Emerging Leaders Award: Guidelines for Letters of Support

Call for Applications: October 20, 2017 – January 12, 2018 (11:59pm)
Administering Department: Student Life
Internal Address: 225 University Centre, Fort Garry Campus

Thank you for your interest in supporting an application for the University of Manitoba Emerging Leaders Award. The following criteria will be used to select up to 75 award recipients for the 2017/2018 academic year.

Selection Criteria

A University of Manitoba Emerging Leader is:

Any current full-time or part-time University of Manitoba undergraduate or graduate student with a minimum 2.5 GPA, in any faculty, school or program that:

- Supports the University’s educational mission by contributing to the social, cultural or economic well-being of communities on and/or off campus
- Encourages cross-cultural understanding
- Demonstrates sustained leadership and initiative that is worthy of recognition
- Has completed at least one year of study at the University of Manitoba

Applicants and Referees should know that:

- An online application (filled out by the student) and two letters of support are required (see below for additional information)
- The selection committee defines leadership in its broadest sense
- Applications will be evaluated on the quality, not quantity, of leadership described in their submission

Applicants who were selected as Emerging Leaders in 2016/2017 are ineligible to re-apply.
Application questions

In addition to demographic and personal information, applicants were asked the following questions in the application. It was recommended that students provide a pdf of their application to help guide your letter of support.

- Please outline any leadership initiatives or activities you have been involved with, as well as the dates and duration of commitment for these involvements.
- Of the initiatives previously outlined, please expand upon up to three to include details about the breadth and depth of leadership that you displayed, including your role and impact that you had to the University community or to another community.
- The University of Manitoba has outlined several key values integral to the vision of the university within the Strategic Planning Framework. Please select up to three of these values (excellence, integrity, equity and diversity, accountability, innovation, humanity, responsibility to society, environmental sustainability, and academic freedom), and outline how you embody these values as an emerging leader.
- Select one of the University of Manitoba’s power words (adventurer, challenger, defender, innovator, trailblazer, visionary), and describe how you demonstrate leadership in this capacity.

Letters of Support

Two letters of support are required to complete an application for the Emerging Leaders Award, in order to gain a comprehensive view of an applicant’s leadership contributions. Letters of Support should be no longer than 2 pages.

Who can be a Referee?

- One referee must be a University of Manitoba staff or faculty member (who must be able to directly support your University of Manitoba involvement), and
- the second referee may be one of your choice.

Please note that the University of Manitoba staff or faculty member does not have to be an academic reference, and can include staff from U of M affiliated organizations such as UMSU or CanU. Please additionally note that familial references will not be accepted.

What to include?

Please explain how you know the applicant, and how long you’ve know them. Please also comment on how the applicant meets the above stated Selection Criteria. Details such as specific activities in which the applicant participated and the amount of time contributed are helpful. The information you provide will be considered carefully by the Selected Committee and all letters will be held in confidence.
How to Submit?
These letters must be submitted to the Student Life Office no later than 11:59pm on Friday, January 12, 2018. Letters can be submitted by email (in PDF format) to emerging.leaders@umanitoba.ca or in person (in a sealed and signed envelope) to 225 University Centre. Referee may also mail their letter of support in a signed sealed envelope to:

  Emerging Leaders Award  
  c/o Jade Kirstein  
  225 University Centre  
  University of Manitoba  
  Winnipeg, MB  
  R3T 2N2

Final notes
Applicants will be contacted regarding the status of their application in mid-February.

Award recipients will receive an invitation to the Emerging Leaders Dinner (March 2018) and an award certificate.

Questions
Any additional questions about the Emerging Leaders Award can be directed to emerging.leaders@umanitoba.ca or 204-474-9155.