Prior to starting your application:

Consider attending an Impressive Graduate School Applications Workshop to review best practices regarding letters of recommendation, personal statements, entrance exams and other common questions. Click here for dates and times.

- Determine how many recommendations your intended graduate program requires
- Decide who will write a letter of recommendation and submit it through Cal State Apply on your behalf
- Connect with letter writers in advance, obtain their commitment to write a strong letter of recommendation for you
- Collect their email address, full name, and professional title - You will need this contact information when completing the Cal State Apply application

For Applicants - Complete the Recommendations in Cal State Apply:

Step 1: Log in to your Cal State Apply portal.
**Step 2:** Click on the *Program Materials* quadrant of your Cal State Apply application.

**Step 3:** In the *Program Materials* quadrant click on the *Recommendations* section, then click on the *+ Request General Letter Upload Recommendation* link.
Step 4: Invite your Letter of Recommendation writers to submit a letter on your behalf through Cal State Apply: Enter your writer’s email address and full name. You can assign a due date by which you would like the letters to be submitted. We recommend giving your letter writers a deadline 1-2 weeks in advance of your application deadline. This will give you a cushion to follow up with them if they miss your early deadline so that they could still submit it by the application deadline. You do not have to wait until your letter writers upload a letter to submit the application.

You must include a personal note. This note will appear in the body of the email your writer will receive.

The letter writer will now receive an email invitation to submit the letter of recommendation through Cal State Apply.
**Step 5:** You will receive a confirmation email once the letter of recommendation has been submitted by the letter writer
For Letter Writers - Complete the Recommendations in Cal State Apply:

Step 1: Writers check your email! Please note that the email request will come from calstateapply@liaisoncas.com. Check spam or junk folders if you do not receive an email upon notification from Cal State Apply. Also check your company’s firewall if you do not see the email in your junk or spam filters.

Calstateapply@liaisoncas.com

Applicant Recommendation Request 1/27/21

Hi Noah, [Name] is applying to Cal State Apply and is...
Step 2: You should login/create account, or you may continue without an account. Be sure to use the same e-mail address that the applicant input to Cal State Apply.

Note: If you have difficulties logging into the system because it recognizes you from other letter submissions, click on the Liaison Help Center for general troubleshooting guidance.
**Step 3:** You will see the applicant, or a list of applicants, who have invited you to submit a letter. Click **Start** to upload a letter of recommendation save as a PDF.
**Step 4:** You can drop files into the upload field or upload a file from your computer. You will have a chance to preview the file and confirm before submission.
Step 5: You will receive a confirmation note and email from Cal State Apply once the letter of recommendation has been submitted successfully.
Confirmation Email

Calstateapply@liaisoncas.com

- Your recommendation was submitted 8:45 AM

Hi Noah, Thank you for submitting your recommendation o...
Step 6: The applicant will also receive a confirmation email once the letter of recommendation has been submitted.