

## **FAQs for First-Generation Summer Bridge Program**

As of 6/10/2014

- ***What if I can only come part of the time/not the full two days?***
  - For the summer bridge program we are requiring that participants participate in the full 2 day program to maximize their experience. If you are unable to attend both days of the summer bridge program this year, do not worry we would still love to have you involved in the Promising Futures Program during the academic year where we will host general meetings, social events, and academic workshops for students. There will also be opportunities for first-generation college students and their families to be involved with us during new student and family orientation. We will be hosting a session for parents of first-generation college students and a session for new/incoming first-generation college students. Since we know that not all first-generation students will be able to take part in the summer bridge program, we wanted to be sure there are opportunities to connect with us during orientation.
  
- ***What if I am able to attend but my parents are not able to attend?***
  - If your parents or family members are unable to join you in the first portion of our summer bridge program, that is not a problem – we would still love to have you involved in the summer bridge program if you are able to attend both days. While it would be beneficial for your parents/guardians to join us to learn more about Chapman resources and how they can support you as a first-generation college student, we understand that there may be other important commitments. Please let your parents/guardians know that there will be a session for parents of first-generation college students during new family orientation, so we hope they will be able to join us then.
  
- ***I know that students who will be living on-campus are able to move in early for this program, but what about our parents who want to participate in the summer bridge program?***
  - We are able to provide early move in for students living on-campus, but unfortunately we are unable to provide on-campus accommodations for parents/families from out of the Southern California region. Parents/families can stay at nearby hotels during the course of the program.
  
- ***I see it says that I have the “option” to move-in early if I am living on-campus; does this mean that I have to?***
  - No, you do not have to move-in early. You are still welcome to move in during the regular first year move-in and transfer move-in dates. New students will receive move-in time information from the Office of Housing and Residence Life in August. Since the bridge program is a two day program, we know that we may have students who are from out of the area that would like to participate and wanted to make sure we had this

option available to them so they can move in the night before the bridge program begins.

- ***I am a commuter student – will I be able to stay on-campus during the bridge program?***
  - Since new students will be moving into their residence halls during August, we are unable to house commuter students on-campus.
  
- ***If I signed up for the bridge program, but realize that I am not able to commit to the full 2-day experience what should I do?***
  - As part of the summer bridge program we are requiring that all student participants attend both days of our program. If you are no longer able to commit, please notify Summer Bridge Program staff as soon as possible by e-mailing us at: [firstgen@chapman.edu](mailto:firstgen@chapman.edu) this way we can accommodate students who may be on the waitlist to participate in the program since space is limited. Even if you are unable to participate we hope you can join us during the new student orientation session for first-generation college students as well as joining us at our events during the academic year.
  
- ***If space is full what should I do?***
  - Since we are only able to accommodate 50 students for the bridge program, we can place you on a waitlist in case students cancel and are no longer able to participate. Please let us know if you would like us to place you on our waitlist. This waitlist will be ranked in order and if space becomes available we will contact you to see if you are still interested in participating. Since we know that as a student you would like to make plans accordingly, especially if you will be living on-campus, we will notify all of our students on the waitlist by as soon as possible if we have additional space available. If we do not have space to accommodate you we would still like for you to be connected with us during new student and family orientation to learn more about the Promising Futures Program and the support we provide to our first-generation college students at Chapman. We will be hosting a session for parents of first-generation college students and a session for new/incoming first-generation college students. Since we know that not all first-generation students will be able to take part in the summer bridge program, we wanted to be sure there are opportunities to connect with us during orientation. During the academic year the Promising Futures Program hosts general meetings, social events, and academic workshops for students.
  
- ***When will I receive more information about the specific topics that will be covered during the bridge program?***
  - When you arrive for the bridge program you will receive an agenda of the full 2-day experience, including what topics will be covered. During the summer bridge program you will be receiving an overview of resources and information that will be beneficial to your academic success at Chapman including topics such as: goal setting, time management, managing your finances, and lots more! During the bridge program you

will also have the opportunity to connect with current first-generation college students and your fellow incoming first-generation college students to begin building your network and support system at Chapman University.

- ***Why are you all doing this bridge program?***
  - This bridge program and the topics covered are being modeled after other bridge programs for first-generation college students at colleges/universities around the United States. Bridge programs have been very beneficial for first-generation college students and their success. As a first-generation college student myself, I wish I had the opportunity to participate in a bridge program like this. This is why we are really excited to be able to offer a bridge program for you all at Chapman. We know this will be a great experience for you and gives you the chance to get connected to your peers before orientation and the start of the school year!
  
- ***What is the time commitment after being involved in the Summer Bridge program (for students that might have concerns that they don't have time or can't balance it):***
  - There is no additional time commitment or requirements for you to attend Promising Futures Program events after the Summer Bridge Program. However, we do encourage our first-generation college students to continue to be involved with the program and events as their schedule allows. We also encourage you to reach out to us when needed with any questions or concerns you might have so we can better support you in your transition into Chapman.
  
- ***What type of events does the Promising Futures Program provide throughout the year?***
  - During the academic year the Promising Futures Program will host general meetings, social events, and academic workshops for students. These events are led by student program assistants for the Promising Futures Program, who are current first-generation college students at Chapman. To receive the most up to date information about our events please feel free to add our group on facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/promisingfutures](http://www.facebook.com/groups/promisingfutures)
  
- ***How many students are involved in the Promising Futures Program?***
  - This last year we had about 60-70 students involved in the Promising Futures Program from all class levels and academic majors.
  
- ***Will this program help me with getting scholarships?***
  - Promising Futures Program staff can assist you in getting connected with the Financial Aid Office for assistance with scholarship questions as well as refer you to online scholarship search databases. The program itself does not award scholarships to students but for students involved in the program can request partial financial

assistance for opportunities that will enhance your academic experience such as applying to graduate school/professional programs.

- ***Once I am involved with the Summer Bridge program do I need to apply to be a part of the Promising Futures Program/what if I am able to be involved one year but not the next?***
  - All incoming first-generation college students (regardless of whether they are involved with the summer bridge program or not) will be e-mailed about Promising Futures Program events throughout the year. You do not need to apply to be a part of Promising Futures. You will automatically be on our e-mail list. If due to time commitments during your first year you are unable to join us at any of our events, not to worry, please just notify us in May as your first academic school year ends to remain on our e-mail list for the following year.
  
- ***I see that it says it is “free to the first 50 students to sign up” – does this mean that once 50 students sign up I can pay for my student to attend the bridge program?***
  - This summer bridge program is only able to accommodate 50 students in total at this time. This program will be free to these 50 student participants. If you are unable to participate in the summer bridge program we hope that you will connect with us during new student and family orientation to learn more about the Promising Futures Program and the support we provide to our first-generation college students at Chapman. We will be hosting a session for parents of first-generation college students and a session for new/incoming first-generation college students. Since we know that not all first-generation students will be able to take part in the summer bridge program due to our limited space, we wanted to be sure there are opportunities to connect with us during orientation. During the academic year the Promising Futures Program hosts general meetings, social events, and academic workshops for students.
  
- ***Can I participate in both the Emerging Leaders Retreat and the First Generation Summer Bridge Program offered through the Office of First Year Programs?***
  - Since there is an overlap in dates, a student is not able to participate in both programs since they both require your full participation and attendance. If you have already signed up for the Emerging Leaders Retreat but would prefer to participate in the First Generation Summer Bridge Program please complete your application for the First Generation Summer Bridge Program and then notify Kelli Sattler ([sattler@chapman.edu](mailto:sattler@chapman.edu)) after we have received your application.