



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

**USC/ USC- School of Medicine Greenville
Early Acceptance Program Recommendation Guidelines & Waiver**

Letter of Evaluation For: _____ USC ID# _____

Recommender Name: _____

Applicant: Before you give this form to an evaluator acquainted with your qualifications for pursuing a medical career, please check and sign, in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.

I hereby waive my right of access to this letter of recommendation.

I do not waive my right of access

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

TO THE APPLICANT:

Under FERPA, University of South Carolina students are entitled access to letters of recommendation contained in their permanent educational records at USC. However, a student may waive this right of access to letters of recommendation.

If this right of access is waived, evaluation and admissions committees might draw one or more of the following conclusions:

- The letter of recommendation may be more candid if the writer knew that the candidate would not see it. As a result, more weight may be assigned to such letters.
- The candidate has nothing to conceal.
- The candidate did not feel it was necessary to view the letter before it was sent.

If this right of access is NOT waived, one or more of the following conditions may result:

- Evaluation and admissions committees might consider the letter of recommendation to be less candid, as the writer knew that the candidate may see it. As a result, it may carry less weight in the decision-making process.
- A potential recommender can choose not to write a letter for you.
- The candidate wants to discuss/review the letter before it is put in final form.
- It may relieve stress and anxiety to know exactly what has been said.

TO THE LETTER WRITER:

The above student is applying to the Early Acceptance Program at the USC-Greenville School of Medicine as a current junior. The student has been given a deadline of **5:00 pm, December 1** to have 3 letters of recommendation submitted.

(see below)

If you are writing a recommendation letter on behalf of this student, the letter must be on letterhead, signed and uploaded at the following link (click or copy/paste link into URL bar):

https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/honors_college/study/eap_lor.php

Please consider the following information.

Use specific examples to illustrate the candidate's unique qualities you wish to highlight. Comparing the applicant to other students or to the class average helps define a noteworthy performance. Your letter should describe the student as having the necessary qualities to succeed not only in medical school, but as a physician as well. A candid letter with detailed narratives provides more valuable information than a letter that simply endorses the specific traits listed below.

General:

- Name and USC ID of Medical School Applicant
- Date letter was written
- Explain relationship
- List accomplishments of the individual that provide context
- Describe contributions the individual can make to the program
- Describe unique characteristics and credentials
- Provide results of his/her prior work
- Provide information regarding their collaborative relationships
- Describe reasons the individual will succeed

Specific Traits (your comments on as many of the following as possible are helpful):

Academic Ability
Classroom behavior; Work ethic and industry; Preparation and thoroughness; Attendance; Performance under pressure; Problem-solving ability and critical thinking

Personality Characteristics
Integrity; Honesty; Reliability; Professionalism; Determination and resilience; Adaptability; Dependability; Leadership; Motivation; Enthusiasm; Common sense; Emotional stability & maturity of judgment; Social awareness & concern for others; Communication skills (verbal and written); Ability to interact well in groups and establish peer relationships; Empathy; Altruism

Relevant Experience
Exposure to the profession; Cultural competence; Service orientation; Overall suitability for a medical career

For questions please contact:

For SCHC Students
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For non-SCHC Students
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