

TL;DR MIT seeks feedback about the experiences of undergraduate students from first-generation and/or low-income backgrounds. Sign up for a 90-minute focus group [here](#).

Dear students,

Earlier this academic year, Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz convened a group of MIT staff employees and students to learn more about the experiences and needs of our first-generation* undergraduate students as well as those undergraduates from low-income** backgrounds. This First-Gen/Low Income Working Group is charged with identifying a cohesive strategy to better support these MIT student populations. In order to make well informed recommendations to MIT Administration, we need your help.

If you identify as either a first-generation or low-income student (or both), we invite you to participate in one of our upcoming focus groups to provide feedback about your experience at MIT. Each focus group will last approximately 90 minutes and will provide you with an opportunity to provide feedback about your experience at MIT. After each focus group, participants will be asked to fill out a brief online survey. As an incentive, each focus group participant will be given \$10 in Tech Cash and we will also provide lunch or dinner.

Focus groups will be held at the following times:

- March 3rd – 6:30pm – 8pm
- March 4th – 12pm – 1:30pm
- March 4th - 6:30pm – 8pm
- March 10th – 6:30pm – 8pm
- March 12th – 6:30pm – 8pm
- March 13th – 12pm – 1:30pm

If you are interested in participating, you may sign up [here](#).

Thank you, and please contact Kester Barrow (kdbarrow@mit.edu) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kester Barrow
Tri – Chair of First Gen | Low Income Working Group

***A first-generation student is defined as...A student who is First Generation is a student, domestic or international, where neither parent nor guardian has completed a baccalaureate degree (typically a four [4] year college degree), in the United States, and would benefit from support navigating the US education system.**

****A low-income student is defined as...A student whose listed Family Contribution as a part of their financial aid package is less than (< \$5,000)**