



June 04, 2020

Columbia University | Postbac Premed
New York, NY 10027

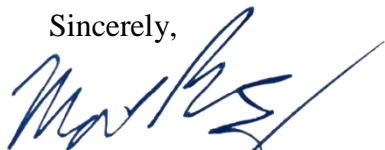
To whom it may concern:

My name is Matthew Ramsey and I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology at the University of Rhode Island. It is my great pleasure to recommend Dina Elias to the Postbac/Premed program at Columbia University. I had the privilege of being Dina's professor in two courses, CMB211 'Introductory Microbiology' in Spring 2018 and CMB265G 'Science and Pseudoscience' in Spring 2020. On multiple occasions, I was also able to meet and interact with Dina due to her other classes and duties in close proximity to my office and lab during this 2 year period. I have also spoken with Dina at length about her academics both in the present and for her future goals.

When I met Dina she had been struggling academically, but had already begun to turn the corner. Her grade in CMB211 during her 4th semester of college was a B- placing her in the middle tier of the classroom. However, Dina began that course with D on her 1st exam and showed consistent improvement during the entire semester with near perfect attendance and was able to pull her grade up. Since this time Dina's grades have shown consistent improvement which reflects her growing maturity. When I had Dina as a student this Spring, in our group settings (pre-Covid19) she quickly became a natural leader within her group. Having Dina in the classroom made the course better as she was able to draw out more timid students and enable them to interact better in a group setting. Dina got perfect marks in this course and I think her performance in my classes is a good microcosm of Dina's maturation and improvement at URI. As Dina stands now, she is as good as any of the highest tier students I have taught and is now a fully emotionally and intellectually mature individual. Additionally, Dina is an enthusiastic and engaging personality and is a pleasure to interact with socially.

I believe that a post baccalaureate program is perfect for someone like Dina who started in a difficult spot and needs another step to get to where she needs to be. I strongly believe that Dina will be successful in your program and it is my opinion that this is obvious from her already upward trajectory. I hope that you will consider Dina for the Postbac Premed program at Columbia. If I can be of further service in helping make this decision please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Matthew Ramsey
University of Rhode Island
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