

HIGH MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

Teacher Recommendation Form



TO THE STUDENT: Semester and Summer Term applications require two teacher recommendations, at least one of which should be from a current teacher in an academic subject. High Peaks Adventure applications require one teacher recommendation.

Applicant's Name: _____

School: _____

Program for which student is applying:

HMI Semester

The HMI Semester is a unique opportunity for juniors in high school to spend a semester living and studying in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Our school has three integral components: a rigorous academic program involving honors- and AP-level academic curriculum; a wilderness program that includes three extended backpacking trips during which students develop their leadership skills, gain confidence, and confront intellectual challenges; and our residential life program, where students are able to practice their leadership, communication, and group participation skills.

HMI Summer Term

The HMI Summer Term is a six-week summer program for rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors that combines place-based academic course offerings with an extensive leadership development curriculum. The program includes two wilderness trips in the Colorado Rockies that allow students to continue their academic studies, develop community and practice their leadership skills.

High Peaks Adventure

The High Peaks Adventure is a two-week outdoor adventure in the Colorado Rockies for students who have completed 7th or 8th grade. The trip includes an extended backpacking expedition, mountain biking, rock climbing, and white-water rafting.

TO THE TEACHER: Students need not have any prior camping experience to participate in High Mountain Institute programs, but should expect to carry all of their equipment in backpacks, live outdoors, and experience a wide range of weather conditions. The Semester and Summer Term both include a rigorous junior-year academic curriculum. We are seeking curious, motivated, and energetic students who are ready to work hard and try new things. Applications to our programs are typically competitive and your candid evaluation of the applicant is greatly appreciated.

Please respond to the following questions. If you would prefer, you may opt to attach a letter of recommendation that addresses these topics.

1. What is your relationship to the applicant? How long have you known him or her?

2. What are the applicant's greatest strengths? Areas for improvement?

3. How would you describe the applicant as a student?

4. Please comment on the applicant's ability to get along with others, leadership skills, maturity, and sense of humor.

5. Please comment on the applicant's initiative and work ethic.

6. Backpacking expeditions may involve challenges related to physical strength, weather, and interpersonal dynamics. Given your experience of the applicant, how do you think he/she will manage those challenges?

7. Is there anything else you would like to add?

May we contact you for more information? Yes No

Home Phone #: _____ Work Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Name (please print): _____ Signature: _____

TO THE TEACHER: Please return this form/written letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope directly to the student OR e-mail the completed form/written letter of recommendation directly to HMI at admissions@hminet.org.

Applications for the HMI Semester and Summer Term are due by February 15. Early application to the High Peaks Adventure is encouraged. Please feel free to contact the HMI Admissions Office at (719) 486-8200, ext 1 or admissions@hminet.org with questions or comments.

