

RONALD E. McNAIR POSTBACCALAUREATE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

University of Washington

Office of Minority Affairs

Application Due Date: **Friday, April 17th, 2015 by 5:00 pm.**

Applicants must be available for an interview between the dates of May 18 - 22nd.

Selections will be announced on or around June 1st.

McNair Program Application

The Ronald E. McNair Program is federally funded by the Department of Education to prepare low-income, first generation undergraduates and undergraduates from underrepresented groups for doctoral study through involvement in research and scholarly activities. The Department of Education's web page provides more information at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomcnair/index.html>.

Program Benefits

The program offers a challenging and supportive environment that is conducive to learning and personal/professional development. As a McNair Scholar, you will receive:

- The support of McNair Program Advisors
- Research opportunities
- Generous research stipends and travel allowances
- Faculty mentoring
- Workshops on the graduate school application process
- Assistance in locating graduate schools
- Access to standardized test preparation software
- Access to tutoring and the OMA Instructional Center
- Assistance in locating and applying to research internships
- Assistance in locating funding/financial aid resources
- Opportunities for participation in research conferences

Participant Eligibility

To be eligible for acceptance into the McNair Program, you must be currently enrolled as an undergraduate in a degree program at the University of Washington. In addition, you:

- Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Must be a low-income student who is also a first-generation college student (neither parent or legal guardian has a Bachelor's degree)

or

- Must be a member of a group that is underrepresented in graduate education (African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latino or Native Hawaiian /Pacific Islander)
- Must have completed 36 credits by the time of initial entry into the program
- Must have at least one year remaining before graduation (i.e., if you are graduating within the year, you are not eligible for the program)
- Must have a minimum cumulative GPA of: 2.8 (sophomores), 3.0 (juniors), 3.2 (seniors)
- Must express STRONG desire to attain a Ph.D.

Application Checklist

A complete application packet includes the following items:

- Completed application form
- Statement of purpose
- One or two letters of recommendation depending on year in school (see next page) with release forms
- A copy of college transcript from each institution you have attended, including the UW (unofficial is fine)
- A copy of your financial aid award letter and 2014 income tax return (for dependent students, your parent's return)
- A writing sample of at least two pages that was completed within the last year (e.g., a paper from a course)

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Statement of Purpose

Please write an essay addressing the following topics/questions on a separate sheet and attach it to your application. Please limit your statement to a maximum of two pages.

1. Personal background —

- Please describe your family and educational background. ""
- What financial, familial, or personal responsibilities do you have that will require your attention during the next couple of years?

2. Academic interests —

- What research topics / fields / departments do you find most interesting?
- Please describe your research experiences, if any
- What Ph.D. program (major) do you intend to pursue?
- Are you interested in a career in academia (i.e., as a professor at a college or university)? What do you hope to gain from and contribute to academia?

3. Community involvement—

- What extracurricular activities do you participate in?
- Describe your volunteer activities or ways in which you "give back" to your community.
- In what ways do you see yourself as a role model for others, or in what ways do you hope to become a role model in the future?

References (please read carefully)

Current first year students, sophomores, and transfer students need one letter from a professor, lecturer, instructor, teaching assistant, academic counselor, or undergraduate advisor. An additional letter from a UW faculty member is encouraged, but not required.

Current Juniors and Seniors are required to submit two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a UW faculty member with an earned Ph.D. We encourage you to get an additional letter from a UW faculty, but letters from a lecturer, instructor, teaching assistant, academic counselor, or undergraduate advisor are also acceptable.

Fill out the top portion of the form and give it to your recommender. The recommender should return the form directly to the McNair Program at the address provided on the form.

Application submission deadline April 17, 2015 by 5:00pm:

Please mail or drop off application packet to:

Ronald E. McNair Program
University of Washington
Box 352803
173G Mary Gates Hall
Seattle, WA 98195-2803



COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET INCLUDES THE APPLICATION FORM, STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, LETTER(S) OF RECOMMENDATION, TRANSCRIPT(S), WRITING SAMPLE, FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTER, and YOUR PARENTS' 2014 TAX RETURN (or your return if you are "self-supporting" or "independent" as determined by the Office of Financial Aid).

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University of Washington • Box 352803 • 173G Mary Gates Hall • Seattle, WA 98195-2803
Phone: (206) 543-6460 • Fax: (206) 616-4389 • Email: uwmcnair@u.washington.edu
<http://depts.washington.edu/uwmcnair>

Application Due Date: **Friday, April 17th, 2015 by 5:00 pm**

Name	Email Address
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Address

City	State	Zip	Phone #
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Major	Cumulative GPA	Major GPA
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Intended or potential Ph.D. program(s)

Do you plan to attend graduate school (Ph.D. Program) immediately (within 3 months) after obtaining your undergraduate degree from UW? Yes No

OR

Do you plan to attend graduate school (Ph.D. Program) after a year or more after obtaining your undergraduate degree from UW? Yes No If so how many year(s) after?

Birth date	SS#	UW Student #
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Current Year in School: Sophomore Junior Senior **Gender:** Male Female

Intended Quarter, Year of Graduation:

Ethnicity / Race (check all applicable): Black/African American Asian American

American Indian/Alaskan Native White/Caucasian Hispanic/Latino

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (Polynesia, Melanesia, Micronesia)

Other

Are you eligible for financial aid? Yes No Have not applied

Can your parents claim you as a dependent on their tax return? Yes No

From your Financial Aid Award Letter, are you: Dependant Self-Supporting

Number in family (from tax return, including parent(s), yourself and other dependents):

Family annual taxable income (for 2014 return): \$

Note - this is not the "Adjusted Gross" income, but the taxable income after deductions usually found on the 2nd page of the tax return

Has either mother or father (or other guardian if applicable) earned a bachelor's degree?

Mother: yes no **Father:** yes no **Guardian:** yes no

Have you regularly resided with and received support from only one parent/guardian who completed a bachelor's degree? Yes No

If yes, who? Mother Father Guardian

What is the highest level of education achieved by any of your parents/guardian?

Are you a U.S. Citizen? Yes No **If no, are you a permanent resident?** Yes No
(Permanent residents must provide copy of documentation)

Are you a current Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) student? Yes No

In which of the following programs have you participated? (Check all that apply):

Talent Search Upward Bound Upward Bound Math/Science E.O.C.
SSS Early Identification Program (EIP)

Please tell us how you heard about the McNair Program:

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and correct

Signature: _____

Date _____

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Recommendation Form

This section to be completed by the applicant	
Applicant Name	Date
I hereby waive my right to review this recommendation	
	Signature
I do not waive my right to review this recommendation	
	Signature

For the recommender:

The person named above has applied for admission to the University of Washington McNair Program. For more information about the program, please see <http://depts.washington.edu/uwmcnair> or call 206-543-6460.

On your own letterhead, we would appreciate your candid evaluation of the applicant's ability to carry on advanced study, as well as her/his scholarship, character, integrity and professional promise. Please include an assessment of the student's strengths and weaknesses.

Please return this form directly to the McNair Program by Friday, April 17, 2015.

Ronald E. McNair Program, Box 352803, Seattle, WA 98195-2803

Thank you for your cooperation.

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

Signature

Date

Name

Title

Organization

Telephone

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