

McNair Scholars Program

Application for Admission

Thank you for your interest in the McNair Scholars Program at Northeastern Illinois University. The McNair Scholars Program offers workshops, academic advising, GRE test preparation, sponsored travel to research conferences, research internships, faculty mentoring, and assistance with making the transition from undergraduate to graduate study.

We invite you to apply if you intend to pursue a career that requires a Ph.D. or other terminal degree, and you meet the following criteria:

1. I am a member of at least one of the following groups:
 - ◇ Low-income and first-generation college student
 - ◇ Member of a group under-represented in graduate education
2. I am either a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident of the U.S.
3. I am presently in my junior year at NEIU (completed at least 60 credit hours)
4. I have a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher (4.0 scale)
5. I plan to attend graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. or other terminal degree
6. I am available to participate in a full-time summer research internship

If you meet the above criteria, please submit a completed application form along with the following:

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please include a 2-3 page statement that discusses why you want to participate in the McNair Scholars Program. Describe your research interests, and your academic and career goals. Also discuss skills that you have or need to develop which will be useful in your research such as computer competency, qualitative/quantitative research skills, written and oral communication skills, or knowledge of statistical analysis software.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Include **two letters of recommendation** in sealed envelopes. The letters should come from faculty and should address your ability to conduct independent research under the supervision of a faculty mentor. Recommenders should also be able to evaluate your potential for graduate school, your capacity for critical/analytical thinking and your ability to organize and express ideas clearly.

OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY TRANSCRIPTS

Please provide an official transcript from each college or university you have attended. The transcript should be sent directly to the McNair Scholars Program, B 141 (*See complete address on back page*).

MOST RECENTLY FILED FEDERAL INCOME TAX FORMS

The tax forms are required of all applicants. Include a copy of your and/or your parents' most recently filed Federal Income Tax Return(s). Married applicants must submit a copy of the spouse's tax form if filed separately.

CITIZENSHIP OR PERMANENT RESIDENCY DOCUMENTATION

Copy of birth certificate, current U.S. passport or permanent residency card are required of all applicants. Bring original documentation and the program will photocopy.

SUBMIT ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS TO THE McNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM, B-Wing Room 141

Part I: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ <i>Last First MI</i>	SS#: _____
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Date of Birth: _____	Gender: Male Female
Citizenship: U.S. Permanent Resident Other: _____	

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Phone: _____ <i>home</i>	_____ <i>cell/alternate</i>
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NEIU Email Address: _____ Alternative Email Address: _____

Please identify yourself as one of the following:

Black (Non-Hispanic)

American Indian or Alaskan Native

Asian or Pacific Islander

White (Non-Hispanic)

Hispanic _____ (*Specify*)

Other _____ (*Specify*)

Are you a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? Yes No

Part II: ACADEMIC INFORMATION

High School Graduation or GED Completion date: _____	College start date: _____
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College(s) attended: _____
(other than Northeastern Illinois University) dates

Cumulative Grade Point Average: _____ (4.0 scale) Last Semester Grade Point Average: _____ (4.0 scale)

Academic Major: _____	Minor: _____
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Academic Advisor: _____

Total Semester Hours Earned:	Anticipated Graduation Date:
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Academic Goals

Check each area that best describes your immediate academic goals after completing your bachelor’s degree:

Master’s Degree	Ph.D.	Part time enrollment	
M.B.A.	J.D.	Full time enrollment	
M.D.	Other: _____		
In which academic area?			
Business	Fine Arts	Humanities	Social Sciences
Dentistry	Education	Medicine	Natural Sciences

Professional Goals

What profession do you plan to enter after completing your graduate education? Where would you like to work? What type of organization?

Research Interests

Please list two research topics/projects that interest you:

1. _____

2. _____

Potential Faculty Mentors

Please visit the NEIU website (www.neiu.edu) and identify two potential faculty mentors. Indicate their names and departments below.

1. _____ 2. _____

TRIO Programs

Have you participated in any TRIO programs? () No () Yes

If you answered “yes” please specify the program and the sponsoring college, university or institution where you participated:

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------|
| Upward Bound | Student Support Services | McNair |
| Upward Bound MS | Educational Talent Search | EOC |

Location(s): _____

Extracurricular Activities

Employment

Honor Societies

Sorority or Fraternity

Clubs

Professional organizations

Volunteer Work

Other: _____

Part III: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

For the purposes of eligibility, "parents" refers to biological, adoptive, or legal guardian. The information requested is used as verification required by the U.S. Department of Education and must be provided.

Did your mother graduate from a four-year college or university? Yes No

Mother's highest educational attainment

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Bachelor's Master's Doctorate

Did your father graduate from a four-year college or university? Yes No

Father's highest educational attainment

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Bachelor's Master's Doctorate

Parents'/Applicant's Financial Information

With whom do you maintain permanent residence? Mother Father Both Parents

Self-supporting (must be 23 years of age or older or have a dependent child)

Were you claimed on your parent(s)' most recent tax return as a dependent? Yes No

Immediate Family Size (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9+

Taxable Income: *(You will be asked to provide proof of income)*

\$14,355 or below \$24,136 - \$29,025 \$38,806 - \$43,695

\$14,356 - \$19,245 \$29,026 - \$33,915 \$43,696 - \$48,585

\$19,246 - \$24,135 \$33,916 - \$38,805 \$48,586 +

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Your application is complete when you have submitted the following documents:

_____ APPLICATION

_____ STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- _____ TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
 - _____ TRANSCRIPTS (FORWARDED DIRECTLY TO THE McNAIR SCHOLARS OFFICE)
 - _____ MOST RECENTLY FILED FEDERAL INCOME TAX FORMS
 - _____ PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP OR PERMANENT RESIDENCY
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McNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM RELEASE

I give the Northeastern Illinois University McNair Scholars Program permission to obtain information regarding my admission, financial aid status, and academic records for the purposes of determining eligibility, developing educational plans, and collecting program statistics. I understand that I will have access to all of my records, excluding letters of recommendation and mentor evaluations.

I hereby apply for admission into the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program at Northeastern Illinois University. If admitted, I agree to abide by its regulations. I certify that the foregoing information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and fully realize that omission or falsification of information will be considered sufficient grounds for rejection of this application or for dismissal from the program at a later date.

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please forward all application materials to: McNair Scholars Program, Room B141

Recommendation Form

Applicant's Name: _____ Student or SS #: _____

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, known as the Buckley Amendment, gives students the right to inspect and review their educational records. You may, however, waive the right to see specific confidential letters. Failure to sign indicates confidentiality by default.

I hereby waive my right to examine this letter and understand that it will not be shared with me.

I do not waive my right to examine this letter.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The **Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program** is funded by the U.S. Department of Education. This program encourages graduate study by providing participants with a mentored research experience, seminars and workshops on topics germane to the pursuit of the doctoral degree.

The above named student has submitted an application to the McNair Program. In order for us to accurately assess the applicant's qualifications, please answer the following questions:

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity? _____

I consider the student to be.... Ready Ready, if mentored Not ready for graduate study and research.

Please evaluate the student in the following categories:	Very Good	Good	Fair	Not Applicable
Academic potential				
Critical thinking				
Maturity				
Organization and expression of ideas				
Commitment to academic goals				

Please attach a letter addressing any additional information that will give us a greater understanding of the applicant and his/her potential as a graduate student, researcher, and teacher.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Department: _____ Email: _____ Date: _____

*Please return this completed recommendation to: McNair Scholars Program, Room B 141.
For information, call (773) 442-4253*

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