

# CSSC Scholarship — Letter of Recommendation

*Instructions for Letter Writers*

*The CSSC (Coordinated Support for Success in Computing) Program is an NSF-funded scholarship for academically talented engineering and cybersecurity students with demonstrated financial need. Recipients receive up to \$15,000/year, faculty mentorship, early access to advisors, and professional development workshops and coaching.*

## THANK YOU

Your letter plays a meaningful role in the CSSC selection process. The committee values perspectives from people who know our applicants well — as students, workers, and individuals. Thank you for taking the time to support this applicant.

## WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are seeking the next generation of computer engineers and cybersecurity professionals. The ideal CSSC Scholar demonstrates one or more of these qualities:

<b>Peer-Leadership</b>	Values teamwork and aspires to help others.
<b>Academic Potential</b>	Values education and training; motivated to improve and achieve future goals.
<b>Interest in STEM</b>	Interested in pursuing a career in Computer Engineering or Cybersecurity.
<b>Coachability &amp; Openness</b>	Has a growth mindset; receptive to mentorship and feedback.

## HOW TO WRITE YOUR LETTER

- Address at least one of the four criteria above. You do not need to address all four.
- Check with the applicant to confirm which criteria you should focus on — they will share their essay topic with you.
- Feel free to include other relevant information about the applicant's leadership, interests, or academics.
- Your letter can provide important context and detail that the applicant does not have space for in their 300-word essay. This is extremely helpful to the selection committee.
- Please limit your letter to no more than 2 pages. More is not necessarily better.
- Address your letter to: CSSC Selection Committee.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

- Applicants are scheduled for an interview with the selection committee and will have the opportunity to expand on the criteria in person.
- The committee does not expect an applicant to have an extensive resume or work history — we are looking for potential and motivation.

*Questions? Contact Pete Brandsness at [brandsness@klamathcc.edu](mailto:brandsness@klamathcc.edu)*