Letter of Approval by Research Supervisor for IDRC Awards

Applicants are required to provide a letter of approval on official university letterhead and signed by the research supervisor.

The letter should confirm the following information:

a) the approval of the candidate’s final version of their research proposal (not just the research topic) by the research supervisor;
b) the list of courses already completed and still to be completed by the candidate in the master’s/PhD program;
c) confirmation that all courses will be completed, and, for PhD candidates, comprehensive/oral exams passed before the commencement of the award.
d) confirmation that the candidate has been “fast-tracked” from one program to another, if applicable.

If any of this information is missing in the letter, the document will be considered incomplete. (Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered.)

Example of the letter required by IDRC:

Reference: IDRC Awards competition: John Smith (Please indicate the title of the award.)

a) As research supervisor of Mr. John Smith, I confirm that I approve and support the research proposal submitted by the candidate.

b) Mr. Smith has successfully completed the following course(s):

   STAT 890: Statistics, Survey Design and Analysis
   INAF 540: International Affairs Dynamics
   ECON 700: Qualitative Research Data

Mr. Smith needs to complete the following course(s):

   SOC 607: Sociology analysis

c) Before the commencement of the award, Mr. Smith will have completed all the required courses for the master’s/PhD degree and the comprehensive/oral examination.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Watson, Assoc. Prof (Anthropology) and Doctoral Supervisor, Name of university