Maastricht University

2027-2028 UM Scholarships

Reference letter guidelines

Applicants for UM Scholarship are required to upload 1 reference letter from a professor or employer. Because this scholarship programme is so selective, reference letters are an integral part of the application and selection processes.

Acceptable reference letters will adhere to the following guidelines:

- Written in English and typed.
- Dated and no more than one year old (written 1 February 2026 or later).
- Maximum 1 page in length.
- Contain the contact details of the author including **institutional or work** email address and telephone number. Letters with only a personal email address will be rejected.
- Signed by the author.
- Describe the relationship between the referee and the candidate. For example, outline the candidate's performance on a project, in class, or as part of a team.
- Quantify the high potential of the candidate by providing accurate descriptions of their achievements in the classroom, their community, or place of work.
- Indicate how the candidate's high potential will be leveraged by their participation in their Maastricht University Master's programme.