

The University of Akron * Firestone Fellows Strive Toward Excellence Program

58 Buckingham Building * Akron, OH 44325-7908 * 330.972.6818

SCHOOL COUNSELOR /PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATION

The individual named below is applying for admission to the Firestone Fellows Strive Toward Excellence Program, a pre-college preparatory program at The University of Akron. We are interested in attracting quality applicants who wish to pursue a college education upon graduation from high school. We appreciate your assistance in aiding us in the evaluation of the applicant. **Please return and attach a copy of the applicant's Student Transcript Report including IEP, if applicable, and current report card to the address below.**

APPLICANT NAME _____ GRADE _____

Mark only one box that best applies to the applicant.

	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	No Basis
Leadership					
Dependability					
Self-Confidence					
Rapport with peers					
Rapport with adults					
Capacity for hard work					
Manners					
Academic Achievement					
Motivation					
Maturity					
Behavior					

Please indicate on the **reverse side** of this form any special circumstances in the student's background or home life that could help us to better evaluate this applicant. *Include any serious or repeated disciplinary actions, suspensions or absences for an extended period.*

Overall Recommendation

- ☐ Enthusiastically recommend
☐ Recommend
☐ Recommend with reservation
☐ Do NOT recommend

Signature _____

Recommender Information

All recommendations must be received in our office no later than Friday, February 23, 2026

Name of Guidance Counselor (Please Print) _____

School _____

School Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

E-mail Address _____



RETURN FORM BY

MAIL:

The University of Akron
Strive Toward Excellence
Program 58 Buckingham Building
Akron, OH 44325-7908

SCAN & EMAIL

jb54@uakron.edu

Over

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

APPLICANT NAME: _____ GRADE: _____

Lined area for additional comments.

The University of Akron * Firestone Fellows Strive Toward Excellence Program

Buckingham Building 58 * Akron, OH 44325-7909 * 330.972.6683

MATH TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

All recommendations must be received in our office no later than Friday, February 23 2026

APPLICANT NAME _____ GRADE _____

The individual named above, has applied for admission into The University of Akron's Strive Toward Excellence Program (STEP). STEP is a unique college preparatory program for select students in the Akron area. A prerequisite for program admission consideration is a recommendation from the student's Math teacher. We appreciate the time and effort that you will be taking to provide us with your assessment of the applicant.

Academics

Part I: Please mark the appropriate boxes that best describes the applicants overall academic performance in your class.

	Above Grade Level	At Grade Level	Below Grade Level
Oral Expression			
Creativity			
Test & Quiz Results			
Teamwork			
Organized			

Part II: Please mark the appropriate boxes that best describes the applicants overall academic performance in your class.

	Check box if statement is accurate
• Does not study	
• Missing homework	
• The applicant has low quizzes and/or test scores	
• Lacks classroom participation because he/she does not understand the goals and objectives of what is being taught	
• Unable to understand the concept(s), but works appropriately and demonstrates the hard work and effort needed to be successful in my class	
• Could benefit from tutoring or extra credit	
• Works at grade level	
• Not working at grade level	

Part III: Do you believe that the student is working up to his/her full potential? Yes _____ No _____

If not, what do you believe is the hindrance that is preventing them?

Over

Behavior

Part I: Please mark the appropriate boxes that best describes the applicants overall behavioral performance in your class.

	Above Grade Level	At Grade Level	Below Grade Level
Ethics and Integrity			
Self-Confidence			
Attitude			
Dependability			
Motivation			
Peer Relations			
Behavior			
Parental Involvement			
Leadership Characteristics			

Part II: Please mark the appropriate boxes that best describes the applicants overall behavioral performance in your class.

	Check box if statement is accurate
• Excessively talks during class and his/her grade along with citizenship mark reflect this behavior	
• Lacks classroom participation, but focuses on peer relationships during classroom instruction	
• Displays poor attitude during redirection of behavior and does not take ownership of his/her poor choices	
• Demonstrates leadership roles in the classroom and uses all resources to access support systems, if needed	
• Works hard at modeling appropriate behavior in the classroom setting and it reflects in his/her grade and/or citizenship mark	
• Respects authority	

Part III: Please indicate any special circumstances in the student's background or home life that could help us better evaluate this applicant. *Include any serious or repeated disciplinary actions, suspensions or absences for an extended period.*

Recommender Information

Name of Teacher (Please Print) _____ **MATH Subject** _____

School _____

School Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip Code** _____

E-mail Address _____

Overall Recommendation

- ☐ Enthusiastically recommend
☐ Recommend
☐ Recommend with reservation
☐ Do NOT recommend

Signature

FORMS MAY BE RETURNED BY

MAIL The University of Akron
Strive Toward Excellence Program
58 Buckingham Building
Akron, OH 44325-7908

SCAN
jb54@uakron.edu

The University of Akron * Firestone Fellows Strive Toward Excellence Program

Buckingham Building 58 * Akron, OH 44325-7909 * 330.972.6683

ENGLISH TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

All recommendations must be received in our office no later than Friday, February 23, 2026.

APPLICANT NAME _____ GRADE _____

The individual named above, has applied for admission into The University of Akron's Strive Toward Excellence Program (STEP). STEP is a unique college preparatory program for select students in the Akron area. A prerequisite for program admission consideration is a recommendation from the student's English teacher. We appreciate the time and effort that you will be taking to provide us with your assessment of the applicant.

Academics

Part I: Please mark the appropriate boxes that best describes the applicants overall academic performance in your class.

	Above Grade Level	At Grade Level	Below Grade Level
Oral Expression			
Creativity			
Test & Quiz Results			
Teamwork			
Organized			

Part II: Please mark the appropriate boxes that best describes the applicants overall academic performance in your class.

	Check box if statement is accurate
• Does not study	
• Missing homework	
• The applicant has low quizzes and/or test scores	
• Lacks classroom participation because he/she does not understand the goals and objectives of what is being taught	
• Unable to understand the concept(s), but works appropriately and demonstrates the hard work and effort needed to be successful in my class	
• Could benefit from tutoring or extra credit	
• Works at grade level	
• Not working at grade level	

Part III: Do you believe that the student is working up to his/her full potential? Yes _____ No _____

If not, what do you believe is the hindrance that is preventing them?

Over

Behavior

Part I: Please mark the appropriate boxes that best describes the applicants overall behavioral performance in your class.

	Above Grade Level	At Grade Level	Below Grade Level
Ethics and Integrity			
Self-Confidence			
Attitude			
Dependability			
Motivation			
Peer Relations			
Behavior			
Parental Involvement			
Leadership Characteristics			

Part II: Please mark the appropriate boxes that best describes the applicants overall behavioral performance in your class.

	Check box if statement is accurate
• Excessively talks during class and his/her grade along with citizenship mark reflect this behavior	
• Lacks classroom participation, but focuses on peer relationships during classroom instruction	
• Displays poor attitude during redirection of behavior and does not take ownership of his/her poor choices	
• Demonstrates leadership roles in the classroom and uses all resources to access support systems, if needed	
• Works hard at modeling appropriate behavior in the classroom setting and it reflects in his/her grade and/or citizenship mark	
• Respects authority	

Part III: Please indicate any special circumstances in the student's background or home life that could help us better evaluate this applicant. *Include any serious or repeated disciplinary actions, suspensions or absences for an extended period.*

Recommender Information

Name of Teacher (Please Print) _____ **ENGLISH** _____
Subject

School _____

School Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip Code** _____

E-mail Address _____

Overall Recommendation

- ☐ Enthusiastically recommend
☐ Recommend
☐ Recommend with reservation
☐ Do NOT recommend

Signature

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