



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Research
& Enrichment Programs

Pennoni Honors College

STAR Scholars Program: Recommender Guidelines

Thank you for agreeing to write a recommendation for a prospective STAR Scholar!

The STAR Scholars Program is looking for students who are curious, engaged, and dedicated to learning more about their area of study to participate in full-time, faculty-mentored research, scholarship, or creative work during the summer between their first and second years. Students applying for the STAR Scholars Program must complete an online application and secure a recommendation from a Drexel faculty member or instructor, Drexel staff member, or Drexel graduate student. More information about the STAR Scholars Program and the application process can be found online at www.drexel.edu/starscholars

In place of a traditional letter of recommendation, we are asking that recommenders complete a recommendation form. ***The link to this recommendation form will be emailed to you upon the student's submission of their completed application in the online portal.*** The deadline for the STAR Scholars application (the students' materials) is 12:00pm noon on Monday, January 26, 2026. Recommendation forms must be completed and submitted no later than 12:00pm noon on Monday, February 2, 2026.

The recommender form will ask for short responses to the following questions:

- ☐ Please clarify how you know this student and for how long you've known them. (50 words max)
- ☐ Please comment on the student's academic ability and quality of work. If available, please also include how this student compares to other students you've taught or with whom you've interacted. (100 words max)
- ☐ How has this student demonstrated reliability, responsibility, maturity, trustworthiness, and/or diligence? (100 words max)
- ☐ How has this student demonstrated other skills relevant to research - creative or critical thinking skills, organizational ability and time-management skills, specific research skills, etc.? (100 words max)
- ☐ Please reflect on the student's motivation and engagement. This can be in the context of research and/or the STAR Scholars Program, specifically, or it can be more general enthusiasm or motivation to learn for the sake of learning. (150 words max)
- ☐ Please offer any other comments that you may like to include for the committee's consideration.

Recommendation Deadline: Monday, February 2, 2026 by 12:00pm noon

Please contact Undergraduate Research & Enrichment Programs with any questions at urep@drexel.edu