



CENTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY
EDUCATION

**Letters of Recommendation for the
Baird Sustainability Fellows Program**

To the Applicant: Please provide the information requested in red below and choose whether or not to waive your access rights; then e-mail this form to your reference and ask them to forward the completed form and their letter to the Center for Sustainability Education (CSE) at sustainability@dickinson.edu by March 21, 2023. Please ask your reference no later than one-week before the application deadline. A late letter will not be considered unless the applicant can provide evidence that the letter was requested more than one week in advance.

_____ (Name of applicant) requests that you write a letter of recommendation to support their application to be a Baird Sustainability Fellowship.

Applicant's Authorization: Student applicants should please complete the following.

Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974:

I waive ____ (x) or retain ____ (x) my rights of access to this recommendation and understand that the information provided will only be used for the purpose for which it was prepared.

Type Name: _____ Date: _____

I give my permission for the recommendation to be sent via e-mail to: sustainability@dickinson.edu

Type Name: _____ Date: _____

Instructions to the Recommender:

Please review the information on the reverse side of this form about the Baird Sustainability Fellows program and criteria for selection of candidates, write a letter on behalf of the applicant, and submit the letter via email to sustainability@dickinson.edu **no later than March 11, 2022**. Please forward the student request form (above) with your letter.

In your letter, please:

- State how well you know the applicant and the length and nature of your relationship (e.g. applicant's professor, advisor, employer).
- Comment on the applicant's qualifications to be a Baird Sustainability Fellow, providing specific examples as possible.

Note that the Baird Sustainability Fellows program is a competitive program and applicants are evaluated with respect to the high standards as described in the selection criteria. Your letter on behalf of the applicant will play a critical role in helping the Baird Honors Committee to evaluate the applicant and make a decision.



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Overview of the Baird Sustainability Fellows Program

<http://www.dickinson.edu/bairdfellows>

The Baird Sustainability Fellows program empowers students by building their skills as sustainability leaders and honors them for their achievements. Students accepted into the program participate in the Baird Honors Practicum, an interdisciplinary course in which high achieving students work with peers from diverse academic programs to advance skills as sustainability leaders, examine and evolve the values and beliefs that motivate their actions, and explore and prepare for opportunities after Dickinson.

The approach to sustainability is broad, encompassing intersecting aspirations for equity, justice, economic opportunity and healthy and resilient environments in a context of global change and global interdependence. The leadership model emphasizes shared, participatory leadership. The goal is to support students in enhancing their knowledge, skills and civic dispositions for acting to create positive change in the world.

The program is open to rising juniors and seniors from all fields of study. Past Baird Fellows have majored in anthropology, art, biology, chemistry, Earth sciences, economics, English, environmental studies, French, international studies, Italian, mathematics, physics, political science, psychology, sociology, Spanish, women, gender & sexuality studies and other fields.

Students who successfully complete the program earn recognition as Baird Sustainability Fellows, an honor that is noted on the Fellows' academic transcripts and in the Commencement program.

Please craft your letter and send it to sustainability@dickinson.edu by **March 21, 2023**.

Please consider and address how the applicant has demonstrated any of the following:

- Significant engagement in academic work and research that focus on or intersect with sustainability, broadly considered.
 - Demonstrated interests, engagement and accomplishments in action and service for advancing social, economic and/or environmental sustainability goals.
 - Demonstrated abilities to think critically about sustainability questions, problems and potential solutions; articulate connections between one's field of study and sustainability; and apply disciplinary or interdisciplinary knowledge and methods to analyze sustainability problems and solutions.
 - High scholastic achievement, normally evidenced by a 3.4 or higher GPA.
 - Character and behavior that exemplify the values of civic responsibility, environmental stewardship, social justice and global perspective.
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