

Brainstorming Guide

The “Save Me a Spot in College” scholarship contest invites 6th-12th grade students in California to create a **written word, poster** or **TV ad** entry answering the contest question,

“Why should California leaders save you and your peers a spot in college?”

Use this handout to help you think about how you want to answer the contest question. Remember that this is only a guide to help you brainstorm; you may answer the contest question in whichever way you think is best for you. Don't forget that this is an opportunity for you to tell California leaders what you think! Be creative, clear and compelling, and most importantly, make sure to share your voice!

Terms:

California leaders - California leaders can be the governor, state legislators, higher education leaders, or anyone else you identify as a leader in California.

Peers - Your peers can be your friends, your classmates, your family, people your age in your neighborhood, all youth in California, young people with similar experiences as you, or anyone else you identify as your peers.

Points for Reflection:

- Think about why it's important for you to go to college and why you want to go to college. (*Reflect on your personal story, your background and influences, your future plans and goals, etc.*)
- Think about why it's important for your peers to go to college too. (*What are your peers' personal stories? If all your peers went to college, what kind of impact would that have?*)
- Think about what you would like the leaders of California to know about you and your peers so that they will invest in opportunities that help students go to college.
- Think about how California can benefit from having its young people go to college and get a college degree. (*Explore current events, social events, etc.*)
- Think about how the leaders of California can help you and your peers go to college.