

**THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE**

**Doctoral Program in Social Work  
Request for Reference**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Attention Doctoral Applicant:**

Please sign one of the sections below and send this form to your reference. Public Law 93-380 permits students or alumni to have access to their files or to waive the right to see recommendations written concerning them after January 1, 1975. Please indicate your preference by signing **one** of the following:

- a. I understand that Public Law 93-380 provides for access to my file and I wish to retain my right to review the references under the condition specified.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- b. In accordance with 438 (a) (B) (iii) of Public Law 93-380, I hereby freely waive my right to access to all letters of recommendation sent in conjunction with my application to the doctoral program in social work. I understand that these letters may not be used for any purposes other than evaluation of my qualifications for admission, and that by signing this waiver, I obtain the right to learn the names of any and all persons submitting such letters.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Description**

The Ph.D. program in Social Work is a program of advanced study for holders of masters degrees in Social Work or closely aligned fields. Our program emphasizes scholarship and research that promote personal and community strengths, diversity, justice, and critical creative thinking.

We are requesting that applicants for admission to the Ph.D. Program in Social Work send this form to persons they have selected as references. As part of our assessment, we would appreciate receiving your frank appraisal of this candidate's potential for successful work at the doctoral level and capacity for making a scholarly contribution to social work.

In constructing your response, we would like you to address the following areas, as well as adding any other information that you consider important to our assessment. We appreciate your candid appraisal of this applicant.

- Length and nature of relationship with applicant.
- Applicant's intellectual ability and capacity for analytic thinking as evidenced orally and in writing.
- Evidence of research aptitude and skills.
- Assessment of applicant's practice skills and commitment to development of social work practice, including commitment and adherence to social work values.
- Special abilities or limitations.

**Please return this form with your letter of reference to:**

University of Kansas  
Graduate School  
School of Social Welfare  
1450 Jayhawk Blvd. Room 300  
Lawrence, KS 66044

Please feel free to contact the Doctoral Program chair, Dr. Edward Canda, for further information at (785) 864-4720 or by e-mail at edc@ukans.edu .