Name:		
Research Interests:		
	Strengths or weaknesses and evidence for these in the admissions package	**Score (1-4, NI)**
Student is persistent and adapatable	*look for examples of a growth mindset in life or academia; 1st gen student, immigrant family, socio-economic disadvantages*	
Student is motivated to pursue scientific research	*look for curiosity, love of problem solving, commitment to learning*	
Student has taken advantage of (or made) opportunities in seeking out research experiences	*consider type of institution and what sort of opportunities would or would not be present*	
Student can work well independently and is self-directed.	*look for description of projects or actions taken on own initiative either in or out of academics*	
Student works well with others and responds well to constructive feedback	*look for evidence of leadership, or contribution to shared or team goals*	
Student communicates in a clear, organized and logical manner.	*Assess writing in submitted statements, as well as any publications taking into account students academic level and role in the publication.*	
Academic record includes appropriate coursework and level of competence to build from for graduate level research in expressed subdicipline.	*look for topic-specific foundational coursework (geo/earth/env sci., math, physics, chem, bio), breadth and challenging coursework, UG and Grad GPA, research projects*	
Overall Ranking (A, B, C)	*Notes*	

Recommended Reading Order

1. Student's statements
2. Transcripts
3. Recommendation Letters

Take notes while reading and keep these for discussion in the admission committee.

Scores

1. Unsatisfactory	little evidence of this skill or cognitive ability, or evidence to the contrary
2. Developing	minimal evidence or only in the early stages
3. Competent	sufficient evidence with some examples or points that clearly attest to a high level of preparation or achievement in this area
4. Exemplary	strong evidence which meets all expectations for preparation for graduate school
NI	no information provided in the package

Overall Ranking

	Do not use +/-, except for A+
A(+)	Strong application with evidence addressing and supporting all metrics. (+) Recruiting target: exceptional application on all metrics.
B	Potentially admissible, but there is evidence missing for one more metrics, that would need to be addressed when starting in the graduate program. Potential advisor need to address how these metrics can be addressed.
C	Lacking evidence on multiple metrics; inappropriate background or coursework preparation for expressed topic of study; expressed topics of interest have no overlap with potential mentors in our program