

UWM McNair Scholars Program

Spring/Summer 2022 Outreach

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Dr. Patricia T. Nájera | McNair Director

Kao Zoua Yang | McNair Graduate Intern

Alexandra M. Rodriguez | McNair Graduate Intern

Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

ABOUT THE McNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Named in honor of Dr. Ronald
E. McNair

Nationally known as the Ronald
E. McNair Post-baccalaureate
Achievement Program

- 1 of 8 TRIO Programs Federally funded
by the U.S. Department of Education
(1991)

UWM is one of first universities
with a program; Funded at 187
Universities across the U.S.

It is designed to prepare
undergraduate students for
doctoral studies through
involvement in research and
other scholarly activities

McNair participants must be
low-income AND first-
generation college students
AND/OR a member of a
racial/ethnic group that is
traditionally underrepresented
in graduate education

The goal of McNair is to
increase the number of PhDs
for those underrepresented
within the professoriate; Not a
program for pursuit of MD, JD,
or a Master's level professional
degree



McNair Participant Eligibility

Federal Eligibility Requirements

- McNair Scholars must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- McNair Scholars must be working towards their first bachelor's degree.
- McNair Scholars must have completed their sophomore year by the start of Summer 2022 (Junior or Senior standing required for McNair)
- McNair Scholars must be: [Click to add text](#)
 - A first-generation college student (*neither parent has received a four-year bachelor's degree*) **and** be considered low-income according to TRIO guidelines

AND / OR

- A member of a racial/ethnic group underrepresented in graduate education (*African American, Hispanic, Latinx/a/o, Alaskan Native, Black, Pacific Islander, Native American*)

August 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Research/ Work Time 8:30am-5:00pm	2	Research/ Work Time 8:30am-5:00pm	3	Research/ Work Time 8:30am-5:00pm	4
5	McNair Scholars Program Summer Research Presentations by Cohort 21 10:00am-3:00pm	6	Final Graduate Research Seminar Paper with Signed Cover Sheet due at 5:00pm CST			
8	Final Graduate School Transitions Seminar Assignments due at 5:00pm CST	10	GRE Test Date Option #1	11	GRE Test Date Option #2	12
15	GRE Test Date Option #5	16	GRE Test Date Option #6	17	GRE Test Date Option #7	18
22	GRE Test Date Option #8	23	GRE Test Date Option #9	24	GRE Test Date Option #10	25
29	Start of the Fall 2020 Semester	30		31		

A typical week during the McNair Summer Research Institute...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Verbal & Writing Acuity Session 2 8:30am-11:00am	University of Minnesota McNair Visit Day 9:00am-10:30am	Graduate School Transitions Seminar 8:30am-11:00am	Graduate Research Seminar 8:30am-10:00am	Verbal & Writing Acuity Session 3 8:30am-11:00am	
	Research/Work Time 11:00am-5:00pm	Research/Work Time 10:30am-5:00pm	Research/Work Time 11:00am-5:00pm	Research/Work Time 10:00am-5:00pm	Research/Work Time 11:00am-5:00pm	

APPLY NOW!

Summer 2022 Flyer + QR Code

Want to learn how to navigate the graduate school application process and fund your PhD?

**Apply for the
UWM Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate
Achievement Program - Summer 2022**



All fields of study are welcomed!

**THE MCNAIR SCHOLARS
PROGRAM PROVIDES:**

- A \$5,000 stipend funding a summer research internship
- Mentoring from PhD Scholars (Faculty/Staff)
- Support with Graduate School Applications
- Access to McNair Scholar/Alumni Community
- Travel to conferences and graduate school visits
- Networking Opportunities

DO YOU QUALIFY?
Apply if you are...

- At Jr/Sr standing by Summer '22 with a GPA of 3.0
- A low-income, first-generation college student and/or
- A racial/ethnic minority student identifying as: African American, Alaskan Native, Black, Native American, Native Hawaiian, Latinx/Hispanic, or Pacific Islander
- Interested in pursuing a PhD

Scan here to apply! **Priority Deadline: March 15, 2022**

For more information, please contact:
Dr. Patricia T. Nájera, Director/Program Manager
mcnair@uwm.edu



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

UWM McNair Scholars Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Spring 2022 – Summer 2022

What is the name of this program?

The formal name of this program is the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. This is the name tied to our federal grant funding, administered through the U.S. Department of Education. Since the formal name is rather long, like many institutional programs, we use a shortened version of McNair Scholars Program, in our day-to-day functions and to acknowledge this program is for our participants, who are called McNair Scholars.

Who is eligible for the McNair Scholars Program?

Eligibility is noted as the following:

- McNair Scholars must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- McNair Scholars must be working towards their first bachelor's degree.
- McNair Scholars **must have completed their sophomore year (56-58 credits)**
- McNair Scholars must be:
 - A first-generation college student (*neither parent has received a four-year bachelor's degree*) **and** be considered low-income AND / OR
 - Group underrepresented in graduate education (*African American, Hispanic, American Indian, Latinx/a/o, Alaskan Native, Black, Native American*)

What are hours for summer?

The program will run over Summer 2022 for 10 weeks. Program orientation is set for Wednesday, June 1 and Thursday, June 2, 2022. The Summer Research Internship begins on Monday, June 6 and will conclude Friday, August 12, 2022. Programming occurs between 9am-5pm each day. There may be travel over a weekend and sociocultural programming during select evenings (2-3 times over summer).

Can I travel over Summer?

Travel over summer is not permitted during the 10 weeks. This is a full-time program that requires active participation and presence throughout the full calendar of events and seminars.

How is the stipend paid over the summer?

Participants in the McNair Scholars Program Summer Research Internship are eligible to earn \$5,000 for their active and full participation. Stipends are tied to participation, attendance, and seminar assignments. Stipends are divided into five payments that must be picked up in person and signed for by the McNair Scholar. Payments cannot be mailed or direct deposit.

Are DACA students eligible?

Unfortunately, DACA and undocumented students are not eligible to apply for this program. As a program directed by a federally funded grant, participants must be U.S. Citizens or U.S. Permanent Residents.

If I graduate in summer, can I apply?

No. Eligible UWM undergraduate interested in the Summer 2022 start with the McNair Scholars Program must apply during Spring 2022 (priority deadline is Tuesday, March 15, 2022). A UWM undergraduate seeking to join the McNair Scholars Program for the Summer 2022 start should have a graduation date in December 2022 or May 2023.

Does participation in McNair end after summer?

Participation in McNair continues into the academic year and to graduation from the Bachelor's. During the academic year the program has host professional development seminars, advising meetings, and sociocultural activities, as well as provide support for the graduate program application process. This is considered to be about the same time commitment as a 2-3 credit course (but no grading here!).

Can graduate students or students from other universities apply?

No, the McNair Scholars Program is only eligible for undergraduate students at UWM.

Can I transfer to another university while in McNair?

A student transferring from UWM would not be eligible for our McNair Scholars Program, as participation in the McNair Scholars Program is not transferrable between universities. A UWM undergraduate admitted to our McNair Scholars Program for the Summer 2022 start would need to be enrolled during the 2022-2023 academic year at UWM as well as complete their undergraduate degree from UWM.

Is there an allowance for traveling?

Program-funded travel is built into the summer structure of the program and may occur during the following Fall term. There are additional program-funded opportunities for graduate school, professional development, and research-related travel, on a case-by-case basis.

Can I still apply without a 3.0 GPA?

Yes, applicants may submit an application to McNair with a GPA lower than 3.0.

If one parent has an advanced degree, can I apply?

If a parent/guardian has a Bachelor's degree, Master's level degree, or Doctoral level degree, a student can still be eligible for the program if they identify as a racial/ethnic minority noted by the Department of Education in our application. Please review the section on eligibility for more information.

Can I take classes or work while completing the Summer Research Internship?

No, the summer research internship is a full-time program of 40 hours a week for 10 weeks. Taking classes is not permitted and working on top of the program is not allowed.

Ok so who is Ronald E. McNair and why are you named after him?

Our program is named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair, who carried a mission that reflects our program objectives. Dr. McNair was a NASA astronaut and physicist, who was second African American Astronaut to go to space. He received his PhD from MIT and was an active advocate for access to higher education and stem fields for racial/ethnic minority students in education. He passed away in 1986 as a member of the Challenger crew on January 28, 1986 when their shuttle exploded in air 73 seconds after take off. Shortly after this tragedy, to honor Dr. McNair's efforts, Congress passed a bill that funded the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Scholars Program) in 1989. In 1990, fourteen universities began to host these programs. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee was one of the fourteen. As of 2021, there are 187 universities with McNair Scholars Programs. Dr. McNair posthumously received the Congressional Space Medal of Honor in 2004 and many schools, parks, and libraries have been named in his honor.

Testimonials from McNair Scholars/Alumni

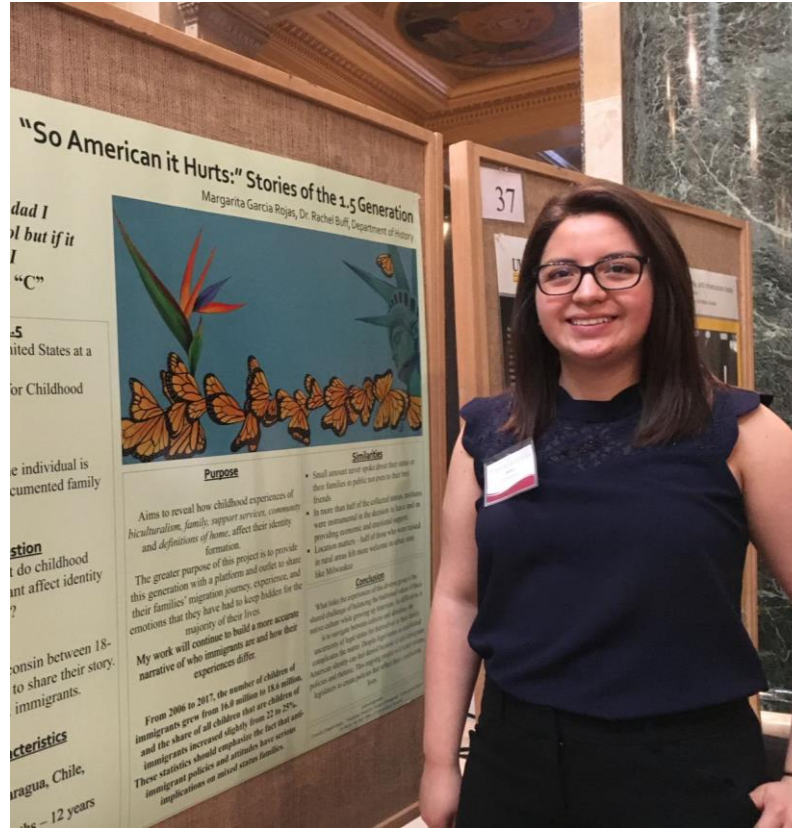
UWM McNair Scholars/Alumni

"I used to be very unsure of what I wanted to do and what I was good at, but after the program I know what I want and what I am good at and I know how I can get to where I need to be."
-Isaac N.

"I initially didn't plan to attain a PhD, but McNair made me realize that I definitely can dream bigger."
-Maixee Y.

"The McNair program made me even more resourceful and gave me the self-confidence I needed in my academic ability."
-Katy G.

"I have honed in on what I wanted to go to graduate school for, and I have developed a stronger interest in research and analysis."
-Victoria I.



"If you don't know about research, participate in this Program. If you don't know about doctorates or graduate school or careers in higher education or administration, participate in this Program. If you don't believe in yourself and your abilities, participate in this Program. And if you want to be rewarded through those knowledges, through developing meaningful work and relationships, or by overcoming challenges (with support!), participate in this Program! Hang in there. You've been through "things" before; Everything will be O.K. (and likely much better)."
-Michael L.



THANK YOU!

For more information about applying to join the UWM McNair Scholars Program, please email us at mcnair@uwm.edu

The UWM McNair Scholars Program is located in Bolton Hall 176