

Letter of Reference
Master's Degree in Clinical Counseling
Bellevue University

Dear Recommender:

The applicant has identified you as someone knowledgeable of their abilities to be successful in pursuing a master's degree in clinical counseling at Bellevue University. Your experiences and perspectives are invaluable to the admissions committee. As a mental health profession, the field of professional counseling requires due diligence and screening of those seeking to become members of the profession. Students will engage in rigorous academic and clinical training, and will also be expected to uphold the highest moral and professional standards. Unique to mental health professions is the need to safeguard the public. Students will be exposed to vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, or the disabled; and, it is vital to know students (and eventually graduates) will not abuse the unique power and trust afforded to them as mental health providers. Additionally, as members of a culturally diverse and pluralistic society, the clinical counseling program encourages and advocates for all members of the program to effectively work with diverse and disenfranchised populations. Students will be provided many opportunities to examine their own personal belief systems, backgrounds, and experiences, and how these impact their work with others. In your evaluation of the applicant we ask that you consider these factors in your comments.

Please tell us the following:

1. Your name and contact information, including your telephone number and email address.
2. The name of the student you are referring

I am providing a letter of reference as a:

- Former instructor or faculty member
- Former Employer or Supervisor
- Both
- Other (please explain)

Please be sure the sign and date your letter of recommendation.

Please send all items to:

Program Coordinator: MS in CC

c/o The YIEP

567 Cedar Hill Road

Far Rockaway, NY 11691

Email: TheYIEP@gmail.com

Fax: 718-327-0307

Please contact The YIEP if we can assist: theyiep@gmail.com OR 917-209-8204

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1. Please tell us how long you have known the applicant, and in what capacity.
2. Please describe your professional background and education. Please indicate if you possess licensure as a mental health professional to practice at the independent level in your field.
3. What is your impression of the applicant's ability to be successful in pursuing a degree in clinical counseling? Do you believe they are adequately prepared through education and experience to pursue this type of degree and profession? Please provide any examples or evidence to illustrate this to the selection committee.
4. What is your impression of the applicant's skills and abilities with regards to interpersonal relationship, and with working with groups?
5. During the course of study, the applicant will be exposed to and interact with vulnerable populations. Do you possess any concerns about the applicant being in these types of situations and working with this population?
6. What is your impression of the applicant's ability to interact with culturally diverse populations? Do you possess any concerns about the applicant working effectively and sensitively with respect to individuals, couples, and families from diverse and differing backgrounds including (but not limited to) issues of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, language, ability, age, socioeconomic status, and culture?
7. What are the applicant's strengths and challenges?
8. If you have worked with the applicant as a student, how would you rate their academic ability and performance as compared to other students you have worked with in the past:
 - a. 90th Percentile/Excellent (In the top 10%)
 - b. 75th – 89th Percentile/Good
 - c. 50th – 74th % Percentile/Average
 - d. 0 – 49th % Percentile/Below Average
9. If you have worked with the applicant as a supervisor in a work or internship setting, how would you rate their performance as compared to other students you have worked with in the past:
 - a. 90th Percentile/Excellent (In the top 10%)
 - b. 75th – 89th Percentile/Good
 - c. 50th – 74th % Percentile/Average
 - d. 0 – 49th % Percentile/Below Average
10. Pursuing any form of graduate study is challenging, and can be stressful at times. What is your experience of the applicant's ability to manage multiple stressors?
11. Is there any additional information you would like to provide to assist the admissions committee in their evaluation of this applicant?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this evaluation.