

Helpful Student Brag Sheet Questions for Counselor Letters of Recommendation

Letters of recommendation are an opportunity to share firsthand evidence of what a student is like in an academic setting, what drives them, and what they're passionate about.

The questions that you ask should help ensure that you're able to describe a student's academic character, impact outside of the classroom, and personal qualities effectively. Counselor letters can provide a macro-level view on how a student has engaged in academic and non-academic settings over the entire course of their high school experience. It can also complement the school profile by highlighting school specific programs, opportunities, or challenges that a student experienced.

Below are some sample questions that may prove useful when writing letters of recommendation.

The Basics

- What excites you about going to college?
- What are you most proud of from your high school experience?
- Are there any challenges you faced as a student (in class, out of class, scheduling, etc.)? How did you overcome them?

Academic Experiences

- What subjects were you most interested in? Why?
- Which class has had the biggest impact on you? Why?
- What type of environment do you thrive in (collaborative, hands-on, discussion, independent, etc.)? Why?

Non-Academic Experiences

- Briefly describe the leadership role (formal or informal) that has been most important to you.
- In what activities outside of the classroom do you feel like you've had the biggest impact? How? Which have had the biggest impact on you?
- Are there any special or unusual circumstances you've experienced (that you'd like to share) or is there anything that needs more clarification?