MATC RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMISSION

To the Applicant: This form should be given to a former university instructor or teacher educator, current/past teaching colleague, or current/administrator or educational supervisor who is able to comment on your qualifications for graduate study. If you have questions about whom to ask for a reference, please check with the MATC Graduate Admissions Office at matc@msu.edu or (517) 432-7705. Please complete items A – D below and deliver this form to the person who is acquainted with your academic and/or professional performance. You should supply this person with a stamped and addressed envelope.

A. ☐ Yes ☐ No I verify that Section C above is correct.

B. Primary area of interest in Teaching and Curriculum

C. List the course(s) you took under the direction of the person completing this form and/or any other capacity in which the reference knows you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>When Taken</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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D. Months/years you have known this person in a professional capacity: ___________ as ________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Under the provision of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, if admitted and enrolled, you will have access to the information provided in this letter unless you have waived such access. Waiving access (signing on the left) means that this form and its attachments will remain confidential and that the writer of this reference is ensured his/her confidentiality.

I hereby waive my right of access to the information below: ________________________________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Applicant Date

I do NOT waive my right of access to the information below:

Signature of Applicant Date

To the Person Completing This Form: The applicant named above has applied for admission to Graduate School at Michigan State University. Please complete this reference form and return it as soon as possible. If you do not know the person well, please feel free to say so; such frankness will not prejudice the admission decision.

1. I verify that Section C above is correct: ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. ☐ I do not know this applicant well enough to give a recommendation. (if you check this box, you do not need to complete the rest of this form.

3. PLEASE COMPLETE THE REMAINDER OF THIS FORM (INCLUDING THE REQUIRED LETTER REFERRED TO IN #7 BELOW) WITH THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS AND DESCRIPTION IN MIND:

Given our interest in fostering professional excellence, limited resources, and an inability to serve all those who would apply to this program, admission is reserved for the most promising candidates in an applicant pool. This graduate program engages students in sustained, diverse, and challenging forms of professional inquiry (personal, theoretical, practice-centered, discipline-based and collaborative). It will require a strong commitment to improving teaching and learning; the love of questions as well as creative solutions; much thoughtful reading, conversation and analytical writing; flexibility; fortitude; critical reexamination of one's beliefs and practices (and those of others) and the effects of such for diverse learners; and the capacity to work collaboratively with peers and colleagues on professional questions of shared interest in both university and K-12 settings.

4. With the above program description in mind, what is your opinion of the APPLICANT'S POTENTIAL FOR SUCCESS IN THIS PROGRAM?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth/breadth of knowledge of the Subject(s) currently teaching</th>
<th>Knowledge of teaching and learning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional Upper 5%</td>
<td>Very Good Next 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to teach diverse learners without stereotypes expectations</td>
<td>Motivation and perseverance toward pursuing own goals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tolerance for ambiguity, uncertainty</td>
<td>Intuitiveness and attention to nuance, subtlety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creativity in designing challenging curricula and activities</td>
<td>Ability to work independently with confidence and little guidance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disposition and ability to work collaboratively with colleagues</td>
<td>Ability to express ideas in writing coherently and with clarity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidence in publicly expressing opinions/positions on issues</td>
<td>Openness to and tolerance of others' ideas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to critically analyze proposals, policies, practices</td>
<td>Effectiveness in defining and resolving problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disposition to be reflective about own beliefs and practice</td>
<td>Interest in school/institution and contributing toward shared goals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest in the families and communities served by institution</td>
<td>Achievements relative to the degree of challenge in work setting</td>
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</table>
5. **SUMMARY EVALUATION:** In comparison with a representative group of students and/or professionals in the same field who have had approximately the same amount of experience and training, how do you rate the applicant in academic knowledge, scholarly ability, and/or his or her professional knowledge, disposition, and skills as an educator? *(Check under the area for which you know the candidate best)*

**AS A STUDENT**
- Outstanding (comparable to the best; highest 5%)
- Very Good (next highest 10%)
- Good (next 10%)
- Below Average
- No basis for judgement

**AS AN EDUCATOR**
- Outstanding (comparable to the best; highest 5%)
- Very Good (next highest 10%)
- Good (next 10%)
- Below Average
- No basis for judgement

6. **SOME GIFTED INDIVIDUALS MAKE MEDIocre SCHOLASTIC RECORDS.** Is the applicant's academic record, as you know it, an accurate index of his or her scholastic ability?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
   - [ ] Don't know

If your answer is "no," please explain briefly in your letter, possibly giving considerations to the applicant's performance in independent study or other special projects and achievements you are aware of which transcripts or grades would not demonstrate.

7. **IN AN ATTACHED LETTER TO THIS FORM**, briefly describe those strengths and/or limitations of the applicant with which you are most familiar and would like to comment on. *(Please refer back to #3 and #4.)*

8. **RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMISSION TO GRADUATE STUDY** *(mark with a X on the continuum below)*

   - [ ] I highly recommend
   - [ ] Recommend
   - [ ] Recommend with reservation
   - [ ] I do not recommend

9. **ANY OTHER COMMENTS**

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   _Signature of Recommender_  _Date_

   Name  _Institution_  _Address_

   Title  _Phone_  _Email_

(C:\brandau\Word\Admissions)