



# HONORS PROGRAM REFERENCE FORM

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Dear Reference Writer:

Before you begin this form, we think it is important for you to know what type of students we are looking for in the Birmingham-Southern College Honors Program.

*Ideal Honors students are not preoccupied with grades. They are eager to explore knowledge for knowledge's sake, not knowledge in pursuit of an end goal. Thus, ideal Honors students may not be on the Honor roll every semester. They are interested in other disciplines and how they affect the goings on of their own fields. They embrace the liberal arts philosophy and seek out the thinkers in the community, eager to discuss new ideas and philosophies with their peers, both within and outside of their major fields of study. Ideal Honors students have a concept of the world as larger than the town they grew up in or the high school they will graduate from. Such students are global thinkers, concerned with the goings on of the world outside as well as active in the community in which they live. These are students who, if they can't see the whole picture just yet, are continually eager to see more of it. Honors students are open to new ideas, aware of expanding horizons, and willing to change their own ideas to make room for the knowledge that they gain. They incorporate, embrace, and encourage differences. "Honors" is not synonymous with straight A's and valedictorians. Ideal Honors students would participate in the program even if it did not appear on their transcripts.*

Thus, your evaluation of this student is most important to our selection process and will become a permanent part of his/her application.

	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor	Not Observed
Displays intellectual curiosity						
Displays motivation or initiative						
Displays diligence or perseverance						
Displays emotional stability						
Possesses ability to work independently						
Possesses writing skills						
Fulfills assignments on time						
Presents ideas orally with confidence and clarity						
Displays evidence of scholarship						

How long and in what capacity have you known this student?

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Please tell us what you think is relevant or significant regarding this individual's ability to:

1. Critically read and analyze detailed articles.

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2. Participate actively in the discussion of intellectual ideas.

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3. Pursue independent research.

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Please include any additional comments that you believe would assist us in the evaluation of this candidate.

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Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

The Honors Program Committee thanks you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this student's application to our program.