



Thesis Statement		One or two sentences that clearly define the problem and introduce the specific policy solution.	3
Theory of Change			
	Local	The policy solution proposes change at the campus, local, or state level, aligning with the Roosevelt Network’s theory of change.	3
	Structural change	The solution promotes structural change at the institutional level by suggesting tangible changes to rules, laws, or policies. It offers a long-term solution to the identified problem and aims for universal access in the scale it proposes.	3
	Scalable/replicable	Even though the policy change is targeted at the local level, the authors explain how this solution could be scaled to different levels of governance (e.g., from campus to county, from county to city, from city to state) or how it could be replicated in similar institutions.	3
	Feasibility	The authors explain why this is the appropriate level of intervention for this change (e.g., because states have a certain legal authority).	3
Background Analysis			
	Problem identification	One or two sentences that clearly define the issue. For example, the authors may define a lack, a disparity (in access, opportunity, or outcome), an inequality, implicit or explicit discrimination, or a limitation in the existing rule structure.	2
	Cause(s)	The authors explain how a current rule, law, or policy (or lack thereof) causes the identified problem.	2
	Historical context	The authors provide historical context explaining how the cause(s) developed and how the current problem came to be.	2
	Urgency of action	The authors explain why immediate action on this issue is necessary.	1
	Stakeholder identification	The authors clearly identify the key groups of people impacted by this problem, as well as those who have vested interests in the status quo. The authors make special note of particular identities that are disproportionately affected by this issue.	4
Policy Idea			
	Progressive: Provision	The authors’ policy idea promotes increasing public power (i.e., advocating for public goods and strengthening public institutions) to remedy the identified issue.	4
	Progressive: Access	The authors’ policy idea promotes universal access in an equitable way for marginalized communities.	4
	Innovative	The policy solution is innovative. The authors either: (1) address a new problem, (2) present a new solution to an established problem, or (3) implement an existing idea in a new way—by changing the level of government, location, etc.	4



Policy Analysis			
	Interdisciplinary	The authors' analysis addresses how this policy proposal intersects with other issue areas (i.e., the human rights implications of a democratic access policy).	2
	Intersectional	The authors discuss their policy's intersectional implications. Referring to previously mentioned stakeholders, the authors clearly explain how particular identities or groups of people will benefit from this policy.	2
	Evidence-based arguments	The authors support each argument with relevant research that directly supports their claims.	3
	Opposing arguments	The authors explain a likely argument against the proposed solution (e.g., perspective from a group that might resist change). They clearly counter that opposing argument.	3
	Sources	The authors cite at least 10 separate sources. Sources are credible and recent.	3
Implementation Plan		The authors clearly identify the formal processes required to implement the change, as well as key decision-makers and their role in making that change.	2
Key Facts		The authors present three essential data points about their proposed policy solution and its potential impact.	1
Talking Points		The authors present three key narrative arguments that summarize the problem and their proposed solution.	1
Action Plan Snapshot			
	Stakeholder engagement	The authors explain how they have built or will build agency and political power for their idea through coalition work, base-building, and stakeholder engagement. The authors clearly note how stakeholders will be involved in the work going forward.	2
	Timeline	The authors determine a specific timeline (ideally 6-12 months) for their actions outlined in the implementation plan.	2
	Process	The authors clearly explain the tools and processes by which they will influence decision-makers and/or agencies. This could include steps like power-mapping, lobbying, and/or direct action.	2
Format			
	Sections	The authors include all sections of the 10 Ideas memo.	1
	Citations	The authors correctly use Chicago Manual of Style citations.	1
Style		The piece is well-written with a cohesive and flowing argument. Transitions clearly guide the reader through the narrative.	2
Total			65
Bonus Points			
	Intent to submit	The authors have completed an Intent to Submit.	1
	Policy coordinator	The authors have consulted a Policy Coordinator about their idea.	1