

# New Mexico State University—Geological Sciences

**Instructions: Choose one of three options for transmitting this form and letter to us.**

- 1) Mail to: Jeff Amato/Dept. Geological Sciences MSC 3AB/P.O. Box 30001/Las Cruces NM 88005
- 2) Fill out PDF and e-mail to amato@nmsu.edu, subject line REFERENCE LETTER
- 3) Place in sealed envelope, sign across the seal, and give to applicant to include with application

## LETTER OF REFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name                      First Name                      Middle Initial      who is applying to for admission and financial aid to study in the Department of Geological Sciences.

### TO THE APPLICANT--CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

I hereby waive \_\_\_\_\_ do not waive \_\_\_\_\_ my right to examine this letter of reference.  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### TO PERSONS PREPARING LETTERS OF REFERENCE:

The information given in this recommendation will be considered confidential unless the student does not waive his/her right to examine the letter as indicated above. **Please fill out this form and attach a letter of reference** that addresses the ability of the applicant to succeed in graduate school. Address their academic abilities, prospects for research, and their ability to serve as a teaching assistant. We are also interested in the general character of the applicant, including their ability to work with others. For non-U.S. citizens, please indicate their degree of English proficiency. In comparison with other students that you have known, rate items below using the following scale: 1-- outstanding (top 5%); 2—superior (top 15%); 3--above average (top 40%); 4—average (top 40-60%); 5--below average (bottom 40%); X--inadequate knowledge to rate.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual ability             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ability in written expression |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mastery of geologic knowledge    | <input type="checkbox"/> Ability in oral expression    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motivation and drive             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to TA classes         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional maturity and stability | <input type="checkbox"/> Ability for research          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self-reliance and independence   | <input type="checkbox"/> OVERALL RANKING               |

How far do you think this applicant will progress? (check one)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Will definitely complete the Master's degree.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Is not likely to complete the Master's degree without excessive help.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Is not likely to complete the Master's degree.

Use this space for written comments if you are not attaching a letter:

I have been acquainted with this applicant for \_\_\_\_\_ semesters/years (circle one)  
as \_\_\_\_\_ (teacher, advisor, supervisor, other \_\_\_\_\_).

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPT: \_\_\_\_\_ INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_