

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR RECOMMENDERS – 2015-2016

Q: What is CPIC?

A: The Center for Public Interest Careers (CPIC) provides Harvard undergraduates and recent graduates with opportunities to explore public interest careers through six programs. These programs are: the CPIC Post-Graduate Fellowship Program, the CPIC Summer Fellowship Program, the Harvard Clubs Summer Community Service Fellowship (SCSF) Program, the Arthur Liman Public Interest Law Fellowship Program, Winter Break Volunteer program, and the Summer Work-Study Awards for Public Service. To learn more about CPIC, visit our Web site at: www.cpic.fas.harvard.edu.

Q: What is the CPIC Fellowship and Internship Program?

A: In the CPIC Fellowship and Internship Program, CPIC staff and alumni/ae volunteers match undergraduates and recent graduates with paid summer and post-graduate year-long positions in public interest organizations across the U.S. The program also provides various supports, including alumni/ae mentors, to fellows and interns.

Q: What should the letter include?

A: Since our programs offer students the opportunity to engage in substantive, paid public interest work, we ask that you discuss the student's commitment to service to the best of your ability. In addition to telling us how you know the student and how long you have worked with him or her, it is helpful to talk about the student's intelligence, research and writing ability, and skills working with others. Your letter will be shared not only with CPIC staff but also with potential employers. Instead of listing why a student should work at a particular organization, it is best to tell us why the student should participate in a public service program.

Q: Who can I contact with questions?

A: If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Travis Lovett, CPIC Director, at tlovett@fas.harvard.edu.