

GAIN SERVICE ACADEMY ADMISSION

AIR FORCE ACADEMY SAMPLE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FOR YOUR TEACHERS

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English Teacher - Sample Letter of Recommendation

Narrative Prompt:

Please tell us how you feel this candidate would perform at the college level in your area. Thank you for your time, concern and Cooperation.

I taught Jeff while he was a student in my Honors Junior English class at Colonie High School. In order to be a student in this class, one must get an A in sophomore English and be recommended by their instructor to be in the honor course. Generally, only 5% of the students are in Honors English.

Of these excellent students, Jeff received an A which only 30% of the students in the class received. This equates to Jeff being in the top 5% of all students who take this course yearly. I have taught in our English program over the past 20 years and have taught well over a thousand students, many of whom have gone on to college and done well. I would rank Jeff in the top 100 of all students I have taught over the last 20 years. This equates to being in the top 1% of all students I have taught during my time at Colonie High School.

What separates him from the other students I have taught is his ability to write as well as avoid the common grammar pitfalls I see. What is notable is that when I make a correction to Jeff's work, he understands the correction and works not to repeat the same mistake again. This, I believe, is the key to success in any academic environment.

I understand that at USAFA Jeff will take English 111 and English 211 which concentrate on research and writing skills. These reinforce your outcomes in critical thinking and clear communication. I am aware also of the importance of writing in other courses at The Air Force Academy such as history, political science, philosophy, and social sciences. Jeff is well prepared for these courses and will excel in the challenging curriculum.

Math Teacher - Sample Letter of Recommendation

Narrative Prompt:

Please tell us how you feel this candidate would perform at the college level in your area. Thank you for your time, concern and Cooperation.

I taught Jeff while he was a student in my pre-calculus class at Ridgemont High School. This is one of the most difficult classes taught at our high school and only the top 5% of students at our high school take this class. This is out of a total class of 250.

Of these elite students, Jeff received an A which only 20% of the students in the class received. This equates to Jeff being in the top 1% of all students who take this course yearly. I have taught at our high school for five years and out of the 400 students I have taught in the course over that time, Jeff ranks within the top 20 students out of that group.

What separates him from the other students I have taught is his attention to detail and diligence. He takes his studies very seriously and puts out the maximum effort. Frankly, only the best students score as high as Jeff.

What you will get with Jeff is a student who will no doubt have the grit and resiliency to complete the rigorous math curriculum at USAFA which includes both single and multivariable calculus and advanced probability and statistics. We also do a number of application topics in our pre-calculus class which apply to engineering problems. Since I am aware that The Air Force Academy also requires several semesters of engineering, Jeff will certainly excel in those courses which require the application of the calculus.

Coach - Sample Letter of Recommendation

Narrative Prompt:

Please tell us how you feel this candidate would perform at the college level in your area. Thank you for your time, concern and Cooperation.

I was Jeff's football coach and track and field coach over the last four years. I observed him not just as a stellar athlete but also as a leader for the sports teams that I coach.

As a veteran myself, I understand that officers must lead by example and be physically fit. I know I admired officers that I served under who excelled at fitness and led from the front. Also, I know that the physical education program at USAFA is rigorous, with requirements of such diverse regimens as boxing, wrestling, combatives, swimming, and gymnastics. I have no doubt in observing Jeff over the past four years that he will excel in this diverse program. In his position of linebacker on the football team, it requires significant lateral movement and speed as well as upper body strength. Jeff clearly demonstrates these characteristics and is my best linebacker going into senior year. In track and field, he is a pole vaulter which has similar demands for both speed, agility, and strength.

Having said this, Jeff is an even better leader. He was chosen this year as captain of the football team not just by our coaches but the players. Jeff is clearly a leader who is respected by his coaches and teammates. Jeff is able to motivate his teammates, not in a demeaning or intimidating way, but one that respects each person as an individual. Jeff lives daily the Air Force core values. Additionally, we have a very ethnically diverse high school. Jeff is respected by all the players of our team, whether they are African-American, Hispanic, Asian, or White. I believe these leader traits will suit him well in a military that is both culturally and ethnically diverse.

I cannot recommend Jeff enough for the US Air Force Academy. What you will get with Jeff is a stellar athlete but also a leader of character and integrity. He comes with my highest recommendation.