



Honors Thesis Defense Information

This form becomes a confidential document once completed.

Do not share the completed form or the committee's honors recommendation with the student.

Student Name:	Department name (or General Honors):
Where defense was conducted:	Date/time of defense:

Thesis committee: At least 3 voting members of the CU Boulder faculty must be present, including the thesis advisor, an Honors Council Representative, and a member of the faculty from outside the student's major department. Committee members from outside the university, graduate students, and/or members designated by the Honors program as non-voting may be present at the defense but are *not* eligible to vote.

If the form is being completed electronically, the Honors Council Representative may sign the form for all members by adding "on behalf of the full committee" below their signature.

Voting Member Printed Name	Department	Signature

Honors recommendation vote: List number of votes for each designation. You do not need to indicate zeroes.

no honors	<i>cum laude</i>	<i>magna cum laude</i>	<i>summa cum laude</i>

Please also submit a letter of recommendation which supports the committee recommendation:

The letter, written on behalf of the entire committee, must include all the following:

- Who conducted the defense, with the thesis advisor specified.
- The rationale for the recommendation. This should include statements regarding the cumulative GPA out to 3 decimal points (e.g. 3.495), and the quality of the thesis as well as the quality of the defense.
- A clear statement of the recommendation as well as the vote. If the vote is unanimous, state that explicitly; if the vote is not unanimous, a clear indication of the split must be provided. For recommendations which are two steps higher or lower than the GPA would suggest, at least two strong letters of support are required. Two letters are also required for any student with a GPA below 3.000. With split votes, we ask that additional letter(s) from committee members are submitted for Honors Council review. [Click here for more details and an FAQ.](#)

Letters may also include pertinent information about the student's thesis, including the argument the thesis makes and how that argument is defended, how the student conducted themselves not only during the defense but during the research and writing phase of their project, and why the thesis is important to the discipline. If the thesis is exceptional or more closely resembles graduate work, that information is also welcome. **Please submit the form via our [Faculty Paperwork Submission Box](#).**

[Recommendation deadlines are posted at colorado.edu/honors/graduation](#)