

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR EDUCATOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Every applicant **must** request at least one Educator Recommendation. Educator Recommendations should be completed by someone who has worked with you in a classroom setting and preference should be given to educators who have worked with you in science, engineering and math.

Each applicant is allowed to request one additional Educator Recommendation (two total). You should consider requesting multiple Educator Recommendations only if you believe each educator has something unique to say about your abilities. Should you choose to request a second Educator Recommendation, you will find this option at the bottom of your Task List in the online application system.

If you are a homeschool student and your parent is your only educator and completes an Educator Recommendation, we recommend that you request a second Educator Recommendation from a non-relative who knows you in an academic setting, even if not in the traditional classroom sense.

## PREVIEW OF EDUCATOR RECOMMENDATION

Your Educator Recommender should NOT complete these questions by hand. These are the questions that your teacher or other educator will answer on the Educator Recommendation that will be completed in the online system **only**. Questions #1–#3 will be answered in an uploaded letter of recommendation.

1. How long have you known this student and in what capacity? How does this student compare to students you currently teach and also to those you have known during your teaching career? (uploaded in letter)
2. Please address, with specific examples if possible, the student's character and integrity. (uploaded in letter)
3. Please describe your personal observation (if any) of the extracurricular involvement and/or leadership this student has demonstrated among his/her peers. Do not include activities you have not witnessed. Entrants are able to provide a full extracurricular list in their portion of the application. (uploaded in letter)
4. Please summarize your observations and experience with this student and the qualities (s)he possesses that you believe would contribute to his/her future promise as a scientist, mathematician or engineer. Relevant topics include (but are not limited to) scientific attitude, curiosity, initiative, problem-solving, originality of thought, collegiality, and work ethic (*300 word maximum*).
5. Please explain your level of knowledge (if any) regarding the submitted research project and/or any other research projects conducted by this student during his/her high school career. If you are or were involved, can you attest that the application and research project submitted in this application properly reflect his/her own work? If you were not involved and have no knowledge of the work, please state so here (*300 word maximum*).

## TROUBLESHOOTING ISSUES

Should your Educator Recommender experience any issues with our online process, please encourage them to email **sts@societyforscience.org**. Once you request a recommendation from them through the online system, the Educator Recommender should receive an email with instructions. Occasionally these messages are caught in junk mail or strict school email filters, or a recommender could receive requests from multiple students under different email addresses, causing confusion. We are happy to investigate any issues.