Scholarship Universe Personal Statement Guide

• **Question Title**: For your CALS General Scholarship Application, please tell us about yourself.

• **Directions**: Include any details about you or your studies that you would like to share with scholarship committees and/or donors. Suggested topics include your background, educational and professional goals, honors or awards, and any school activities, clubs, or organizations that you are involved in. **Please limit your entry to 2,500 characters**.

• Copy and Paste your finalized statement into the application online once you’re done.

**Brainstorming**

- **Past**
  - What experience do I have related to my field of study?
  - What educational background do I have to support my potential success?
  - What from my past has motivated this passion I am pursuing (in a personal or professional setting)?
  - What am I proud of?
  - What struggles have I overcome that demonstrate resilience?

- **Present**
  - Why am I interested in this field in general?
  - What clubs or community outreach am I involved in?
  - What qualities should I highlight?
  - What awards/honors/certifications do I have that may be worth mentioning?
  - What topics are important to me related to my degree?
  - What else makes me unique?

- **Future**
  - What are my ultimate educational/career goals?
  - Do I have a plan for these goals?
  - What will I contribute to this job/program/field of study?
  - How will I benefit others (bigger than yourself)?

**Editing**

- Did I follow the prompt and character limits?
- Do I sound confident and professional?
- Am I specific enough and to the point?
- Would my most respected professor be impressed by my work?
- Is my grammar correct?
- Do I have sentences of varying structure to allow for an easy flow?
- Are my goals and experiences clear- do I focus on the correct content for what is asked of me?