



# Scholarship Situations

## **Leadership & Responsibility:**

Making decisions and taking responsibility for your choices. Student leaders often have to make tough decisions and choices. Students often have to think about what will benefit individuals and whole groups.

## **Objective:**

Students will be able to execute a decision after considering the consequences.

## **Materials:**

Scholarship candidates' biographies.

## **Steps:**

- Divide the class into groups of five. Give each group the Scholarship Candidates' biographies (see next page).
- After the groups have decided who should receive the scholarship, bring the class together to share their decision-making experiences. Have students defend their choice of candidates and then have other groups question that choice and make a case for another candidate whenever possible.

## **Personal Reflection:**

- What compromises have you been asked to make in a decision-making situation?
- What was the result?
- Have students provide examples when they write about this.

## **Group Reflection:**

- How did your group come to a decision? What process did you use?
- As a group, how do you arrive at a compromise on difficult decisions?
- Share personal reflection examples: When have you been asked to make a compromise in a decision-making situation? What was the result?

## Scholarship Candidates' Biographies

Your group has been chosen to award one college scholarship. It is a four-year scholarship, and it is to be awarded to one of the following six candidates, each of whom qualifies to attend college at Aspire University. You must decide who the most deserving candidate is by considering how the student, the school, and society as a whole will benefit from them receiving the scholarship.

Keep in mind that everyone in your group must agree with the decision. If you cannot reach a unanimous decision, then none of the candidates will be awarded the scholarship. Here are brief biographies of the candidates:

**Sophia:** Sophia will be the first student in her family to attend college. She has worked really hard at school and helps support her family with her job as a waitress. She really wants to go to college but does not know how she will be able to afford it. Sophia wants to study to be a school guidance counselor.

**Josh:** Josh is a state champion in high school wrestling. However, he did not study much or care a lot about school because school came really easy to him and he was bored. Josh did great on his ACT and is obviously bright. He says that, if he receives the scholarship, he will go to school and clean up his act. He wants to become a sports broadcaster. If he does not get the scholarship, Josh is likely to end up with the wrong crowd and run into trouble with the law.

**Bryant:** Bryant is well liked by everyone. He was even the Homecoming King. He did well in high school and wants to go to college and study to be a doctor. He aspires to find a cure for cancer. Bryant has cancer himself, and his doctors are unsure of his prognosis.

**Chelsie:** Chelsie's entire family attended Aspire University. It was always expected that she would go to school and follow in the footsteps of her parents and grandparents. Chelsie thought paying for tuition was not going to be an issue. However, her parents have informed her that they are in debt and they cannot help her pay for college tuition. Chelsie wants to get a business degree and a minor in marketing and help turn around the family business.

**Zach:** Zach's father died when he was in elementary school. He has struggled with the death of his father and has had a hard time making friends. He spends his free time in robotics club. Zach's mother has not been around much but she does want him to go to college so he can help her with his siblings. Zach wants to study engineering.

**Kate:** Kate is dyslexic. She managed, however, to be in the very top of her graduating class. Kate would like to be an advocate for people with disabilities.

