GENERAL COVER LETTER FORMAT

Your present street address
City, State, Zip Code
Date of writing

First Name Last Name – especially if unsure of pronouns
Job Title
Organization/Company Name
Street Address
City, State, Zip Code

Dear First Name Last Name:

Opening Paragraph
• Describe the type of position for which you are applying.
• Mention how you learned about the position (name of contact, type of advertisement).
• Note why you are interested in the position/organization to personalize your letter.

Middle Paragraph(s) (one to three)
• Expand upon the information stated in your resume, but do not repeat it.
• Be positive in content, tone, word choice, and expectations.
• Group similar items together in a paragraph. Examples of paragraph themes include: skills, background, experience, education, personal traits, and philosophy of work.
• In each paragraph demonstrate one point with an example.
• Organize the paragraphs in an order that seems logical.
• If an advertisement has requested specific skills, describe those which you possess.

Closing Paragraph
• If you are asked to provide your salary requirements, do so in this paragraph.
• End with an action statement requesting a personal interview.
• Thank the reader for his/her time and consideration.
• List how you can be reached for follow up. Note your telephone number (with area code).

Sincerely,

Your handwritten signature

Type your name

Attachment: resume, references