

LETTER HEAD  
EXAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER 2

DATE

RE: Support letter for Early Career Award application for XXX

Dear SIRS,

Please find below a letter of support for XXX in their application for an Early Career Award.

I have known XXX since XXX, when they began working towards a PhD in my lab. Our research focuses on examining risk factors for the development of psychotic symptoms, including psychosocial influences on the development of these symptoms (i.e., BRIEF SUMMARY OF PERIOD OF TIME KNOWN THE APPLICANT, IN WHAT CAPACITY AND THE FIELD OF STUDY).

During the XXX years in my lab, XXX has become a skilled researcher and clinician. XXX has considerable experience working with individuals experiencing psychotic symptoms. From this clinical work, XXX has been able to develop several research ideas to examine how factors such as family and community support may influence the expression of psychotic symptoms. (IF APPLICABLE, PROVIDE EXAMPLES/COUPLE OF SENTENCES ABOUT THIS WORK). XXX will be presenting some of the results of this research at the upcoming SIRS Congress. Given XXX's performance to date, I would rank XXX within the top X% of PhD students amongst their peers. (i.e. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE, INCLUDING RESEARCH AND CLINICAL WORK).

XXX has several qualities that make them an exceptional PhD student. XXX has met or exceeded every milestone along their path to obtain a PhD. XXX is eager to learn and is an excellent scholar. Along the path to obtain their PhD, they have been faced with several obstacles, including the COVID-19 pandemic, and XXX has persevered in completing every PhD milestone. XXX has also excelled at working with patients with respect and compassion. Despite a rigorous caseload, XXX has also demonstrated their passion for research, as shown by their upcoming presentation of this work at the SIRS Congress. Given these qualities, including XXX's eagerness to learn, perseverance, and dedication to both research and clinical work, I have no doubt that XXX will excel in their career. (i.e. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SKILLS – PLUS NOTING ANY OBSTACLES).

Attending the SIRS Annual Congress will allow XXX to meet and speak with experts on similar career paths. As XXX is an early career investigator, it is important that they meet with and learn from colleagues with similar research and clinical interests. This congress provides an important opportunity for XXX to attend an international conference focused on schizophrenia. Due to limited funding opportunities, this will be XXX's first international conference. This award would be important for enhancing XXX's professional development, including building upon their extant education and networking skills. (i.e. BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE BENEFITS OF WINNING THE EARLY CAREER AWARD)

I fully support XXX's application and believe XXX is an excellent candidate for a SIRS Early Career Award.

Yours Sincerely

NAME SIGNATURE