

[Recommender's Name] [Title, Department, University] [Address] [Email] | [Phone] [Date]

Admissions Committee [University Name] [Department / Programme Name] [University Address]

Dear Admissions Committee,

I am pleased to recommend [Student's Name] for admission to the Master's programme in [Field] at [University Name]. As [his/her/their] professor in [Course Name] and subsequent supervisor during [his/her/their] undergraduate research project on [Research Topic], I have had the opportunity to observe [Student's Name] in two distinct contexts — as a student managing coursework and as an independent thinker managing a research problem. [He/She/They] performed well in both.

In my course on [Subject], [Student's Name] consistently ranked among the top students in a group of [Number]. [His/Her/Their] ability to engage with primary literature rather than relying solely on lecture notes set them apart early. When the class was asked to critique a published paper, [Student's Name] identified a methodological limitation that several of my graduate students had not caught — and framed it with appropriate academic caution rather than overclaiming.

During the research project, [Student's Name] took clear ownership of the work. [He/She/They] independently identified [specific challenge or finding], proposed a revised approach, and completed the work within the agreed timeline without requiring close supervision. The final report demonstrated both technical competence and the kind of intellectual honesty that makes for good research — [he/she/they] acknowledged what the data could not confirm, not just what it supported.

[Student's Name] is the kind of applicant who will use a Master's programme rather than simply pass through it. I recommend [him/her/them] with confidence and would be glad to speak further about [his/her/their] suitability if that would be helpful.

Yours sincerely,

[Recommender's Name] [Title, Department, and University]