



Program Application 2020-2021

The Rhode Island College McNair Scholars Program was funded in October of 2017 to serve 26 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 COLLEGE 350 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:

Center for Scholar Development

McNair Scholars Office

Craig Lee Hall, Suite 049

For more information contact:

Margarida Da Graça | mdagraca@ric.edu | 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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am a Permanent Resident.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am a member of a racial or ethnic group that is underrepresented in graduate education (American Indian, Alaska Native, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino/a, Native Hawaiian or Native Pacific Islander).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am a first-generation college student (neither of my parents earned a 4- year degree).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I meet the Federal TRIO Programs low income guidelines (my family's taxable income is at or below the limits in the table below).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Federal TRIO Programs Current Year Low-Income Levels: Taxable Income Effective **January 15, 2020** until further notice

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States, D.C., and Outlying Jurisdictions	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$19,140	\$23,925	\$22,020
2	\$25,860	\$32,325	\$29,745
3	\$32,580	\$40,725	\$37,470
4	\$39,300	\$49,125	\$45,125
5	\$46,020	\$57,525	\$52,920
6	\$52,740	\$65,925	\$60,645
7	\$59,460	\$74,325	\$68,370
8	\$66,180	\$82,725	\$76,095

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
Preferred name:			D.O.B:	
Pronouns: Check all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> She/her/hers <input type="checkbox"/> He/him/his <input type="checkbox"/> They/them/theirs <input type="checkbox"/> _____			
Permanent Address				
Cell Phone	RIC E-Mail Address		Personal Email Address	
Citizenship* (select one)	Race/Ethnicity			
<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"/> Whit			

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
		May 20 _____ Dec 20 _____
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/Year _____ School: _____ Month/Year _____		



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

List the number of individuals living in your family household including yourself _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Dependent	<p>If you are a dependent applicant (received support from parent(s) or guardian): Did your parent(s)/guardian file a federal income tax return for last year?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No --- If yes, what was <u>their</u> TAXABLE income? \$ _____</p> <p>Parent Signature (Required) _____</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Independent	<p>If you are considered an independent applicant:</p> <p>Did you file a federal income tax return for last year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, what was <u>your</u> TAXABLE income? \$ _____</p> <p>Student Signature (Required) _____</p>

Prior TRIO and/or College Support Program Participation

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Support Services
<input type="checkbox"/> PEP (Preparatory Enrollment Program) | <input type="checkbox"/> Upward Bound or Upward Bound Math-Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Upward Bound
<input type="checkbox"/> Talent Search |
|---|--|

Research Plans

Provide the names of two RIC Faculty Members you believe would be ideal mentors for your research project.

Faculty Mentor Full Name (1)	Faculty Mentor Full name (2)

Have you discussed this project with Faculty Mentor 1 ? Yes No
 Have you discussed this project with Faculty Mentor 2? Yes No



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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?

- Current McNair Scholar McNair Staff Faculty/Staff Friend Flyer
 Email from McNair Program Other Community Based Organization

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
<input type="checkbox"/> GRE Support <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate essay <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate School Admissions process <input type="checkbox"/> Funding for Graduate School
Research Skills
<input type="checkbox"/> Defining your Research Question <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Writing Skills <input type="checkbox"/> Library Research Skills <input type="checkbox"/> Selecting a Research Topic <input type="checkbox"/> Writing a Literature Review <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting your research
Thriving in College
<input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring <input type="checkbox"/> Critical Thinking Skills <input type="checkbox"/> Interpersonal/Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Time-Management/Goal Setting <input type="checkbox"/> Stress Management <input type="checkbox"/> Research Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Building Relationships with Faculty Mentor <input type="checkbox"/> Networking/Professionalism <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Aid Advising/Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Career Exploration <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships

Photo, Video and Information Release Agreement

I, _____ grant the Rhode Island College, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program the right to use my name and picture, without compensation to me, in electronic media (i.e. websites and emails) and written materials (i.e. advertising material and brochures) for promotional fund raising and educational purposes.

I understand that the Rhode Island College Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program will use my information for promotional and educational purposes. I hereby agree to hold the Rhode College Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, its staff, and its affiliates harmless from any liability resulting from the use of the information, text, and pictures herein submitted.

Signature _____ Date _____



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Personal Statement

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please attach your personal statement to this application, it should be no more than two pages, typed (12 pt. font) and double – spaced. Please be sure to write a strong, clear, and concise statement of purpose addressing the questions below

Please provide insights into

- 1.) What are your personal/professional values? How do your values guide you?
- 2.) What goals and aspirations do you have once you are finished with graduate level studies and how can the McNair Scholars Program best support you in cultivating those goals into actions?



McNair Program

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Recommendation Form

Name of Applicant: _____

To the Recommender: Thank you for assisting the applicant with their McNair Scholars Program application! Please send this completed form and a letter of recommendation directly to mdagraca@ric.edu or via interoffice mail to Margarida Da Graça, Project Director for McNair Program, Craig Lee Hall 049.

Recommender's Name: _____

Position: _____

Department: _____

Email: _____ Campus Phone: _____

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 RESPOND
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					