

## **Spiritual Paths Institute - Instructions for Recommenders**

Dear Recommender,

You are being asked to write a letter of recommendation and to complete an evaluation form for an applicant to the Spiritual Paths Institute. The applicant will provide the evaluation form to you. Please email or send both documents to the office of admissions at:

Spiritual Paths Institute  
6 Harbor Way # 149  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109  
(805)- 695-0104  
[admissions@spiritualpaths.net](mailto:admissions@spiritualpaths.net)

The Spiritual Paths Institute Program in InterSpiritual Studies has been designed by a multi-faith team of teachers. Each teacher is recognized as an authentic teacher and practitioner of their respective spiritual tradition. This program systematically builds both an intellectual and experiential understanding of the spiritual traditions and practices embedded within the world's major religions. Our goal is to provide a foundation for a mature and sustainable contemplative practice. During their studies, students will be exposed to English translations of primary source materials, classical commentaries and modern exegeses of many of the world's great spiritual traditions. This is not a heavily academic program, rather an opportunity to learn the principles, theories, and contexts and to receive training in one of more contemplative practices.

The Certificate program entails 36 credits. Certificate students should attend all sessions, complete readings and write a five – ten page reflection paper for each semester. Each of the four semesters is based on themes which are: 1. Founding Principles, 2. Transformation, 3. Engaged Spirituality, 4. Global Vision and Personal Commitment.

There are three courses each semester valued at three credits each for a total of nine credits per semester. The courses include a survey, an elective, and a practicum. Students will be encouraged to study all the major traditions represented in the curriculum and may focus on a specific tradition, or the application of InterSpirituality to their a specific profession such as teaching, social work, ministry, chaplaincy, psychology, psychiatry, law enforcement, law, public policy, diplomacy, international relations, politics, economics, business, and the military. Our curriculum will also help qualify professionals in such emerging fields as InterSpiritual education, counseling, mentoring and ministry.

The person you are recommending may be an adult learner who completed her/his formal education many years ago. Therefore, your recommendation will be important in helping us determine the intention, maturity, skill level, capacity, and accumulated experiential learning of this person at this stage of her/his life. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. For more information on the Spiritual Paths Institute, please refer to our website at [www.spiritualpaths.net](http://www.spiritualpaths.net).

Sincerely yours,  
Edward W. Bastian, Ph.D. President