When does it take place? Summer

Is there a cost? There is no cost to participate; Summer Research Fellows are paid a weekly stipend and a housing stipend to cover their housing on campus. A modest meal plan is included.
The Washington Semester Program

DEPARTMENT
J.D. Power Center for Liberal Arts in the World

Description
The Washington Semester Program is a highly competitive, semester-long program offered in Washington, D.C., through Holy Cross. The program welcomes students from all disciplines to connect their academic learning with direct, professional experience in their major fields, providing them with dynamic opportunities for intellectual, personal and professional growth and development. Through the Washington Semester Program students have the opportunity to work with national leaders, engage in independent research, and live in the stimulating environment of Washington, D.C. Some financial assistance is provided to all students, with additional funding provided to students with demonstrated need.

Contact Person
Gary DeAngelis, Director

Is the contact person First-Gen? No
Contact Email
gdeangel@holycross.edu

Office Location
Smith 327

When does it take place? Fall and Spring

The Semester Away Program

DEPARTMENT
J.D. Power Center for Liberal Arts in the World

Description
Through the Semester Away Program, students who wish to augment their studies with academic work not available at Holy Cross have the opportunity to apply to study for a semester or full academic year at another institution or fully accredited program in the United States and its territories or Canada. The Semester Away Program encourages applicants who are interested in participating in: special programs offered by other institutions; complimenting their program of study with courses not offered at Holy Cross; and experiencing a different social, cultural, or academic environment. Students have pursued studies in a wide variety of fields through this program, including architecture, urban planning, marine biology, film making, journalism, and engineering. In addition to proposals for study at institutions or fully accredited programs in the United States and Canada, proposals for specific environmental studies programs located outside of the U.S. are also considered.

Contact Person
Gary DeAngelis, Director

Is the contact person First-Gen? No
Contact Email
gdeangel@holycross.edu

Office Location
Smith 326

When does it take place? Fall and Spring
Study Abroad information sessions for HCF1RST

Description
The Study Abroad information sessions for HCF1RST will offer First-Generation college students the opportunity to learn about study abroad as well as to meet the staff and other First-Generation students who studied abroad. These sessions will be organized with the support and input from Study Abroad Ambassadors (HC students who studied abroad), who will share about their experiences, challenges and accomplishments (before, during and after) studying abroad. Topics will include finances, parents/family, academics, application procedures and more.

Contact Person
Jimena Collingwood
Chris Van Booven

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Office Location
Smith Hall 217

Contact Email
jcolling@holycross.edu
cvanboov@holycross.edu

Is there a cost?
There is no cost to participate in the information sessions. However, this is not true for studying abroad.

Study Abroad is designed to be cost neutral, meaning, that you will pay Holy Cross Tuition, Room, and in some cases, Board or partial Board.

The New York Semester Program

Description
The New York Semester Program is a highly competitive, semester-long program offered in New York City through Holy Cross. Students work and study in New York City, integrating the lessons they have learned in the classroom with their experiences in the greatest city in the world. The program welcomes students from all disciplines to connect their academic learning with direct, professional experience in their major fields, providing them with dynamic opportunities for intellectual, personal and professional growth and development. Through the New York Semester Program, students have the opportunity to work with cutting-edge firms in the areas of finance, marketing, the arts, and politics; engage in a collaborative capstone project with their peers; study principles of leadership; and live in the exciting environment of New York. Some financial assistance is provided to all students, with additional funding provided to students with demonstrated need.

Contact Person
Alison Mangiero, Director

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No

Contact Email
amangier@holycross.edu

Office Location
Smith 327

When does it take place?
Fall and Spring
Clifton Strengths

DEPARTMENT
Office of Student Involvement

Description
Clifton Strengths is a tool that provides students with the opportunity to develop strengths by building on what one does best – the way one most naturally, thinks, feels, and behaves as a unique individual. Taking the self-assessment allows you to discover your Top 5 Strengths. The Clifton Strengths system provides a variety of tools and resources that allow students to infuse their talents into their curricular, co-curricular, and even their vocational pursuits. A crucial aspect of Clifton Strengths at Holy Cross is participating in a workshop facilitated by a professional who is Strengths trained. These workshops provide students with the opportunities to more deeply explore their strengths, how they interact with one another, and how they can maximize their opportunities with at Holy Cross.

Contact Person
Chris Holguin

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Contact Email
cholguin@holycross.edu

Incendia Leadership Certificate

DEPARTMENT
Office of Student Involvement

Description
The Holy Cross Incendia Leadership Certificate is a year long, comprehensive leadership experience for student leaders in their third year at the College. Incendia Leadership Certificate utilizes the Holy Cross co-curricular cornerstones, the leadership challenge model (Kouzes & Posner, 1995), and Clifton Strengths as a theoretical framework. Incendia employs existing Holy Cross programs, staff and faculty mentors, cohort discussions, and workshops to develop leadership skills in student participants.

Contact Person
Chris Holguin

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Contact Email
cholguin@holycross.edu

Office Location
Hogan Campus Center 229

When does it take place?
Fall, Spring
**HCF1RST Scholars**

**DEPARTMENT**
Office of Student Involvement

**Description**
The organization hopes to serve as a resource for first-generation and/or low-income college students, to educate the community at large about these aspects of society, to promote inclusion between all economic groups, and finally, to help perpetuate “a community marked by freedom, mutual respect, and civility”, as stated in the Holy Cross Mission Statement.

**Contact Person**
Chris Holguin

**Is the contact person First-Gen?**
Yes

**Contact Email**
cholguin@holycross.edu

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**Patrick L. McCarthy ’63 First-Generation Scholarship**

**DEPARTMENT**
HCAA

**Description**
This scholarship is awarded to two First-Generation seniors with the highest GPAs. There is no application process for this scholarship.

**Contact Person**
Kristyn Dyer, Director of Alumni Relations

**Is the contact person First-Gen?**
Yes

**Contact Email**
kdyer@holycross.edu

**Office Location**
O’Kane 275

**When does it take place?**
Scholarship is awarded the summer prior to the students’ senior year
Description
Gateways Summer Orientation is a two day program designed to assist new students and their parents/guardians in their transition to the Holy Cross community – to the academic, spiritual and co-curricular experience of the college. In collaboration with other departments, we provide workshops and presentations to inform them about the various educational and co-curricular opportunities available to students and the responsibilities expected of them inside and outside of the classroom. We help students further understand what is unique about a Jesuit Catholic liberal arts education. In the Jesuit tradition, student leaders, faculty and staff share their personal stories and experiences to foster authentic connections and to demonstrate the college mission and to better prepare students and families for their transition. There are a variety of social activities that provide an opportunity to connect with other members of the class and fellow parents and to have an overnight experience at the College.

Contact Person
Cathleen Doane Cannon, Director of Orientation and Transition

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Contact Email
cdoane@holycross.edu
or gateways@g.holycross.edu

Is there a cost?
Yes, there is a fee for students and/or parents/guardians who attend. The cost is to cover program expenses, however there is financial aid available. Contact gateways@g.holycross.edu for more information.

Office Location
Hogan 229

When does it take place?
We offer 3 overnight sessions in June.

Gateways Fall Orientation

Description
The four-day Gateways Fall Orientation program assists new students in their transition to the Holy Cross community – to the academic, spiritual and co-curricular experience of the college. Through the work of orientation leaders and resident assistants, the program welcomes and connects students to residential living. It is an opportunity to connect with members of your floor and building community including the residence life staff living in your community. Fall Orientation offers a wide variety of academic, spiritual, community-building, and social programs and entails everything a Crusader needs during this crucial transition time. During Fall Orientation, you will get the chance to meet staff, faculty, administration, and most importantly your fellow classmates.

Contact Person
Cathleen Doane Cannon, Director of Orientation and Transition

Is the contact person First-Gen?
Yes

Contact Email
cdoane@holycross.edu
or gateways@g.holycross.edu

Office Location
Hogan 229

When does it take place?
Fall: begins with move-in day in late August and concludes the day before classes start
**Family Weekend**

**DEPARTMENT**
The Office of Student Involvement

**Description**
Family Weekend is a wonderful opportunity for parents, grandparents and siblings to see and learn about life at Holy Cross. Family Weekend provides a chance for families to witness life on the Hill through a variety of opportunities to participate in student life, connect with other families, and experience the Holy Cross community. Weekend highlights include athletic events, Family Weekend Mass, It’s a Family Affair Brunch, faculty workshops, Happenings on the Hoval, and An Evening of A Cappella Music.

**Contact Person**
Cathleen Doane Cannon, Senior Associate Director in the Office of Student Involvement

**Is the contact person First-Gen?**
Yes

**Contact Email**
cdoane@holycross.edu

**Is there a cost?**
No, there no costs associated. Families can pre-register online beginning in mid-September

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**Co-Curricular Extravaganza**

**DEPARTMENT**
The Office of Student Involvement

**Description**
Holy Cross students are known for becoming — and staying — involved in campus life. The Co-Curricular Extravaganza is an browsing fair designed for students to get a sense of the more than 100 clubs and organizations you can get involved in. The Extravaganza happens in mid September and is your opportunity to sign-up for those organizations you are most interested in.

**Contact Person**
Purple Key Society

**Is the contact person First-Gen?**
Yes

**Office Location**
Hogan 229

**Contact Email**
pks@g.holycross.edu

**When does it take place?**
Mid-September
Perspectives Program

DEPARTMENT
Admission

Description
Perspectives is an overnight, weekend program for high school seniors from diverse backgrounds. This program is designed for culturally aware students who are intellectually curious and are potentially interested in exploring higher education at a Jesuit, liberal arts college. The Perspectives program provides a chance to explore the diverse environment Holy Cross has to offer, spend two nights in a residence hall with a current student, and explore the academic and social environment on campus.

If you are interested in applying, you must currently be in 12th grade or in your final year of high school. While completing your online application, you will need the following three materials: an unofficial copy of your complete high school transcript, your current senior year courses and a graded paper from your junior year English or history class.

Meals and lodging will be provided free of charge by Holy Cross for all selected participants. Spaces are limited, therefore we will not be able to accommodate all applicants.

If you have additional questions, please contact our Assistant Director for Diversity & Inclusion, Brenna Kelly (bkelly@holycross.edu) or call the Admission office at (508) 793-2443.

Contact Person
Brenna Kelly

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No

Contact Email
bkelly@holycross.edu

Visions Program Weekend

DEPARTMENT
Admission

Description
There are many qualities that make the undergraduate Jesuit journey at Holy Cross special. The Visions overnight program gives admitted students an opportunity to explore the diversity on campus from our undergraduate community to the classroom. Students will engage in thoughtful conversations with professors, current students, and other admitted students while staying on campus and attending class!

Contact Person
Brenna Kelly

Is the contact person First-Gen?
No

Contact Email
Bkelly@holycross.edu

Office Location
Fenwick 105

When does it take place?
Spring
Working On The Hill

Work-Study
Federal Work-Study is a federally subsidized employment program in which eligible students are placed in part-time jobs on campus. If you’re awarded a work-study authorization as part of your financial aid package, you could earn as much as $1,800 during your first year.

How Does It Work?
You’ll be paid directly on a weekly basis for the hours you’ve worked. These funds are not deposited in your student account to reduce direct charges, tuition, room and board or fees. They are intended to help defray your indirect costs, such as personal expenses, travel and books.

Although wages from work-study are not deductible from your semester bill, you may arrange with the Bursar to use weekly earnings in partial payment of direct semester charges. You may also arrange for your work-study wages to be deposited directly into your personal checking account.

First-year students eligible for Federal Work-Study are placed in Dining Services. However, upperclass students may obtain a work-study position in any number of capacities across campus. All student employment opportunities are posted on the Human Resources website. There are also additional opportunities to work in off-campus community service jobs as approved by the Office of Government and Community Relations.

Government and Community Relations Work Study Positions
Government and Community Relations offers students a chance to serve through a paid internship. GCR provides students with real-life opportunities to live the Jesuit mission of service for and with others through its placement of students as interns or tutors with local organizations. The mission of each organization that we partner with is to better the community in some capacity - whether it be through food justice, voter engagement, ending poverty, access to and success in higher education, women’s health, or community engagement (to name just a few). The intern and tutor positions offered through GCR are available to students who are federal work study eligible. (Students who are unsure of their status should contact the Financial Aid Office for verification.)

How to Apply
GCR provides students with real-life opportunities to live the Jesuit mission of service for and with others through its placement of students in roles as interns or tutors with local organizations. The mission of each organization that we partner with is to better the community in some capacity - whether it be through food justice, voter engagement, ending poverty, access to and success in higher education, women’s health, or community engagement (to name just a few). The intern and tutor positions offered through GCR are available to students who are federal work study eligible. (Students who are unsure of their status should contact the Financial Aid Office for verification.)
Things you may need to save for...

Passport fees, visa fees, buying luggage, professional clothing, transportation, registration costs for extra programs, hair cuts/grooming, books, supplies for class, residence hall room supplies, cell phone bill, art supplies, winter clothing and coats, flights home during the breaks, going out to eat or entertainment, and so on.

However, we are here to help!

The following offices have more information on how to apply for additional funding to help you experience the fullness of the College of the Holy Cross. If this feels overwhelming you can also reach out to firstgenstudentsuccess@holycross.edu and we can help you answer your questions.

The Office of Financial Aid
Hogan Campus Center
3rd Floor Suite 314

The Bishop Healy Emergency Support Fund
Hogan Campus Center
1st Floor Suite 109

The Crusader Internship Fund
Hogan Campus Center
2nd floor Suite 203

The Odyssey Program
Hogan Campus Center
1st Floor Suite 109

The Office of Study Abroad
Smith Hall
2nd Floor Room 217

Gateways Orientation
Hogan Campus Center
2nd Floor Suite 229

The JD Power Center for Liberal Arts in the World
Smith Hall
3rd floor Room 324

The Donelan Office of Community Based Learning
Smith Hall
3rd floor Room 332

The NCAA Scholarship Fund
Luth Athletic Complex

Class Deans
Fenwick Hall
Suite 204

Contact us at firstgenstudentsuccess@holycross.edu
Visit www.holycross.edu.firstgenstudentsuccess