



**RONALD E. McNAIR
POSTBACCALAUREATE
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
PROSPECTIVE SCHOLAR APPLICATION FORM**

Benefits to Participants

Thank you for your interest in the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program. The McNair Program provides numerous benefits to selected UW-Eau Claire juniors and seniors who demonstrate academic talent, and who desire to enter graduate school to pursue the Ph. D. McNair Scholars receive intensive mentoring in an environment of enthusiasm and support. They participate in the four McNair Seminars (IDIS 380, 381, 480, 481), undertake collaborative research with UW-Eau Claire faculty members, and take part in the paid Summer Research Institute. (The stipend for the 2008 Summer Research Institute is \$2,800; with additional tuition, housing and dining allowances the value of the Summer Research Institute exceeds \$5,800.) McNair Scholars publish their research findings and present these in professional settings. They also learn about internship opportunities, receive assistance with graduate school selection and application, GRE preparation, and financial aid counseling. After graduation from UW-Eau Claire McNair Scholars keep in touch with McNair Program staff to assist their progress in graduate school towards the goal of the Ph. D.

Eligibility for the McNair Program

An applicant for the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program at UW-Eau Claire must:

1. be a UW-Eau Claire student;
2. desire to pursue a graduate program leading to a research doctorate (typically the Ph. D.);
3. be nominated by a UW-Eau Claire faculty or academic staff member (typically the instructor with whom one would pursue collaborative research);
4. have attained a minimum standing of rising sophomore with a GPA of 2.5 or greater;
5. be either (a) a low-income and first-generation student (both conditions must apply), or (b) a member of a group that is underrepresented by race/ethnicity among recipients of research doctorates (See page 4 for the Department of Education's definitions of racial/ethnic groups. Note that not all of these listed groups are underrepresented.);
6. be a U. S. citizen or U. S. resident alien.

Application *****

A) Personal Information

Name _____ UWEC ID # _____

Local Address _____

Local Telephone _____ Email _____

Permanent Address _____

Major(s) _____ # of Credits (Completed & In Progress) _____

Faculty/Academic Staff Member Providing Nomination _____

Field of Graduate Studies You Wish To Pursue _____

B) Background That Supports Your Potential for Collaborative Research & Scholarly Activity

Please attach a separate sheet(s) to answer the following questions. (It is wise to enlist the assistance of your nominating faculty or academic staff member when completing these.)

- (1) What prospective research topic(s) or research area do you wish to explore as a McNair Scholar at UW-Eau Claire?
- (2) Please describe your participation in pre-college and college academic enhancement activities or programs—for example, Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Honors Program and/or honors societies, faculty/student collaborative research, recitals or other performance experiences, competitions or shows, internships, etc. Articulate when and where you took part in these programs, and describe what your participation entailed.
- (3) Please describe academic honors, distinctions, or service recognitions you have received.
- (4) Please describe any research or academic internships in which you have been involved via coursework, employment or other experiences.
- (5) Please describe how you envision yourself benefiting from the McNair Program and the acquisition of a doctorate. In other words, how would the acquisition of a doctorate enable you to make a mark or a contribution?

C) Eligibility

Eligibility for the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program involves academic excellence, as well as additional identifiers. Guidelines from the U. S. Department of Education specify that at least two-thirds of McNair Program participants must be first-generation students from low-income families. (Low-income typically means Pell grant eligible; and first-generation means that neither the student's mother nor father graduated from a four-year baccalaureate college). Up to one-third of McNair participants may be students from groups that are underrepresented among American doctoral recipients; the Department specifies these groups as African-Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Native Americans/Alaskan Natives and Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander. (Please see page 4 for Department of Education definitions of all racial/ethnic groups, including those that are underrepresented.) To assist McNair staff with determining your eligibility for the Program, kindly complete this page and the next with your parents' assistance.

1ST GENERATION STATUS

Mother's Name _____

Father's Name _____

Mother's Educational Attainment

Please check the item corresponding to the highest level of schooling experienced.

- Some High School
- High School or GED/HSED Completion
- Some college coursework
- Vocational/technical certificate
- Associate degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Some graduate coursework
- Master's degree
- Ph. D. or other doctoral degree

Mother's Signature _____

Date _____

Father's Educational Attainment

Please check the item corresponding to the highest level of schooling experienced.

- Some High School
- High School or GED/HSED Completion
- Some college coursework
- Vocational/technical certificate
- Associate degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Some graduate coursework
- Master's degree
- Ph. D. or other doctoral degree

Father's Signature _____

Date _____

INCOME

When completing the following, please reference the family’s net taxable income for 2007--that is the amount, after all withholdings and exemptions are subtracted, on which your family paid taxes. (Do NOT use the family’s gross income.)

The reported number of persons in the household in 2008 _____

Please indicate with a check mark the category that corresponds to the reported 2008 net taxable income of your household.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$16,245 or less | <input type="checkbox"/> \$44,296 to 49,905 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$16,246 to 21,855 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$49,906 to 55,515 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$21,886 to 27,465 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$55,516 to 61,125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$27,466 to 33,075 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$61,126 to 66,735 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$33,076 to 38,685 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$66,736 to 72,345 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$38,686 to 44,295 | <input type="checkbox"/> over \$72,346 |

RACE/ETHNICITY

The following race/ethnicity categories are consistent with the U.S. Department of Education’s policy on the collection of racial and ethnic information. Using the Department’s categories and definitions below, please indicate the category or categories that you, the McNair applicant, identify with. (Note: Not all categories designate groups that the Department identifies as underrepresented among doctoral recipients.)

- American Indian or Alaska Native** – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliations or community recognition.
- Asian** – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, and the Indian subcontinent. The area includes, for example, China, India, Japan, Korea, and the Philippines.
- Black or African American** – A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- Hispanic or Latino** – A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- White** – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii or other Pacific islands such as Samoa and Guam.

Thank you for assisting McNair Program staff to determine your program eligibility. Your and your parents’ responses with respect to education and income levels are confidential and used for the sole purpose of verifying applicant eligibility for the McNair Program.

D) Release

I understand that the data on this form will be used by the McNair Selection Committee and McNair staff. All statements are true to the best of my knowledge. I hereby authorize the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program to receive and release information useful to my educational planning and attainment.

If I am accepted into the program and become a participant, I hereby consent to the release of my college records (transcripts, financial aid, test scores, etc.) and other academic progress information to the McNair Program at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, effective for the period of time that I am an active participant and until the McNair program has completed tracking my progress as required and defined by the U.S. Department of Education. I will assist the McNair Program staff in compliance of this requirement by maintaining periodic contact and providing updates after I leave UWEC.

I understand my personal data (i.e. name, address, SS#, phone number) will not be released except as required by US Department of Education and UWEC reporting, or with your permission.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Completed Applications

A completed application includes your completed student application form with attachments AND a completed nomination form from a UW-Eau Claire faculty or academic staff member. Documents should be sent or delivered to the McNair Program Office, Old Library 2134 **by or on April 17, 2009**. (In most cases faculty or academic staff providing nominations will prefer to send these directly to the McNair Office themselves.)

Selection of Scholars

A selection committee of UW-Eau Claire faculty and McNair staff will meet to select scholars. Applicants will be notified as quickly as possible thereafter. In past notification has taken place in late May.

Application deadline is April 17, 2009.