About the McNair Scholars Program

The McNair Scholars Program is named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair, an African-American Physicist and NASA astronaut who died in the challenger explosion in 1986. The program is sponsored by the U.S Department of Education.

The McNair Scholars Program is designed to prepare students for graduate education, with the specific aim of putting them on the path to completing a doctoral degree by involving them in research and other scholarly activities. The participants are first-generation college students from an economically disadvantaged background or are members of ethnic groups underrepresented in higher education.
GRADUATE SCHOOL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE

The McNair Scholars Program provides many valuable opportunities and activities that prepare students for doctoral study, including:

- Experience performing faculty led research at our Summer Research Institute, which offers a stipend, room and board, and four paid credit hours
- Opportunities present poster and oral presentations at local, regional, and national academic conferences
- GRE preparation resources
- Seminars on topics regarding professional development, as well as personal and academic financing
- Attendance to social and cultural events
- Book stipends
- Financial support for graduate school visits
- The social support and interpersonal networking afforded by the McNair community

DUAL MENTOR GUIDANCE

Each McNair scholar chooses a Discipline Faculty Mentor (DFM) and a Non-Discipline Faculty Mentor (NDFM) to help guide them in doing personalized academic research during the summer following their junior year.

**Discipline Faculty Mentor**
- Provides academic education
- Guides the development of a student’s Summer research project, helping to define a research topic
- Discusses and recommends possible graduate programs
- Encourages students on their path towards doctoral studies

**Non-Discipline Faculty Mentor**
- Builds student confidence specifically regarding the research interaction with academic faculty
- Provides information on professional organization and conferences
- Informs and educates students about life in academia

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**ELIGIBILITY**

- You are currently enrolled as a Cleveland State University student
- You are a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident
- You have at least a 2.8 cumulative GPA
- You have earned at least 50 credit hours
- You have an interest in pursuing a Ph.D.
- You identify with one of the following groups:
  - A low income (according to federal guidelines), first-generation student (Neither of your parents or guardians received a bachelors degree)
  - A member of an ethnic/racial underrepresented group in graduate education as determined by the U.S. Department of Education (African-American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Alaskan Native, Hawaiian Native, or Pacific Islander)

**Eligible transfer students are welcome to apply!**