1. Recommender's Name:

Text Response
Elizabeth Eck Olchowski

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	1

2. Recommender's Email Address:

Text Response
eeck@gmu.edu

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	1

3. Applicant's name for which you are providing a recommendation:

Text Response
Mehdi Nayebpour

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	1

4. How long have you known the applicant and under what circumstances have you become familiar with the applicant's academic abilities?

Text Response
Mr. Nayebpour began our doctoral program in fall 2016 and began working as a graduate assistant for our School's Research Office under joint supervision (Professor Naoru Koizumi and me). Mehdi is a motivated and bright student, and his grades in our public policy doctoral program reflect that (3.89 GPA). He is responsive to all requests for help with our office activities, both administrative and research-related, and an overall pleasant person in the office.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	1

5. Please assess the applicant's ability to contribute to the Data Science for the Public Good Fellowship Program.

Text Response
Mehdi would bring a new perspective to your program, drawing on his international experience (Iran, Switzerland) in addition to his background as a student in the US. He is passionate about health care research. Mehdi's strong mathematical and statistical training, coupled with the social science foundations developed in the last 1.5 years in our program, mean that he would be an immediate contributor to your team.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	1

6. **How would you describe the applicant's motivation and initiative in pursuing his/her academic and career goals?**

Text Response

Mehdi has presented himself as a motivated and independent student since he first explored joining our program. Unlike many other applicants, he proactively approached Dr. Koizumi in advance of his application, expressing his interest in her research and willingness to work on her projects. Since joining the program, has has excelled both inside and outside the classroom, contributing to foster a sense of community in our School by taking leadership positions in our doctoral student association. Mehdi Nayebpour has my strong support for his application to your fellowship program.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	1