



**(Optional) Factors not addressed in the applicant's Statement of Purpose**

Describe personal attributes, abilities, or work experience that you would like us to consider in our evaluation of your application. If your grades do not reflect your academic potential, you may explain why here.

**To complete your application, please attach the following:**

- A. Copies of transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate (if any) course work.
- B. Copies of GRE scores.
- C. Two letters of recommendation in sealed envelopes. One must be from a science faculty member. They may use the attached form. Provide the name, department, and a phone number (or email address) for each referee.
  - 1.
  - 2.
- D. A short statement of purpose (not to exceed two pages) explaining your interest in the program and outlining your area of academic interest, career objectives, and any special aspects of your undergraduate education, work experience, or personal experience that inspired you to pursue graduate study.

***I understand that the Bridges to the Doctorate Program is funded for the purpose of supporting graduate students in biomedical research only. If I am seeking a medical degree I will not apply. I further understand that my personal commitment to the Bridges Program is 20 hours per week during the academic year and full-time (40 hours/week) during the summer. If I cannot meet this commitment, I will notify the program director immediately. I will also notify the program director if my career goals change from a research career, and I will forfeit my fellowship.***

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Selection is based on eligibility requirements, academic merit, potential for success in a Ph.D. program, and the strength of your references and statement. Return completed applications to Dr. Michael Summers, Department of Biology, CSU Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330-8303.

## **Bridges to the Ph.D. Program – *Confidential Reference Form***

**Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last, First, Middle Initial)

1. What is your association and how long have you known the applicant?

2. Comment on the applicant with regard to the following criteria:

**A. Academic Performance**

**B. Professional Promise**

**C. Character, Attitude, and Work Ethic**

**D. Extracurricular Activities**

**E. Leadership Potential**

3. Evaluate the applicant's ability to successfully complete a Master's degree at CSUN and continue on to a Ph.D. program at the UC level.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    )

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Please return to the student in a sealed envelope and write your signature across the seal for inclusion in their application. If this is not convenient, you may return your evaluation to:

**Dr. Robert Espinoza, Coordinator**  
**Bridges to the Doctorate Program**  
**Department of Biology**  
**California State University, Northridge**  
**Northridge, CA 91330-8303**