McNair Scholars Program Application

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is a TRIO program developed to prepare eligible high-achieving undergraduate students for the rigor of doctoral studies. Students admitted to the program participate in a variety of educational activities such as academic workshops and professional development seminars, and receive ongoing academic support from the McNair program staff through the completion of their undergraduate studies. Additionally, outstanding McNair sophomores, juniors and seniors are able to compete for faculty-supervised summer research internships while in the program. Those who are selected for the internship receive a stipend of up to $2800. All McNair Scholars receive academic counseling, support with the graduate school application process and assistance with GRE preparation.

Developed to support first-generation college students who demonstrate financial need and are traditionally underrepresented in graduate education, the McNair Scholars Program ultimately aims to increase the number of Ph.D. recipients within these populations.

Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible for participation in the McNair Scholars Program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must plan to pursue a doctorate (Ph.D.) immediately after earning an undergraduate degree.
- Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Must have earned at least 30 credit hours and be a full-time student.
- Must be a first-generation college student with demonstrated financial need as outlined by the U.S. Department of Education OR a member of a group that is underrepresented in graduation education: American Indian, Alaskan Native, Black (Non-Hispanic) or African-American, Hispanic or Latino, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.
- Must be able to participate in a summer research internship, if selected.
TRIO McNair Scholars Program

Application Checklist

Before you submit your application to the McNair Scholars Program, be sure you have each of the following:

☐ A completed, signed application

☐ A copy of you and/or your parents’ most recently filed Federal Income Tax Return(s)

☐ A personal statement. Your personal statement should be typed (double space), 2-3 pages in length and address the reasons why you want to participate in the McNair Scholars Program. Please address your intent to pursue a Ph.D., your research interests and your career goals. Also, be sure to highlight any research projects or other scholarly activities that you have participated in as a college student.

☐ A copy of your unofficial transcripts from all colleges/universities attended.

☐ Two letters of recommendation from university faculty members (recommendation forms are included in this packet).

***The application deadline is January 15, 2018!***
TRIO McNair Scholars Program Application

PART I: PERSONAL INFORMATION

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<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Middle Name</th>
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Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY): __ ___ / ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ ___ Gender: ___ M ___ F

University where you are enrolled:

☐ Saint Louis University  ☐ Fontbonne University  ☐ Harris–Stowe State University

☐ University of Missouri–St. Louis  ☐ Washington University  ☐ Webster University

Do you currently reside on or off campus?

☐ On Campus  ☐ Off Campus  ☐ Off Campus with Parent/Guardian

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<tr>
<th>Campus Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip code</th>
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Campus Telephone  |  Cell Phone

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<tr>
<th>Permanent Home Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip code</th>
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Permanent Home Telephone  |  BANNER/Student ID #

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<tr>
<th>Campus E-mail Address</th>
<th>Personal/Alternate E-mail Address</th>
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PART II: Eligibility

Citizenship:

☐ U.S. Citizen
☐ U.S. Permanent Resident (Submit a copy of your Green Card with this application)

Ethnicity (Check all that apply):

☐ Black or African American     ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native     ☐ Asian American
☐ Hispanic or Latino           ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander ☐ White/Caucasian
☐ Other (please specify): ____________________________________________

First-Generation Status:

Highest Grade Completed by Father (Please Circle): 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
College degree earned, if any:

☐ Associate’s   ☐ Bachelor’s   ☐ Master’s
☐ Professional Degree   ☐ Doctorate

Highest Grade Completed by Mother (Please Circle): 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
College degree earned, if any:

☐ Associate’s   ☐ Bachelor’s   ☐ Master’s
☐ Professional Degree   ☐ Doctorate

Which parent did you primarily reside with and receive support from prior to the age of 18?

☐ Mother (natural or adoptive)      ☐ Father (natural or adoptive)
☐ Both Mother and Father           ☐ Neither Mother nor Father

I (Print Name), ____________________________, hereby certify that I am a first-generation college student.

Signature:_____________________________ Date:________________________
Financial Information:

Are you currently eligible to receive federal financial aid?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Regarding your financial aid status, are you considered dependent or independent?
(If you are unsure, please visit https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/dependency)
☐ Dependent

Provide Parents’ Tax Information Below

Total federal TAXABLE income: ________________________________

Number of immediate family members in your household, including yourself: _______

☐ Independent

Provide Your Tax Information Below

Total federal TAXABLE income: ________________________________

Number of immediate family members in your household, including yourself: _______

Please attach a copy of your parents’ most recently filed Federal Income Tax Return(s) if you are a dependent student, or your own Federal Income Tax Return if you are an independent student.

I (Print Name), __________________________, hereby certify that the above information is true.

Signature:_____________________________  Date:________________
PART I: Academic Information

Academic Goals & Interests:
Are you interested in pursuing a Ph.D.?
☐ Yes       ☐ No       ☐ I am not sure

If you marked ‘yes’ for the question above, are you planning to attend graduate school immediately after undergrad?
☐ Yes       ☐ No       ☐ I am not sure

If you marked ‘yes’ for the question above, in what field do you plan to pursue a Ph.D.?

______________________________________________________________________________

Please indicate your projected start date for graduate school.

Semester (fall, spring): __________ Year: __________

List 2-4 universities that you are considering for graduate school.

1. ___________________________ 3. ___________________________
2. ___________________________ 4. ___________________________

List 1-2 research topics below that are of interest to you.

1. ____________________________________________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________________________________________

Faculty Mentor:
List 1-2 faculty members that you would like to potentially have as your mentor(s) while participating in the McNair Scholars Program. If you are a SLU student, please select 1-2 SLU faculty members. If you are at an institution other than SLU, you may list 1-2 faculty members at your institution. (Non-SLU students: Please note that if you are selected for a summer research internship, you will have both a faculty mentor at your institution and one at SLU).

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PART III: Academic Information (Continued)

Current Academic Standing (Based on earned credit hours):

☐ Freshman (0-29 credit hours)  ☐ Sophomore (30-59 credit hours)
☐ Junior (60-89 credit hours)    ☐ Senior (90-120+ credit hours)

College: ______________________  Department: ________________________________

Major: _____________________________________________________________________

Have you taken a research methods course in your major?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Cumulative GPA: ________________ Anticipated Graduation Date: ________________

Do you plan to study abroad?  ☐ Yes, in (semester/year): ________________  ☐ No

How many credit hours are you currently taking? ______ credit hrs.

Have you participated in any of the following programs? (Check all that apply)

☐ Educational Talent Search (ETS)  ☐ Student Support Services (SSS)
☐ Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC)  ☐ Upward Bound
☐ Gear Up  ☐ Upward Bound Math-Science

☐ McNair Scholars Program
PART IV: Applicant Agreement

Please read the following statements below carefully and complete the certification statement at the bottom of this page.

By submitting an application to the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program at the Saint Louis University, I acknowledge the following:

- I understand that I must complete all sections of this application, as well as submit additional supporting documentation (proof of citizenship, if applicable, statement of purpose, Federal Tax Return(s), unofficial transcripts and faculty recommendations) in order to be considered for admission to the McNair Scholars Program at Saint Louis University. My application will be considered incomplete until all required documents have been received by the McNair Program Office.
- I understand that if I am admitted to the McNair Scholars Program at Saint Louis University, I am expected to enroll in graduate school the fall after I graduate from my undergraduate institution. I also understand that I will be expected to receive a Ph.D. within ten years of receiving my baccalaureate degree.
- I understand that submitting this application does not guarantee my acceptance into the McNair Scholars Program.
- All of the information that I have provided on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Furthermore, I understand that if there is evidence that I have provided any false information, I am subject to removal from the program.

I (Print Name), _________________________, hereby certify that the above information is true.

Signature:_____________________________ Date:_________________

Please return all application materials by January 15, 2018 to:

Jamie D. Motley, Ph.D.
Program Director
McNair Scholars Program
Obrien Hall
3745 West Pine Mall
St. Louis, MO 63108
TRIO McNair Scholars Recommendation Form

Name of Applicant: ____________________________ Student ID or SS #: __________________

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (Buckley Amendment) gives students the right to inspect and review their educational records. However, you may waive your right to see specific confidential letters such as this one. Not checking either box indicates confidentiality by default.

☐ I hereby waive my right of access to letters of recommendation submitted on my behalf to the TRIO McNair Scholars Program at Saint Louis University.

☐ I do not waive my right of access to letters of recommendation submitted on my behalf to the TRIO McNair Scholars Program at Saint Louis University.

Applicant’s Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Recommender’s Section

The above named student has submitted an application to the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program at Saint Louis University. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the McNair Scholars Program prepares outstanding undergraduate students for graduate study through academic counseling, educational workshops, seminars and summer research internships. Please help us assess the applicant’s qualifications by evaluating them based on the following criteria:

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TRIO McNair Scholars Recommendation Form – Continued

1) What is your relationship to the applicant? ________________________________

2) How long have you known the applicant? ________________________________

3) How well prepared do you consider this applicant for the rigor of graduate study and research?

☐ Applicant is well prepared for the rigor of graduate study and research.
☐ Applicant demonstrates potential, but could benefit from mentoring.
☐ Applicant does not demonstrate potential for the rigor of graduate study and research.

Please elaborate below on the answer you selected, or attach a separate sheet if necessary.

Recommender’s Name: ______________________  Title: ______________________________

Institution: _______________________________  Department: __________________________

E-mail Address: ___________________________  Phone: ______________________________

Please return this recommendation to: Jamie D. Motley, Program Director
McNair Scholars Program; O’Brien Hall; 3745 West Pine Mall; St. Louis, MO 63108
TRIO McNair Scholars Recommendation Form

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