

*This is a fillable form. You may need to download it to enable the form.*

Applicant's Name: _____ Name of Person Providing Reference: _____ Position: _____ How long have you known this person? _____ In what capacity? _____
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**Our M.S. Ed. in Early Childhood is designed specifically for educators who wish to become leaders in their classrooms, schools, districts, or other educational settings. We are looking for educators with the potential to become leaders; and who would benefit from a program designed to build these skills and characteristics.**

Leadership Capacity						
N= Not observed   1= Not yet present   2= Emerging   3= Progressing   4= Applying   5= Innovating	N	1	2	3	4	5
<b>1. Promoting Child Development and Learning</b> The applicant is grounded in a child development knowledge base.						
<b>2. Building Family and Community Relationships</b> The applicant understands that successful early childhood education depends upon partnerships with children's families and communities.						
<b>3. Observing, Documenting and Assessing to Support Young Children and Families</b> The applicant understands that child observation, documentation, and other forms of assessment are central to the practice of all early childhood professionals.						
<b>4. Using and Developmentally Effective Approaches to Connect with Children and Families</b> The applicant understands that teaching and learning with young children is a complex enterprise, and its details vary depending on children's ages, characteristics, and the settings within which teaching and learning occur.						
<b>5. Using Content Knowledge to Build Meaningful Curriculum</b> The applicant uses their knowledge of academic disciplines to design, implement, and evaluate experiences that promote positive development and learning for each and every young child.						
<b>6. Growing as a Professional</b> The applicant identifies and conducts themselves as members of the early childhood profession.						

Please rate his/her capacity for graduate work by selecting the appropriate number on the scale below.						
N indicates not observed, 1 indicates need for improvement and 5 indicates an area of strength.	N	1	2	3	4	5
Written and oral communication						
Capacity for graduate work						
Receptive to feedback						
Commitment to lifelong learning						

Caring Teachers						
N= Not observed   1= Not yet present   2= Emerging   3= Progressing   4= Applying   5= Innovating	N	1	2	3	4	5
Examine educational cultures from multiple perspectives						
Create shared visions for teaching and learning; build mutually beneficial partnerships, and engage with colleagues, families, and communities to address educational needs						
Use knowledge of child and adult development to create respectful, inclusive, supportive, and challenging learning environments						

Competent Educators						
N=Not observed   1= Not yet present   2= Emerging   3= Progressing   4= Applying   5= Innovating	N	1	2	3	4	5
Translate knowledge of learning theory into practices that demonstrate cultural competence and values of inclusive education						
Design and differentiate curriculum, instruction, and assessment for all learners						
Leverage digital tools to support teaching and learning						
Investigate practices through engagement with educational research						
Challenge themselves and colleagues to expand and enrich their professional development						
Collaborative Professional Leaders						
N= Not observed   1= Not yet present   2= Emerging   3= Progressing   4= Applying   5= Innovating	N	1	2	3	4	5
Communicate effectively with diverse audiences						
Demonstrate leadership skills of strategic thinking, collaboration, consensus building, and the ability to create change while sustaining effective practices						
Understand politics and organizations and advocate for students, colleagues, and the profession						
Create positive outcomes for children, families, and the profession while sustaining evidenced-based practices						
Incorporate ethical practices into a reflective and responsible leadership style						

**To submit the recommendation, please:**

- Print, sign, and mail/fax to the address below OR
- Save PDF, attach, and send directly to gradstudies@maine.edu from your email address, this acts as a digital signature for the form

Is there anything else you would like to share regarding the applicant’s candidacy for the University of Maine at Farmington’s Master of Science in Education in Early Childhood Education? *Feel free to use the box below or additional sheet of paper.*

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