

VISIONING

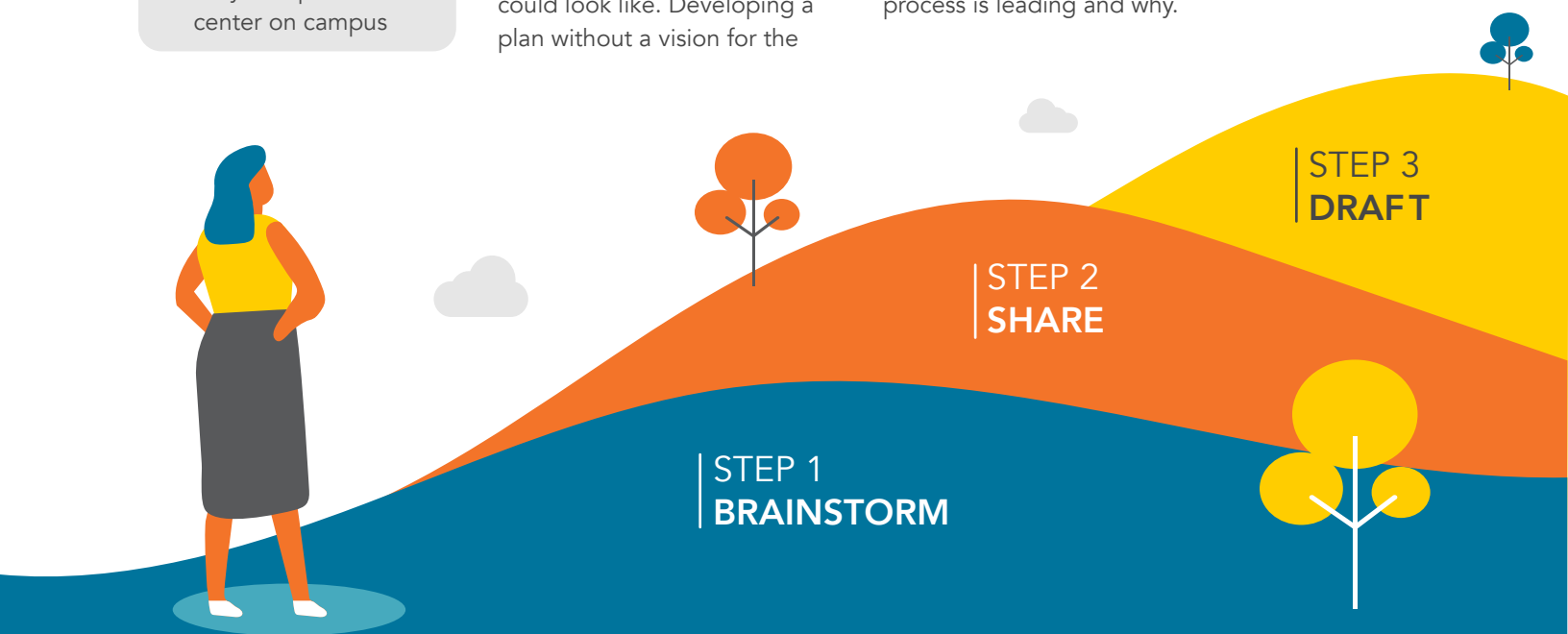


Goal for this section:

- Define the vision for your SparkPoint center on campus

The first step in building your SparkPoint center is to have a clear vision of what your center could look like. Developing a plan without a vision for the

future is like building a bridge to nowhere. The committee needs to agree on where the process is leading and why.



1 STEP 1: BRAINSTORM

Ask the planning committee members to imagine that a successful SparkPoint center is built on campus.

Guiding questions:

- What do you envision?
- What does the center offer? For whom?
- What goals can the center achieve?
- How will the new SparkPoint center integrate into campus programming?
- How does SparkPoint fit into the culture of the institution?
- Will the vision of your SparkPoint center be in alignment with institutional goals?

Have committee members individually finish the following sentence in thinking about the SparkPoint center you are building: "We envision a center where we..."

Examples: We envision a center where we

- Meet students' basic needs by providing access to food security and job placement opportunities and by connecting them to services regarding individual needs
- Support student academic success, student persistence, student retention, and degree completions, with fewer students on academic probation

- Are seen as part of an institution dedicated to student success
- Serve as a hub of coordination between internal and external partners

Use this worksheet to support the brainstorming activity.

2 STEP 2: SHARE

Have individuals share their vision in pairs or small groups to discuss common themes and important pieces of their vision statements.

Then as a whole group, write down the common themes that come up. Narrow down the main themes to those that came up most often, or those the group think are most important.

3 STEP 3: DRAFT

Based on the themes and what committee members determine to be important, draft a vision statement for your center. Vision statements should be simple (no more than 5 sentences) and easy to understand. They should be both aspirational and achievable.

Vision Statement examples:

SparkPoint [center name] envisions a future where all students and their families are able to achieve and maintain financial stability. To realize this vision, SparkPoint’s mission focuses on providing services that can help families improve credit scores, reduce debt, build income, and build and save assets.

Our vision for SparkPoint [center name] is a center that meet students' basic needs by providing access to food security and job placement opportunities and by connecting them to services regarding individual needs. The center provides supports that lead to student academic success, student persistence, student retention, and degree completions, with fewer students on academic probation. The center serves as a hub of coordination between internal and external partners and is seen as a vital part of an institution dedicated to student success.

Now it's your turn!

Vision Statement:

[illegible]