

The logo consists of a red square with the text "THE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION OF COLORADO" in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, centered within the square.

THE WOMEN'S
FOUNDATION
OF COLORADO

**2017 GIRLS' LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
RECOMMENDATION OVERVIEW**

The Girls' Leadership Council (GLC) is a prestigious program that inspires girls to be future leaders and philanthropists. Through this program girls will engage in a challenging, hands-on program that allows each girl to discover the power to assist her communities. GLC is a program of The Women's Foundation of Colorado coordinated in partnership with Girls Inc. of Metro Denver.

Through a competitive application and interview process, twenty high school sophomore girls are identified to participate in The Foundation's Girls' Leadership Council. Each year, girls participate in a one-week intensive, on-site program on the beautiful University of Denver campus during the summer.

The program is designed to provide an overview of the status of women and girls in Colorado, understanding and focusing on the issues that impact them the most. Tentative training components include: Foundation led research on the status of women and girls in our state, the history of women, the economic self-sufficiency of women and girls; the education of women and girls with focus on the girls' high school drop-out rate; public policy & advocacy including the Foundation's work on the Cliff Effect and poverty; women in the work force, with emphasis on the status of women and girls in Science, Math, Technology and Engineering (S.T.E.M.), women in leadership and civic engagement, women in media, women in philanthropy, grant making, diversity and inclusiveness, and personal leadership including extensive team building and intrapersonal development activities.

The program also includes a project element where participants will create an individualized Community Leadership Project to address an issue that affects women and girls in their community. Participants will be encouraged to launch this project in their communities after completing the GLC program.

This program is provided free of charge to participants.

The recommendations are a critical element in each application. Strong recommendations are those that include evidence of a significant understanding of the girl's skills and leadership as well as personal examples of the applicant's strengths.

Please request that the recommenders email their letter to glc@gidenver.org or mail to

Girls Inc. of Metro Denver
Attn: Girls' Leadership Council Program
1499 Julian Street
Denver, CO 80204

The letter must be received (not postmarked) by Wednesday, March 1st 2017

If emailing the recommendation form, please attach your recommendation as a PDF or Word document, e-mails with text copied and pasted in the body of the e-mail will not be accepted. Please put "GLC Recommendation" in the subject line.

Please adhere to the following:

- Include the name of the applicant at the top of the recommendation**, even if the name of the applicant is cited elsewhere in your letter.
- Briefly explain your relationship to the applicant** and length of time you have known them.
- Include your preferred contact information** should we need to contact you.
- Recommendations should not exceed two pages**
- Explain why you recommend this candidate for the Girls' Leadership Council.** Share some inspirational and personal stories about the applicant and generate excitement and enthusiasm about the applicant's personality, values and ethic.

The recommendation must be received by Girls Inc. of Metro Denver by Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Late recommendations, even if postmarked before the deadline, may not be reviewed and may potentially disqualify the candidate's application.

SUGGESTIONS FOR A STRONG RECOMMENDATION

It is essential that your letter of recommendation includes **SPECIFIC EXAMPLES**; specific examples are more helpful than general statements when our volunteers are working to distinguish between qualified applicants. Please bring the student to life by citing situations in which you have observed the applicant. The following example questions are designed to help guide your letter so that it will best characterize the applicant. You are not required to address all the examples and may choose to discuss one or a few of them in your letter.

- CRITICAL THINKING:** How would you rate this student's scholastic ability relative to other young adults with whom you have worked? Critically evaluate the applicant's thinking capacity in various situations.
- LEADERSHIP:** Do you consider this applicant a leader? Describe specific instances in which you have observed the applicant displaying leadership. Based on your observations, how would you characterize this student's leadership ability and potential?
- SERVICE ETHIC:** Have you known this young woman to make unselfish contributions of time and energy to the welfare of others or to a particular organization? If so, describe the particular situation(s).
- CHARACTER:** Have you known the young adult to show integrity or a lack thereof? If so, describe the particular situation. Do you like this person, and why? Does the applicant work well with others? Would you want to work closely with the applicant?
- ABILITY TO HANDLE ADVERSITY:** Has this applicant faced hardship? Have you observed the applicant in a situation of stress, if so, how did the applicant react in this situation?
- TALENT:** Does this young woman have special skills of which you are aware, particularly those that are unlikely to appear on a résumé? Describe this student's most impressive accomplishment in your school, community, etc.