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**YOUR CLFP Letter of Recommendation**

As part of the application for the Connecting Leaders Fellowship, we ask each candidate to submit one letter of recommendation from someone who knows the candidate’s work well.

**Advice on Seeking Letters of Recommendation**

In reviewing applications for the Connecting Leaders Fellowship for the past few years, the Selection Committee has developed the following advice for seeking letters of recommendation. There is a noticeable difference in letters in which the candidate took an active role in shaping it. With this in mind, we suggest:

♦Let them know the questions asked on the application or the qualifications listed for the position.

♦Provide your recommender with specific examples of your work that you intend to discuss in your application or interview. When the letter reinforces and echoes your description of yourself the impression is very powerful.

* **Write in your own voice – be you!**
	+ - ABFE and the selection committee wants to get to know the real you.
		- Avoid jargon
* **Sounding Board - Talk to your recommender about why you want the Fellowship**
	+ - Help craft your recommendation, let your recommender know why this is important to you.
		- Letters in which the recommender specifically addressed skills sets sought in the application make a big impression on the committee.
* **Find examples of Leadership in your work experience/stories**
	+ - Don’t be afraid to “toot your own horn”. Self-advocacy isn’t a crime.

Your recommender will appreciate your input, as it will help make writing the letter easier. At the same time, the dialogue you open can lead to some great discussions for your own professional development**. Remember, this letter should be submitted along with your application via the application link.**