Mission: The First-Generation Leadership and Innovation (FLI) Vanderploeg Scholars program serves to provide first-generation college students at Michigan State University with access to opportunities to develop leadership skills and become innovators in their chosen field by providing access to support and funding through program staff and the university at large.

Vision: The FLI Vanderploeg scholars program aims to be a premier scholarship program at MSU for first-generation college students by creating opportunities for career and leadership development, opportunities for programmatic and individual innovation, and participation in high-impact practices while creating a community where first-generation scholars have a deep sense of belonging to the program and MSU.

To fulfill the mission and vision of the program, FLI students are required to fulfill the following requirements each year to receive funding and programmatic support services. Students’ activity will be reviewed each semester.

Freshman Year:

- Attend Early Arrival Program for FLI Students in August
- Participate in bi-weekly coaching sessions with FLI professional staff
- Complete 4-year goal setting with professional staff
- Successfully complete UGS 110 in the fall of first year
- Participate in FLI cocurricular programing, including Winter Semester Retreat

Sophomore:

- Participate in monthly coaching sessions with FLI Professional Staff
- Serve as a FLI Scholar Mentor to first-year program participant
- Complete Career Services Power Up Career Prep curriculum
- Participate in FLI cocurricular program, including Winter Semester Retreat
- Submit plan for high-impact practice participation for junior/senior year(s)

Junior:

- Participate in coaching sessions with FLI Professional Staff twice a semester.
- Participate in identified high-impact education experience such as study abroad, internship/externship, community engaged/service learning, undergraduate research, etc.
- Complete Career Launch Program
- Participate in FLI cocurricular program, including Winter Semester Retreat

Senior:

- Participate in coaching sessions with FLI Professional Staff twice a semester.
- Participate in identified high-impact education experience such as study abroad, internship/externship, community engaged/service learning, undergraduate research, etc.
- Participate in FLI cocurricular program, including Winter Semester Retreat and Pathways Graduation

***Note: Students who anticipate graduating sooner than the traditional four-year timeframe will work with program staff to create a modified program expectation agreement. Students with transfer credits are encouraged to apply to be a part of the FLI program!