

I. Instructions to the applicant:

You are responsible for assuring that references from persons who can address your qualifications for graduate education in social work and for professional social work practice are received by the School of Social Work. References from employers, supervisors, colleagues, field instructors, and social work professors are appropriate. References from members of your own family or personal friends are not. If you are admitted and enrolled, you have a right under Public Law 93-380 to review your references. Please sign below to indicate if you waive this right. It is important for the person writing your reference and the MSW Admissions Committee to be aware of your decision.

You must provide all information requested in this top section. Print your name and mark your desired program/location to ensure that this recommendation will be matched to your file. Please type or print. Print the name and address of the person providing the recommendation.

Provide him or her with a self-addressed envelope so it is returned directly to you. Upon receipt, please include with your application materials. They must seal the envelope and sign along the flap.

Name of Applicant:				
Program:	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Standing - Boise	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Standing 1-Year - Coeur d' Alene	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Standing 1- Year - Lewiston	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Standing 1- Year - Magic Valley
	<input type="checkbox"/> Two-Year - Boise	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Standing 2-Year - Coeur d' Alene	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Standing 2- Year - Lewiston	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Standing 2- Year - Magic Valley

Under the provisions of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Acts of 1974, this applicant (if admitted and enrolled) will have access to the information provided unless he/she has waived such access.

I hereby waive my right of access to the information in this recommendation.		I do not waive my right of access to the information in this recommendation	
Signature of applicant	Date	Signature of applicant	Date

II. Instructions to the Reference Writer:

Your thoughtful, frank reflection on the qualifications of this applicant for admission to the Boise State University Master of Social Work Program will make a major contribution to our admissions process. Admission to the MSW Program is highly competitive. Our program is intellectually and personally challenging and is designed to educate small numbers of outstanding social work practitioners. We are asking your assistance in identifying potential students of exceptional maturity, with values compatible with those of professional social work, capacity for critical thinking and self-reflection, and strong potential for personal and professional growth. In addition to filling out this form we encourage you to elaborate upon your candid assessment of this candidate in a separate letter. Please seal your reference in the self-addressed return envelope, sign your name across the envelope flap and return it to the applicant. Thank you for your assistance in our graduate admissions process.

Reference Writer:	Title:		
Agency:	Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:	
Telephone:	E-mail:		

1. How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant: _____

2. I know the applicant: Very Well Fairly Well Not Very Well

3. Please describe the extent of your opportunities to assess the applicant's qualifications.

4. Please rate each item according to your best perceptions of the applicant's ability in comparison with others you have known at similar stages of their careers. Your rating is among several major factors taken into account in our admissions process. Your entirely candid response is important. Help us understand strengths and challenges the candidate faces as a potential MSW student. Your written comments provide opportunity for elaborating on your ratings and may be provided in a separate letter.

	Outstanding	Above Ave.	Average	Below Ave.	Don't Know
A. Academic Skills					
1. Critical thinking					
2. Written Communication					
3. Oral Communication					
4. Intellectual Curiosity					
5. Ability to Consider Opposing Viewpoints Non-judgmentally					
6. Creativity and Originality					
B. Professional Skills					
1. Self-awareness					
2. Commitment to Social Work Values & Ethics					
3. Ability to Cope with Ambiguity					
4. Emotional Stability and Maturity					
5. Motivation & Seriousness of Purpose					
6. Honesty & Integrity					
7. Quality of Work					
8. Leadership					
9. Reliability/Dependability					
10. Positive Response to Criticism/Supervision					
11. Sound Judgment					
12. Professionalism					
13. Openness to Change					
14. Empathy					
15. Commitment to Social Justice					
16. Acceptance of Diversity					
17. Cultural Sensitivity & Competence					
18. Interpersonal Relations					
19. Organization/Planning					
20. Conflict Management & Resolution					
21. Ability to Work With Distressed, Oppressed, Suffering Persons					

5. Please comment on specific strengths the applicant has demonstrated in human services work.

6. All students have challenges they need to work to improve. Please comment on any limitations you have identified in this applicant's ability to complete a graduate program and to engage in advanced level professional social work practice.

7. Please indicate your overall endorsement of the applicant:

- Recommend Highly Recommend Recommend with Reservations I Do Not Recommend

8. Any additional comments. If necessary, add additional sheets to complete the questions.

Thank you for your time and interest.

Reference Writer's Signature	Date
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