About the Program

The McNair Scholars Program is designed to help undergraduates build knowledge and skills, improve educational planning and decision-making, and expand participants’ horizons to enable them to be competitive candidates for graduate study with the goal of completing doctoral degrees.

The program utilizes a specialized curriculum and activities including seminars, coursework, and faculty-supervised research to foster the commitment needed to pursue doctoral studies and a career of university-level teaching and research.

Who Should Apply?

Rising Juniors and Seniors who

- Qualify as either:
  1. First-generation college student, whose household meets the low-income guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Education;
  2. Be a member of a group that is underrepresented in graduate education (currently defined by the U.S. Department of Education as Native American/Alaska Native, Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander)
- Have a sincere and compelling desire to complete a PhD
- Be a citizen or permanent legal resident of the United States
- Possess a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above
- Maintain continuous enrollment as a degree-seeking undergraduate student in good standing

Program Benefits

McNair Scholars will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in a paid summer research internship
- Work with a faculty member in their chosen field
- Present research at a national conference
- Learn about graduate study in their chosen field
- Receive graduate school application assistance and advocacy, including funding
- Participate in free GRE test preparation courses
- Visit graduate schools
- Receive academic advising

ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS DUE JUNE 4, 2021 at 5 PM CST


For more information, email mcnairscholars@depaul.edu