

## Reference form for Applications for a PhD Scholarship

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### REFERENCE FORM FOR APPLICATIONS FOR A PHD SCHOLARSHIP FROM CUSANUSWERK

Cusanuswerk is one of 13 institutions in the plural scholarship system of the Federal Republic of Germany.

An integral part of the selection procedure are two academic references.

Our interdisciplinary selection committee is kindly asking you to provide answers to the following topics:

- The **basis** of you assessment
- How the applicant is **standing out in lectures**
- The **excellent abilities** that are qualifying the applicant for pursuing a PhD
- The **assessment of the research** proposal with regard to **content and methodology**
- The **relevance** of the research proposal for the academic field
- The **performance** of the applicant in comparison with other students

#### REFEREE

Surname, First name:

Position:

University:

Department:

Address:

Phone, Fax, Email:

#### APPLICANT

Surname, First name:

Subject of further study:

Address:

Address:

Phone:

Phone, Fax, Email:

## I. REFEREE REPORT

1. Since when do you know the applicant?

2. The assessment of the applicant is based on

a) her/his attendance of my

☐ lectures    ☐ seminars    ☐ classes/tutorials    ☐ practicals    ☐ on a personal conversation

b)

☐ only oral    ☐ only written    ☐ both oral and written examinations

c)

☐ only my personal impression

☐ only the impression of my colleagues named below

☐ on both my personal impression and the impression of my colleagues

Names of colleagues:

## II. ASSESSMENT ON THE BASIS OF PAST STUDIES

1. How do you classify the performance of the applicant in lectures, seminars or practicals or **based on a personal conversation** (In comparison to the reference group)? (top group:  $\leq 5\%$ )

☐  $\leq 5\%$     ☐  $6\% - 10\%$     ☐  $11\% - 20\%$     ☐  $21\% - 33\%$     ☐  $34\% - 50\%$     ☐  $> 51\%$

2. Please give a concise overall assessment with particular emphasis on the aptitude for independent academic work

3. How do you classify the applicant **in comparison with** a reference group of students? As a reference group, you may use the students you are teaching the applicant together with, for example. If possible, please specify type and size of the reference group. Please pay particular attention to performance, argumentation in academic discussions, qualification and personal profile.

### III. PLANNED PHD THESIS

1. Please outline the topic of the PhD thesis

a) with regard to contents

b) from a methodological perspective

2. What is the relevance of the PhD thesis for the research in the academic discipline and for the particular field?

3. Please assess critically the potential and the limitations of the PhD thesis from a professional and methodological perspective

4. How do you evaluate the research proposal?

**IV. FINAL ASSESSMENT**

1. Can you recommend the award of the scholarship?

With regard to the personal qualification of the applicant

☐ strongly ☐ without reservations ☐ with some reservations ☐ with strong reservations  
☐ with strong reservations

Taking into consideration the research proposal

☐ strongly ☐ without reservations ☐ with some reservations ☐ with strong reservations  
☐ with strong reservations

With regard to the scientific relevance of the project

☐ strongly ☐ without reservations ☐ with some reservations ☐ with strong reservations  
☐ with strong reservations

**V. FURTHER REMARKS TO THE APPLICANT OR THE PHD PROJECT**

*Date*

*Signature*