



College of Basic Sciences  
Department of Physics & Astronomy

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## Reference Letter for REU Program

\_\_\_\_\_, who is applying to the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program in Physics & Astronomy at Louisiana State University, requests a letter of reference from you. The application deadline is March 1, 2012; we ask that letters be received by this date.

We ask that you submit a written letter of recommendation on your institution's letterhead, as well as return this page with the information below completed. A substantial part of our evaluation will be based on your written letter. Please use the letter to describe the student's qualifications for participating in a Research Experience for Undergraduates program. Items of particular interest include:

- scholastic aptitude;
- work ethic and maturity;
- motivation and aptitude for research;
- particular strengths or weaknesses;
- ability to flourish in group and/or semi-independent situations;
- whether you would choose to work with this student as a research mentor;
- how well you know the applicant; and
- relative ranking of applicant among his/her peers.

As part of REU program participation, the student will prepare a written report and present a poster at our annual Summer Undergraduate Research Forum. We hope that you can provide your student with an opportunity to give an additional poster presentation or department seminar at his/her home institution during the Fall semester following the REU program.

Please send your reference letter directly to the REU Program Director, Dr. Kip Matthews. Submission by e-mail is preferred.

By email:      [reu@phys.lsu.edu](mailto:reu@phys.lsu.edu)  
By mail:       REU Program Director  
                 Louisiana State University  
                 Dept. of Physics & Astronomy  
                 Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4001

Referee's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of time acquainted with applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Capacity in which you know applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** Reference letters will be kept confidential. Only the REU program director, department faculty assisting with applicant evaluations, and the REU student's faculty mentor will view the reference letters.