Mentoring Program - Seeking Applicants!

**CUC Building Connections Mentoring Program**

**Program Description:**

If you are an incoming First Year, First Generation Student (your parents did not earn a Bachelor’s Degree), you have the opportunity to be a part of a Mentoring program that will provide you with resources, support and emergency funds to help get you through your first year in College!

As a Mentee in this program…

* You will have an Upperclassman Mentor assigned to you that will meet with you one on one and help answer any and all questions you may have.
* You have a university professional, the Director of First Generation Programs, as your advisor. This person will meet with you throughout the semester to make sure you are doing ok.
* You will get to attend an all expenses paid retreat at the start of the Academic Year to help you prepare for the transition to college.
* You can attend events throughout the school year that will help you develop positive academic, financial and social habits absolutely free!
  + Some of these events are: First Year Student Retreat, Escape Room Outing, WhirlyBall, Career Fairs, Financial Literacy Events, Diversity Summit and much more!
* You will have access to Emergency Funds. This is money that you can request through the First Generation Coordinator, in case something goes wrong throughout your first year of college and you need additional money.

**Applicant eligibility:**

* First Generation Student (Parent’s did not complete a four year College or University education)
* Incoming First Year Student enrolled fulltime at Concordia University Chicago for the 2020-2021 Academic Year
* High School Graduating Minimum Grade Point Average of 2.0
* Display significant financial need

**How to apply:**

**Email the following essay to** [**blanca.gutierrez@cuchicago.edu**](mailto:blanca.gutierrez@cuchicago.edu)**, NO LATER than August 28th at 3p.m.**

Write one essay not exceeding 500 words using 12 point font, Times New Roman, Double Spaced, 1 inch margins answering the following questions –

* What does it mean to you to be a First Generation Student
* Why do you think you need the support and help that the Building Connections Mentoring program provides?

*\*Save essay as a PDF file using the file name – Your first and last name (Examples: DanielSmith.PDF)*

* In the body of the email please give the following information
  + Your full name
  + CUC H#
  + Major/Minor
  + High School Graduating Grade Point Average
  + A phone number where we can reach you

**Application requirements:**

* Submit Application Essay
* Finalist will complete a phone interview
* Finalist will have to provide High School transcript(s)

**Application process timeline:**

* Application open April 1st – August 28th
* Phone interviews: September 7th – September 11th
* Selection announced: September 18th

*\*10 Mentees will be selected*

**Building Connections Mentee responsibilities:**

If you are selected as a Building Connections Mentee, you must be able to attend all Building Connections mandatory meetings/events on the following dates:

*\*These dates are subject to change and your flexibility is needed.*

**Fall semester 2020**

-Mentor/Mentee Freshmen Retreat - TBD

-Attend one Trailblazer event per semester (minimum 2 hours) – Event Dates TBD

-Have biweekly 1:1 meetings with Peer Mentor lasting no less than 30 min. (20 hours) or weekly 1:1 meetings lasting no less than 30 min.

-Attend end of Semester Social in November: Date TBD

**Spring semester 2021**

-Attend one Spring Trailblazer event per semester (minimum 2 hours)

-Have biweekly 1:1 meetings with Peer Mentor lasting no less than 30 min. (20 hours) or weekly 1:1 meetings lasting no less than 30 min.

- Attend the ACI Annual Benefit: Date TBD

-Attend end of year Social in April: Date TBD

If you have any questions contact:

Director, Office of Multicultural & First Generation Student Engagement

Blanca E. Correa at

[blanca.correa@cuchicago.edu](mailto:blanca.correa@cuchicago.edu)

