

Transforming Climate Action

International Postdoctoral Fellow
Confidential Reference Form

Call deadline:
February 28, 2027
11:59pm | Atlantic Time

Instructions

Reference letters must be provided in confidence for purposes of determining an applicant's suitability for admission into the International Postdoctoral Fellowship (IPDF) program.

This template must be filled out by an academic referee.

Reference letters are to be submitted by the referee directly to the Training and Early Career Development Program Manager (Tracey Woodhouse, tracey.woodhouse@dal.ca) with the subject "IPDF Reference Letter for (FIRST NAME, LAST NAME)" and should not be shared with the applicant.

Referee Information

Name of referee: _____

Position/rank: _____

Institution: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mailing address: _____

Knowledge of Applicant

In what capacity (e.g., teacher, supervisor, employer) have you known the applicant?

How long have you known the applicant (years/months)?

In what percentile do you compare the applicant to other postdoctoral fellows (e.g., top 25%)?

If you have not known the applicant in an academic or research capacity, please indicate the basis upon which you feel you are able to assess the applicant’s capability for postdoctoral research.

Special Abilities

For each category, place a checkmark under the most appropriate column.	Outstanding	Superior	Good	Average	Below average	No basis for judgement
Past academic achievements:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Scholarly promise:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Independent research capability:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
English proficiency - oral:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
English proficiency - written:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Creativity:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Resourcefulness:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Organizational skills:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Engagement across disciplines:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Respectful engagement*:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Technical aptitude:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

* In this instance, respectful engagement refers to the applicant’s understanding of, approach to, and incorporation of equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility (EDIA); education, training, and capacity building; and meaningful Indigenous engagement, to the extent opportunities were available.

General Assessment

Would you recommend that the applicant be accepted into the IPDF program?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you have any reservations?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Explain any reservations.

Additional comments on the applicant's: 1) ability to carry on advanced study and research; 2) teaching ability; 3) promise for a successful career in this field; 4) weaknesses, if any; and 5) communication skills (oral and written)? *(Maximum 150 words)*