



McNair Program

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Program Application 2018-2019

McNair Program at Rhode Island College

The Rhode Island College McNair Scholars Program was funded in October of 2017 to serve 25 eligible undergraduate RIC students who are motivated to obtain a doctoral degree. McNair is a federally funded TRIO program sponsored by the U.S Department of Education. Program participants receive academic and personal support services throughout their entire undergraduate experience, benefits include:

- Opportunity to earn up to a \$2,800 stipend upon completion of a research project, under the supervision of a faculty mentor
- Apply for funding to travel to national conferences to present research findings
- Enroll in a HONORS 250 credit-bearing Research & Professional Skills course
- Receive assistance with the Graduate School Application Process
- Access to GRE Prep materials & GRE test fee reduction waivers
- Eligible for several graduate school application waivers as a McNair Scholar
- Attend seminars & workshops to learn more about research, graduate school, the publishing process, and future careers
- Meet regularly with a professional advisor to discuss academic progress, research goals, applying to graduate school and financial aid

Eligibility Requirements

McNair Scholars are selected on a competitive basis. To be eligible, an applicant must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, or meet residency requirements
- Be a current RIC undergraduate student
- Recommended to have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in your College Major
- Meet one of the following requirements:
 - Identify as a first generation-college student AND be income eligible according to the Federal TRIO Programs Current Year Low-Income Levels, **OR**
 - Be a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education
- Intend to pursue a Ph.D. after graduation. The McNair Program is not open to students pursuing professional degrees (e.g. veterinary, medical or law degrees)

Please return application materials to:

Brianna Edwards, McNair Project Director

Mobile Office (Outside of Browne Hall)

Email: bedwards@ric.edu Phone: 401-456-9098



Rhode Island College McNair Scholars Program Eligibility Form

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is a federally funded TRIO program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. Participant eligibility requirements are determined by the

U.S. Department of Education for all McNair Programs; McNair participants identify as first generation and low income or as a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education. This Eligibility Verification form below will help determine your eligibility.

Please check <u>all</u> of the following that applies to you:		
	YES	NO
I am a U.S. Citizen.		
I am a Permanent Resident.		
I am a member of a racial or ethnic group that is underrepresented in graduate education (Black, Hispanic, American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or Native Pacific Islander).		
I am a first-generation college student (neither of my parents earned a 4-year degree).		
I meet the Federal TRIO Programs low income guidelines (my family's taxable income is at or below the limits in the table below).		

Federal TRIO Programs Current Year Low-Income Levels: Taxable Income

Effective **January 31, 2018** until further notice

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States, D.C., and Outlying Jurisdictions	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$18,210	\$22,770	\$20,940
2	\$24,690	\$30,870	\$28,395
3	\$31,170	\$38,970	\$35,850
4	\$37,650	\$47,070	\$43,305
5	\$44,130	\$55,170	\$50,760
6	\$50,610	\$63,270	\$58,215
7	\$57,090	\$71,370	\$65,670
8	\$63,570	\$79,470	\$73,125

For family units with more than eight members, add the following amount for each additional family member: \$6,270 for the 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia, and outlying jurisdictions; \$7,845 for Alaska; and \$7,215 for Hawaii.

I certify that the information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____



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Applicant Information				
RIC ID#	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Gender
Permanent Address				
Social Security No:			D.O.B:	
Cell Phone	Home Phone		School E-Mail Address	
Citizenship* (select one)	Race/Ethnicity		Personal Email Address	
<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent U.S. Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino/a <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White			

* If you are not a U.S. citizen, please attach a photocopy of your permanent resident card.

Educational Information		
Major(s)	Minor(s)	
Class Standing	Cumulative GPA	GPA in Major
<input type="checkbox"/> Sophomore <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Senior		
Total Credit Hours Earned	Credits Registered	Expected Graduation Date
What is the highest degree you seek to obtain?		Proposed Graduate Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> Ed.D. <input type="checkbox"/> Ph.D. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____		
Did you transfer to RIC from a community college or another university?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, School: _____ Month(s)/Year(s) _____		



Family Information

Highest Educational Level Completed by Parents or Legal Guardian

Mother/Legal Guardian

Less than High School High School Some College Bachelor's Degree Graduate N/A

Father/Legal Guardian

Less than High School High School Some College Bachelor's Degree Graduate N/A

Income Verification

What is the number of individuals living in your family household? _____

Dependent

If you are a dependent applicant (received support from parent(s) or guardian):

Did your parents/guardian file a federal income tax return for last year? Yes No

If yes, what was their TAXABLE income? \$ _____

Parent Signature (Required) _____

Independent

If you are considered an independent applicant:

Did you file a federal income tax return for last year? Yes No

If yes, what was your TAXABLE income? \$ _____

Student Signature (Required) _____

Prior TRIO Participation

Please indicate if you have participated in any of the following TRIO programs:

- Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC) Student Support Services (SSS) TalentSearch
 Upward Bound Upward Bound Math-Science Veterans Upward Bound

Research Plans

McNair Scholars conduct research under the guidance of a faculty member. If you are unable to locate a mentor, we may be able to assist you. Please identify your faculty mentor and anticipated topic, if known.

Faculty Mentor Name

Faculty Department

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Release of Information Signature Form

RIC ID#	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial

This release form enables the RIC McNair Scholars Program to obtain the following information for the purpose of determining eligibility, developing education plans, and collecting program statistics:

- College/university admission & enrollment
- Grade reports/transcripts
- Financial aid reports and information regarding scholarships, fellowships, and other awards received
- U.S. residency status
- Current contact information (address, phone number, email address)
- Past TRIO participation

Aspects of this information and the nature of your participation in the McNair Scholars Program may be shared with the U.S. Department of Education, the McNair Program Advisory Committee and RIC personnel in accordance with federal regulations and RIC policy.

My signature below indicates that I hereby authorize the release of my academic, personal, and medical (when necessary) records to the McNair Program at Rhode Island College for the purpose of serving my needs and meeting its federal regulations. I also hereby attest that, to the best of my knowledge, the information given in this application is true, complete, and accurate.

Signature	Date

How did you hear about the RIC McNair Scholars Program?

- McNair Scholar McNair Staff McNair Mentor McNair Peer Advisor Other Faculty/Staff
 Friend Flyer Recruiting Event Email from McNair Program Other

If Other, Specify: _____



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Application Signature Page

Please read and sign the following statement:

The Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program is a federally funded project designed to increase the number of underrepresented individuals pursuing doctoral study. The information on this form is required and is strictly confidential; it will only be used to determine eligibility.

I hereby certify that all of the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further authorize the Rhode Island College Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program to access and review my academic transcripts for the purposes of verifying my eligibility and aiding in my potential selection for program.

Signature	Date

NEEDS SELF-ASSESSMENT

Please check all of the services on the list provided below that you feel you need most in your pursuit of a doctorate degree:

Graduate School Preparation

- GRE Preparation
- Writing Personal Statement
- Connecting with Graduate Schools/Faculty
- Strategies for Success in Graduate School
- Selecting Graduate Programs with "best fit"
- Graduate School Admissions Process
- Fellowships/Funding for Graduate School
- Summer Research Opportunities

Research Skills

- Technical Writing Skills
- Library Research Skills
- Selecting a Research Topic
- Defining your Research Question
- Writing an Annotated Bibliography
- Writing a Literature Review
- Presenting Your Research

Thriving in College

- Tutoring - Course(s) _____
- Financial Aid Advising/Funding
- Critical Thinking Skills
- Career Awareness/Exploration
- Networking/Professionalism
- Interpersonal/Communication
- Stress Management
- Time-Management and Goal Setting
- Building Relationships with Faculty
- Selecting a Faculty Mentor
- Scholarships



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Personal Statement

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please attach your personal statement including a response to each of the questions from the following three prompts below. Please make sure to answer all parts of each question. Your personal statement should be no more than two pages, typed (12 pt. font) and double – spaced.

Prompt 1: Tell us your story (your family background, journey to college, challenges you have faced and overcome, etc.). How has your personal background prepared you for the rigors of the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program as well as doctoral study?

Prompt 2: Explain your reasons for wanting to be a McNair Scholar?

Prompt 3: Explain your reasons for pursuing a graduate/doctoral degree. If selected to be a McNair Scholar, what research topic(s) would you be interested in researching and how is this research related to your educational/career goals? How will the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program assist you in making your educational/career goals possible?

Rhode Island College

McNair Scholars Recommendation Form

Name of Applicant: _____

To the Recommender: Thank you for assisting the applicant with their McNair Scholars Program application! Please complete this form, as well as provide the applicant with a letter of recommendation. You may send the letter directly to bedwards@ric.edu or via interoffice mail to Brianna Edwards, Project Director, Mobile Office (Outside of Browne Hall).

Recommender's Name: _____

Position: _____

Email: _____ Campus Ph: _____

In addition to completing the chart below, we ask that you include a separate letter that addresses the following:

- your association with the applicant
- the applicant's academic and social potential for entry into graduate school and pursuit of a doctoral degree, as well as any knowledge you have of their experience with research
- ways in which you think the McNair Scholars Program may benefit the applicant

Please check the appropriate box in each category and attach your letter to this completed form:

Attributes/Skills	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NO BASIS TO JUDGE
Critical thinking skills					
Oral presentation skills					
Writing skills					
Motivation/initiative					
Propensity to be cooperative					
Emotional maturity					
Dependability					
Creativity					
Open-mindedness					
Ability to commit & follow through					
Ability to perform research					
Ability to work independently					
Time management skills					
Industry/Productivity					