

An opportunity to work with academically talented students like yourself.

Who was Ronald E. McNair ?

Ronald E. McNair was a scholar, physicist, jazz musician, karate black belt, family man and NASA astronaut. He was born in 1950 in Lake City, South Carolina. He attended North Carolina A&T State University where he earned a B.S. in physics in 1971. He received his Ph.D. in physics at the age of 26 from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1976.

While a member of the Hughes Research Laboratory, McNair gained recognition as an expert in laser physics. He was selected by NASA for the space shuttle program in 1978 and was a mission specialist aboard the 1984 flight of Challenger. Tragically, McNair was a team member of the ill-fated 1986 Challenger flight which ended his life.

In 1986 Congress passed legislation implementing the Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program in memory and honor of this outstanding individual. McNair personally demonstrated that hard work and determination in conjunction with proper preparation can significantly expand one's possibilities.

In 1999, Hunter College-CUNY joined ranks with prestigious universities such as Brandeis, Purdue, Rutgers University and the University of California, Berkeley in providing the McNair Program to competitively selected undergraduates. Funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Education, the McNair Program of Hunter College is one of only 179 McNair Programs nationwide.

Our Mission

The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Scholars Program) was established by the U.S. Department to encourage and prepare interested and eligible undergraduates for doctoral studies through their involvement in research and scholarly activity.

In support of students' efforts to become researchers and faculty professors at the university level, the Hunter College McNair Scholars Program concentrates on providing quality services to ensure that participants graduate with a bachelor's degree, acquire the necessary skills and knowledge for admission into graduate school and the successful completion of their graduate studies.

The Program Can Help You Reach Your Academic and Career Goals

Preparation and training make a difference. Our Eight-Week Summer Institute and services year-round will help you improve your academic performance in college, graduate school and beyond. **The resources provided include:**

- A stipend of up to **\$2,800.** linked to the completion of academic milestones.
- Advanced writing, library research and online research workshops
- Mentored research & academic advising
- GRE preparation
- Assistance in securing admission to and financial support for enrollment in doctoral/graduate programs
- Summer research opportunities

Who is Eligible?

- The McNair Program is for Hunter College-CUNY undergraduates (matriculated or enrolled students only) who are U.S. Citizens, **OR** Naturalized Citizens, **OR** Permanent Residents who have **NOT** earned a B.A. or B.S. degree.
- Hunter College students who are low-income **and** first-generation college students (your parent (s) or legal guardian(s) have not earned bachelor's degree), **OR**
- Hunter College students who are members of groups underrepresented in graduate education in the United States (**American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic, Black non-Hispanic, AND**
- Students who completed more than 60 credits earning a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.

Requirements

Acceptance into the McNair Scholars Program is competitive. All applicants must fulfill the following requirements including:

- A completed application including financial documentation
- One to two-page personal statement
- Writing sample (5 to 10 pages)
- Two letters of recommendation from college faculty members.
- An Interview

Financial Documentation

- Your most recent 1040 tax form, **or** Your parent's 1040 if they claim you as a dependent **and** current Student Aid Report (SAR) if you receive financial aid. **OR**
- An income verification letter from Public Assistance, Social Security or another government agency **and** current Student Aid Report (SAR) if you receive financial aid.

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RONALD E. McNAIR
SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

McNair Scholars' Testimonials:

"The McNair Scholars Program has given me the opportunity to engage in research which has completely altered my life plan."

Maria Tineo (Junior)

"As a first generation college student, I had no immediate personal connections to give me pointers or help me navigate through higher education. McNair has provided me with the academic guidance and research training necessary to help me achieve my goal of getting into graduate school."

Lisa J. Davis (Senior)

Application Deadline
February 1, 2008.



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TRIO

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ACHIEVEMENT
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