



Dear Prospective McNair Scholar,

The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Scholars Program) offers UNC Chapel Hill students the opportunity to be competitive applicants for Ph.D. programs and to become the next great Scholars of our Nation. The McNair Scholars Program builds participants' skills and knowledge of academia to ensure their matriculation into the doctoral program of their choice. The overall focus of the Program is to introduce the Scholars to the joy and rigor of research and scholarship. The program provides an encouraging and supportive culture that will assist Scholars throughout their journey.

The McNair Scholars Program is committed to creating a pipeline of underrepresented students to Ph.D. programs to better serve our nation's colleges and universities. McNair Scholars **MUST** meet the following criteria:

- Be first-generation AND low-income
 - The Federal Guidelines define the term "first generation college student" as
 - a) an individual both of whose parents did not complete a baccalaureate degree; or
 - b) in the case of any individual who regularly resided with and received support from only one parent, an individual whose only such parent did not complete a baccalaureate degree.
 - [Department of Education Low-Income Guidelines](#)
- OR
- Be a member of a group traditionally underrepresented in graduate education (African-American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latino, or Pacific Islander)

In addition, McNair Scholars **MUST** also:

- Have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA
- Be enrolled as a full-time student at UNC-Chapel Hill and a rising Junior or Senior
- Be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident

We believe the next great Scholars of the world are here at UNC Chapel Hill. We hope that you will take advantage of this great opportunity to contribute your talents to our society. Please contact us with any questions or concerns. We look forward to receiving your application!

Sincerely,

Ms. La'Quasha Good

La'Quasha Good
Interim Associate Director, TRiO Programs



Instructions for Completing the Application Process

1. Download and complete the application. Please answer every question.
2. Type and submit your responses to the two essay questions found on page 7 of the application.
3. The following **supplemental** items are also required to complete the application process. Be sure to include your name on all documents.

Upload the following files at <https://mcnair.unc.edu/apply/>

- Resume
- Writing sample (at least a 2-page paper written in the past year that provides us a sample of your writing abilities)
- Photo
- Unofficial Transcript
- Signed copy of parent's 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ Income Tax Return for the most recent year (or yours if you are an independent student) **Please block out social security numbers on any information submitted by email.**

Fill out an online request for the following at <https://mcnair.unc.edu/apply/>

- Faculty Recommendation Form from a professor/teacher who has taught you at the college level
- Character Recommendation Form from a professional who has worked closely with you (coach, supervisor, teacher, professor, etc.)

Application materials may be uploaded through our web site [here](#), or mail/hand deliver it to our office at the address below.

McNair Scholars Program, UNC Chapel Hill
385 Manning Drive, SASB South, Suite 2301
Campus Box 8010
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8010

Rising seniors (2023): all materials due by May 20
Rising Juniors (2024): Rolling admission

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling-admission basis. Therefore, the sooner you submit a completed application, the earlier you will hear from the Admissions Committee regarding your admissions status. Finalists will be contacted to interview.

Contact mcnairprogram@unc.edu for additional assistance.