



Wells Mountain Initiative

Recommenders: Guidelines for Writing Effective Recommendation Letters

Wells Mountain Initiative Background

The Wells Mountain Initiative (WMI) is a public charitable foundation based in Bristol, Vermont, USA, which has been approved under the United States Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c)(3). WMI works to create social change through education and community building by providing bright young people in the developing world with student scholarships and skills training, and building a network of grassroots leaders catalyzing community transformation. To date the organization has supported over 800 students in 55 nations to continue their education at the tertiary level.

WMI provides scholarship support to students as they pursue various educational objectives. Support is provided for post-secondary school (university, polytechnic, trade school). Financial support primarily covers tuition, school fees, and related expenses, including books and supplies. The WMI scholarship does not always cover the total cost of tuition and associated educational expenses.

To learn more about WMI please visit: <https://wellsmountaininitiative.com/>

WMI Scholars Program Recommendation Request

You have been selected by the applicant to provide a recommendation letter on their behalf. The WMI Scholars Program application requires the submission of two recommendation letters. These recommendation letters are instrumental in reviewing the complete application. Letters of recommendation serve as one element that assists reviewers in learning more about an applicant from someone who knows them and their accomplishments well.

Please see below tips that will help you in writing an effective recommendation:

Letter Requirements

- Include the full name of the applicant.
- Indicate how long you have known the applicant.
- Describe the capacity and nature in which you have known the applicant.
- Most effective letters are not less than 400 words nor more than 500 words.
- Provide your letter on official letterhead with your contact information listed, i.e., phone number, WhatsApp number (if different), and email address.
- Please include your ink signature and date the letter. We do not accept recommendation letters that are more than a year old.



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Suggested Areas to Write About

- Discuss why the applicant is a strong candidate for this specific scholarship. How does this applicant exemplify the personal qualities or selection criteria specified by the scholarship? Specific examples are critical.
- Discuss the applicant's personal characteristics, capacity to work with others in a team, leadership skills, commitment to their community/country, and communication skills.
- Comment on the applicant's proposed plan of study at the tertiary level and what past experiences witnessed by you that relate to the applicant's aptitude, retained interest, completion of a degree in the subject matter, and benefit given to society upon graduation within this program.
- From your perspective, how effective is the applicant in establishing and maintaining relationships.
- To what extent does the applicant possess the traits of motivation and persistence.
- Share documented evidence of the applicant's academic, leadership, or community service achievements.
- Does the applicant have any unique competencies, talents, or leadership abilities?

If you have any questions, please write to: info@wellsmountaininitiative.org