

## Student/Alumni Testimony Letter Outline

### Heading:

- Name
- Degree Program and Graduation Year (or Expected Year)
- City/State

### Greeting:

“Dear Members of the Academic Planning Committee,”

### Opening Paragraph

- State who you are (student or alum).
- Share your connection to UNL’s Landscape Architecture program.
- Example: *“My name is \_\_\_, and I am a [current student / 2022 graduate] of UNL’s Landscape Architecture Program. I am writing to express my strong support for this essential program.”*

### Body Paragraph 1: Personal Story

- Why you chose Landscape Architecture at UNL.
- What opportunities you’ve had (studio projects, internships, faculty mentorship, community projects).
- How the program has prepared you for your career and licensure.
- If you’re a student: how the program matters to your education and future plans.

### Body Paragraph 2: Why It’s Essential

Pick one or two key points to include (in your own words):

- UNL has **Nebraska’s only LAAB-accredited program**, which is the **sole pathway to professional licensure** in the state.
- Landscape architecture is a **licensed STEM profession in all 50 states** because it protects **public health, safety, and welfare**.
- **Nebraska’s job growth in landscape architecture exceeded U.S. growth by 206.2%**, showing the strong workforce need.

- The program has a **100% job placement rate**, and in 2024 more than **70% of graduates stayed in Nebraska** to work.
- Over the past four years, students and faculty have delivered **\$1.15 million in in-kind design services** to Nebraska communities
- Landscape Architects design livable communities that foster active lifestyles, design green streets that manage stormwater runoff, plan cutting-edge transportation corridors that are safe for all users, and help communities prepare for and recover from natural disasters. These resilient infrastructures keep communities safe and cost less to build and maintain than conventional systems.

### **Closing Paragraph**

- Summarize your support clearly.
- Example: *“The Landscape Architecture program is essential for UNL, for Nebraska, and for students like me. Eliminating it would close the state’s only pathway to licensure and harm both the workforce and our communities. I urge you to protect and strengthen this essential program for the future.”*
- Thank the committee for their consideration.

### **Signature Block:**

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Degree Program/Year]

[Contact info, optional]