Please return form to:

[calpg-research@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:calpg-research@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

**By: 4 p.m. on Friday, 25th April 2014**

# College of Arts and Law

# Distance Learning MA by Research Bursary Reference Form

You have been nominated as a referee in support of an application for postgraduate study at the **University of Birmingham**. We would be grateful if you would provide us with a reference on the applicant's academic and general suitability to undertake the proposed course of study.

**Please note** that this reference will also be used to assess a candidate’s suitability to receive funding, therefore please complete all sections fully.

How to submit a reference:

* On this form, by email (from a work based email address (e.g. .**ac.uk, .nhs.net** or **.gov.uk** etc)

If you are supplying a **professional reference** rather than an academic reference please only complete the relevant sections and comment on how the applicant’s professional experience makes them suitable for the proposed course.

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|  | | |
| **Applicant’s name:** | **Course applied to:** | **Date:** |
|  |  |  |
| **Referee’s name:** | **Signature:**  *(Not required if sent from an official email address – see above)* | **Stamp/Seal** |
|  |  |  |
| **Company or Institution:** | | |
|  | | |
| **In what capacity do you know this applicant (dissertation supervisor, personal tutor, course leader, line manager etc.)?** | | |
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| **How long have you known the applicant?** | | |
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| Please tick here if you do not consent for us to disclose the information provided in this reference, to the applicant. If requested by the individual to release this information, we will take your consent preference into account when considering all of the circumstances and deciding whether it is appropriate. |  |

**Academic Referees only**

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| Please indicate the ranking  of this student (where possible): | In top 1-5% of year |  |
| In top 10% of year |  |
| In top 25% of year |  |
| In top 50% of year |  |
| In bottom 50% of year |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Poor** | **Average** | **Good** | **Very good** |
| Level of motivation for research: |  |  |  |  |
| Intellectual ability: |  |  |  |  |
| Ability to communicate - written: |  |  |  |  |
| Ability to communicate – spoken: |  |  |  |  |

Would you recruit this applicant to your research group or PG course? Y / N / NA

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Undergraduate study.** Please give a result of any undergraduate-level degree this candidate is currently undertaking or has recently undertaken.  Is this an **actual** grade or a **predicted** grade? (Delete as appropriate). | Actual /  Predicted |
| **Postgraduate study.** Please give a result of any Masters-level degree this candidate is currently undertaking or has recently undertaken.  Is this an **actual** grade or a **predicted** grade? (Delete as appropriate). | Actual /  Predicted |

Professional and/or Academic reference section

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| 1. **Previous performance:** Include a realistic assessment of the quality of the applicant’s academic work and performance to date (providing evidence to support your comments). Please be as specific as possible. |
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| 1. **Potential for postgraduate study:** Evidence of the candidate’s aptitude and preparedness for the proposed course of study. Please provide an assessment of the candidate’s experience to date, and his/her potential to complete the course in the light of this assessment. |
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| 1. **Preparedness for Masters level study:** Your assessment of the applicant’s preparedness to undertake the proposed research project, including their capacity for original thought and ability to grasp concepts and reason analytically. |
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| 1. **The applicant’s motivation and perseverance in achieving objectives.** Comment on the applicant’s ability to complete postgraduate studies successfully and on time. Please provide evidence of work which has previously been completed within a given timescale. |
|  |

**Other comments**