

1 to 1 Interviews with 1st Generation Students in San Francisco-January 2016

Question 1: *When did you start thinking of attending college?*

Student 1	<i>When I was a kid, my mom told me to be an educated person so that I can be independent in the future. She wants me to earn my own money and buy my own stuff.</i>
Student 2	<i>Since elementary school</i>
Student 3	<i>Since middle school</i>
Student 4	<i>Cannot remember; since I was young</i>
Student 5	<i>Elementary school</i>
Student 6	<i>Since I was a kid</i>
Student 7	<i>Started probably in elementary school</i>
Student 8	<i>I actually started thinking about it in eighth grade and I knew my mom wanted me to attend but didn't know how to guide me. When I was in 9th grade I got pulled out of regular classes to college studies program classes because I had straight As. So then my mom saw my input in school and started searching for someone to help me attend college and guide me. We thankfully found a program called Waukegan to college that had monthly meetings, tutoring, personal mentor, and workshops to help us on our path until we graduate.</i>

Question 2: *Who inspired you to attend college?*

Student 1	<i>My mother. Because she didn't go to college and she wanted her kid to be educated and be independent.</i>
Student 2	<i>My Family</i>
Student 3	<i>My brother. College life seemed fun to from his experience.</i>
Student 4	<i>The environment around me.</i>
Student 5	<i>Myself</i>
Student 6	<i>My parents. They told me education would give me better life.</i>
Student 7	<i>My friends, mentors and teachers.</i>
Student 8	<i>My simple inspiration had been my mom, the younger children in the program and my mentor.</i>

Question 3: *During high school, how did you learn about various colleges?*

Student 1	<i>learned it from presentations through my counselors and my peers</i>
Student 2	<i>I learned it through my peers and friends.</i>
Student 3	<i>I learned from a school program called "College Ambassador" which current students and alumnus share knowledge about college admission and college lives. I also learned about colleges from the College Fair.</i>
Student 4	<i>My guidance counselor and pamphlets</i>
Student 5	<i>College consolors, teachers, outreach programs</i>
Student 6	<i>Mainly through my friends.</i>
Student 7	<i>I learned about colleges mainly through my advisor, college counselors and college tours.</i>
Student 8	<i>There was various workshops but it wasn't really enforced it was more optional. So in reality I learned through the outside program my mom found for me.</i>

Question 4: *What were the easiest things about finding a college for you?*

Student 1	<i>I was interested in studying computer science, so I just needed to find colleges that had better computer science majors.</i>
Student 2	<i>The admission process was easy. I knew how to apply to schools.</i>
Student 3	<i>It is hard to think of anything. I would be satisfied as long as a college accepted me.</i>
Student 4	<i>N/A</i>
Student 5	<i>The easiest is finding the location of the school</i>
Student 6	<i>the easiest thing was that I knew I wanted to major in engineering</i>
Student 7	<i>Basic information such as location, student population, majors and programs, etc.</i>
Student 8	<i>The easiest thing I would say is the things that are advertised. Like clubs, meal plan, class sizes, sports, majors etc.</i>

Question 5: *What were the most difficult things about finding a college for you?*

Student 1	<i>I had a hard time comparing those colleges in term of their environment. Ranking was not the most important thing to me because all the schools I applied were high ranking schools. The difficult thing was hard to find people's reviews about these colleges. I also worried about the acceptance.</i>
Student 2	<i>It was difficult to me to know what majors are good in college.</i>
Student 3	<i>N/A</i>
Student 4	<i>N/A</i>
Student 5	<i>The cost.</i>
Student 6	<i>The hardest thing was finding out the best engineering program for myself</i>
Student 7	<i>The student culture, and surrounding environment of campus.</i>
Student 8	<i>The hardest things to find are the real atmosphere of a college. I would recommend future college students to stay overnight to really get a feel for it. Also I noticed that scholarship money and in general money that can be offered is hard to get ahold off. You really need to dig and be aware and ask a lot!</i>

Question 6: *Was the cost of college a major issue for you? And if cost was an issue, how do you feel about 1Gen2Fund*

<i>Student 1</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Student 2</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Federal financial aid covers most of the public college tuition for most students. Also, there are a lot of scholarships already using similar ways to support student finance. If the online platform is made, it might be only a couple of students benefit from it, because people always try to pick the best ones. Obviously everyone would like a tuition free education. If people don't like your story, does that mean you deserve to suffer the high cost tuition on your own while other getting donation? Certainly not. The online platform would be helpful in supporting students' finance, and it should be expanded in ways that helps</i>

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		<i>more and more student.</i>
<i>Student 3</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Student 4</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Sounds like a great idea, but if students all had a story to tell how would the platform be sustained? I think this platform is aimed more at students with disadvantages and that's good but at the same time kind of unfair because those living a normal, everyday life wouldn't have much to tell and thus not get much donations even if they really need it or there might be those who wouldn't really want their stories to be known to the public so they would be at a disadvantage too.</i>
<i>Student 5</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Student 6</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>I think it's definitely a good idea since it would provide financial help for those students who want to attend college but don't have the money for it</i>
<i>Student 7</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>I would be interested to share my story.</i>
<i>Student 8</i>	<i>Yes, but only one semester I would say</i>	<i>That would be great! I've met a lot of ppl that are bright students but tuition is the reason they don't finish their education.</i>

Student Demographic Information

Student Number/ Major	Age	Year in School	University	High School	Native Language
<i>Student 1- Computer Science</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>UCSC</i>	<i>Galileo Academy of Science and Technology</i>	<i>Mandarin</i>
<i>Student 2-Film /Digital Media</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>UCSC</i>	<i>Galileo Academy of Science and Technology</i>	<i>Cantonese</i>
<i>Student 3- Environmental Civil Engineering</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>San Jose State</i>	<i>Galileo Academy of Science and Technology</i>	<i>Cantonese</i>
<i>Student 4- Undeclared</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Freshman</i>	<i>Goucher College</i>	<i>Galileo Academy of Science and Technology</i>	<i>Chinese</i>
<i>Student 5- Fine Arts-Digital Media</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>San Jose State</i>	<i>Galileo Academy of Science and Technology</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Student 6- Mechical Engineering</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>UCB</i>	<i>Galileo Academy of Science and Technology</i>	<i>Chinese</i>
<i>Student 7- Accounting</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Sophomore</i>	<i>Georgetown</i>	<i>Orinda Academy</i>	<i>Cantonese</i>
<i>Student 8- Psychology/Art</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>Wittenberg</i>	<i>Waukegan HS</i>	<i>Spanish</i>

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