

# What are colleges looking for in a letter of recommendation?

## Classroom Contributions

- Ability to ask good questions, accomplishments on special projects, your contributions to help others in the class

## Interest in Learning

- Passion for particular subject and/or love of learning

## Academic Achievement

- Academic abilities (not necessarily grades); how you compare to other students the letter writer has taught

## Personal Challenges/ Hardships

- Circumstances in your life that may have made your educational pursuits more difficult

## Personal Anecdotes

- Specific examples that illustrate something meaningful about your character

## Impact on School

- The various ways you have contributed to the school community through your activities

## Leadership Ability

- Your leadership within a specific activity

## Interests Outside School

- The importance of activities out school (i.e. community service, church, part-time work, etc.)