



Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD)

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PhD Fellowships for Women Scientists from Science and Technology Lagging Countries

Guidelines for Reference Letters

- The applicant must submit two (2) reference letters prepared by two (2) different senior scientists familiar with the student's work.
- Reference letters must be prepared on official letterhead and must be signed.
- For SANDWICH applicants only: please note that the home PhD supervisor cannot be one of the two referees.
- Each letter should address the following issues:
 - How long has the Referee known the student and in what role.
 - Was the student among the top 5%, 10% or 20% of students the Referee has taught.
 - Provide evidence that the student is able to work independently.
 - How would the referee evaluate the student's PhD research proposal.
 - Reasons for supporting the student's application.