

## INFORMATION FOR GOLDWATER RECOMMENDERS (ADVICE FROM NATIONAL SELECTION COMMITTEE)

**PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR RECOMMENDERS!**

### Recommendation Letter Advice and Instructions for Submission of Letters

- Please submit your Letter of Recommendation electronically as an email attachment to [goldbeja@lafayette.edu](mailto:goldbeja@lafayette.edu) or [externalscholarships@lafayette.edu](mailto:externalscholarships@lafayette.edu) by **11 December 2023 or shortly thereafter**. The letter should be signed and on letterhead. **It MUST be attached as a WORD document.**
- Letters of recommendation must adhere to the following formatting instructions:
  - Up to 2 pages
  - 1" margins on all sides
  - Any font no smaller than 12-point
  - Letters must be signed and on letterhead
- **Goldwater selection committee readers expect detailed letters containing the following information:**
  - Letters should concentrate on the applicant's motivation and potential for a research career. (It is OK for an applicant to be a 'nerd'; the applicant's success in your course is assumed).
    - Letters should indicate how the applicant demonstrates that s/he is able to "make meaning from science" – e.g., from learning effective benchmark practices to a commitment to and passion for STEM practices.
    - Applicants who have not engaged in research at the time of application may demonstrate intellectual curiosity in other ways, including discussions with you on research or theory.
    - Applicants may also demonstrate their abilities and potential by meeting significant responsibilities, involvement in STEM student organizations, relevant employment or internships, etc.
  - Letters must speak to/about the applicant's research and be consistent with the applicant's claims throughout his/her application.
  - Letters that compare applicant to others who have gone on to outstanding PhD programs/research careers can be beneficial.
  - For more information please visit the Goldwater Scholarship "**For Recommenders**" link at <https://goldwater.scholarsapply.org/application-tips-for-references/>

**Questions?** Please contact Dean Goldberg at [externalscholarships@lafayette.edu](mailto:externalscholarships@lafayette.edu) or [goldbeja@lafayette.edu](mailto:goldbeja@lafayette.edu).