



## LETTER OF REFERENCE

*to graduate study and research assistantship*

*ipg.missouri.edu*

INSTRUCTIONS: The applicant should complete Section I of this form and then forward the form to the individual from whom he or she is requesting the letter of reference. This individual should complete Sections II and III of the Letter of Reference form and mail to:

**Interdisciplinary Plant Group  
371 Bond Life Sciences Center  
University of Missouri  
Columbia, MO 65211**

Phone: (573) 884-4144

Fax: (573) 884-9676

E-mail: [plantgroup@missouri.edu](mailto:plantgroup@missouri.edu)

**Note to the Applicant:** A total of three letters of reference will need to be submitted to be considered for admission to graduate study and research assistantship.

### SECTION I (to be completed by student applicant)

NAME (Last, First Middle Initial) \_\_\_\_\_

**General area(s) in which the applicant wishes to pursue his/her graduate degree:**

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Biochemistry           | <input type="checkbox"/> Proteomics        | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Physiology | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Genetics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evolution                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Molecular Biology | <input type="checkbox"/> Cell Biology     | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Genomics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant-Microbe Interactions   | <input type="checkbox"/> Metabolomics      | <input type="checkbox"/> Bioinformatics   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |  |   |   |

### SUBSEQUENT ACCESS WAIVER

To the Applicant:

Should you be admitted to the University of Missouri, Columbia, you would have the right as a student to review your permanent records on file with the University. Some professors prefer not to complete recommendation forms, however, unless they can be assured of the confidentiality of their comments. It is our opinion that comments provided on a confidential basis are likely to be of more help to us in judging important characteristics such as creativity, originality, independence, and research capability. Therefore, the University is affording you the opportunity to waive your right of subsequent access to this reference statement. In any event, your application for admission and/or financial support will be given full consideration based on all the information accumulated in your application file, including this form, regardless of your decision on waiving your right of future review.

- I DO WAIVE MY RIGHT of subsequent access to this recommendation form.**  
 **I DO NOT WAIVE MY RIGHT of subsequent access to this recommendation form.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Applicant*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

The University of Missouri-Columbia is an equal opportunity/ADA institution. For ADA accommodations, please contact the Interdisciplinary Plant Group Office at (573) 884-4144. TTY users: please call through Relay Missouri, 1 (800) 735-2966.

University of Missouri  
**Interdisciplinary Plant Group**  
**LETTER OF REFERENCE**

**SECTION II** (to be completed by individual providing reference)

Please print.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate the application in the section below. Indicate your basis for comparison.

- Graduating Seniors     First-Year Graduate Students     All the students I have known  
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

	Upper 1-2%	Upper 5% but not upper 1-2%	Upper 10% but not upper 5%	Upper 25% but not upper 10%	Upper 50% but not upper 25%	Lower 50%	No basis for judgment
Intellectual ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Breadth of General Knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Imagination, Originality, Creativity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Initiative, Resourcefulness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industry, Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oral Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Written Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promise as a Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promise as a Research Scholar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Strongly Recommend	Recommend	Recommend With Reservations	Do Not Recommend
Masters Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doctoral Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SECTION III**  
(to be completed by individual providing reference)

The Graduate Admissions Committee would appreciate your candid evaluation of the applicant's promise as a graduate student. In a letter, directed to Dr. John Walker, please discuss the candidate's academic and research accomplishments, creativity, intellectual independence, capacity for analytical thinking, drive, and motivation. Please cite examples rather than general statements. A careful discrimination between strong and weak characteristics will be more helpful to the candidate than routine praise. It will also be helpful for us to know how long, and in what capacity, you have known the candidate. The letter, along with the remainder of this form, should be sent to Interdisciplinary Plant Group, 371 Bond Life Sciences Center, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri 65201 USA.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_