

MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

TRiO

RONALD E. McNAIR
POST-BACCALAUREATE
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

APPLICATION SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE 2008

**Application & supporting documents
must be received no later than
November 19, 2007 at 4pm to:**

McNair Scholars Program
3601 Watt Way, GFS 315
Los Angeles, CA 90089

For more information, please contact:
mcnairsc@usc.edu

**McNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM
2008 SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE APPLICATION**

Statement of Confidentiality: The information requested in this application is for the purpose of determining the applicant's eligibility for the McNair Scholars Program. Information received is treated confidentially.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name _____
Last First Middle

Local Mailing Address _____

City State Zip Code

Telephone (____) _____

Cell Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Permanent Mailing Address _____

City State Zip Code

Telephone (____) _____

Date of Birth _____
Month Day Year

Gender: Female Male

Social Security Number _____ Student ID Number _____

Citizenship: Citizen Permanent Resident Other _____

(If you are a Permanent Resident or a Citizen who was born outside of the United States, please provide a copy of INS documentation)

Ethnic Heritage: African-American Asian (*please specify*) _____
 Chicano/Mexican-American Latino
 Native American White
 Mixed Heritage (*please specify*) _____

How did you hear about the McNair Scholars Program? _____

Please provide the names and permanent addresses of three people who will know how to reach you in the future (e.g. grandparents or other relatives).

Name of Relative/Permanent Contact _____

Permanent Contact Mailing Address _____

City State Zip Code

Telephone (____) _____

Name of Relative/Permanent Contact _____

Permanent Contact Mailing Address _____

City State Zip Code

Telephone (____) _____

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Name of Relative/Permanent Contact _____

Permanent Contact Mailing Address _____

City *State* *Zip Code*

Telephone (____) _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

For financial aid purposes, are you considered dependent or independent?

If **dependent**, complete **Section A**; if **independent**, complete **Section B**.

Section A (Dependent)
What is the size of your parents' household, including yourself? _____
Did your parent(s) file a federal tax return for 2006? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, what was their 2006 taxable income? <small>(line 40 on IRS form 1040, line 27 on IRS form 1040A, line 6 on IRS form 1040EZ)</small>
\$ _____
If no, place a "0" on the line for taxable income

Section B (Independent)
What is the size of your household, including yourself, spouse, and / or other dependents? _____
Did you file a federal tax return for 2006? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, what was your 2006 taxable income? <small>(line 40 on IRS form 1040, line 27 on IRS form 1040A, line 6 on IRS form 1040EZ)</small>
\$ _____
If no, place a "0" on the line for taxable income

Please attach a copy of your (or your parents') 2006 federal income tax forms or proof of non-filing for documentation.

Educational Attainment of Mother:

Highest grade completed: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

College degree earned, if any: Bachelor Master Doctorate

Educational Attainment of Father:

Highest grade completed: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

College degree earned, if any: Bachelor Master Doctorate

With whom did you regularly reside and receive support from before the age of 18?

Mother only Father only Both Other _____

Signature certifying facts above as true: _____

EDUCATION INFORMATION

Class Standing: Sophomore Junior Senior

Anticipated number of units completed after Fall semester 2007 _____

Projected graduation date _____ Current Major/ Minor _____

Current USC GPA* _____

Transfer student GPA (if applicable) _____

(*GPA must be 2.75 or above)

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A copy of your S.T.A.R.S. report must be submitted in order to verify your USC GPA after the Fall Semester. All SRI participants must have earned a GPA of 2.75 or higher and 60 units by the end of the Spring 2008 semester.

What is your projected date of entrance into graduate school? _____

In what field do you plan to obtain a Ph.D. degree? _____

GRADUATE EDUCATION INTERESTS

Please mark the statement(s) below that best describes your interest in graduate education.

- I am going to graduate school after one or two years after I graduate.
- I plan to attend graduate school immediately after receiving my bachelor's degree.
- I am determined to get a Master's degree, but I am not certain about a Ph.D.
- I am determined to get a Ph.D.
- Other: _____

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

One letter from a USC faculty member is required (See Recommendation Form). Your recommendation must come from a professor who was the instructor in **at least one** of your courses and should address how your academic preparation and interests make you well suited for the program. NOTE: Qualifying faculty include professors, assistant or associate professors and/or lecturers.

1) Recommender's Name _____

Department Address _____

Telephone (____) _____ Email _____

Course(s) taken w/ Professor _____

PERSONAL STATEMENT

The selection committee will pay close attention to your personal statement. The statement should be no more than 600 words and focus on your academic and career objectives. The committee would like to know about your research and career interests and why you feel obtaining a Ph.D. is essential in pursuing those interests. You should also address how the McNair Scholars Program will help you reach your academic goals. Please attach a typed copy of your personal statement.

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Mentor #1: _____ I have already discussed this project with this professor

Mentor #2: _____ I have already discussed this project with this professor

STATEMENT OF RESEARCH INTERESTS

In 600 words or fewer, please clearly convey your research interest or question that will be the basis of your McNair project. You might discuss the following:

- Describe the area of research you are interested in and why?
- Using current research (i.e. journal articles and books) and accepted theory within your field of study, what have others said about the topic?
- Why is this area of research significant?
- Describe the methods and time-frame (within the scope the summer program) for researching your questions within your topic area.

Rather than simply list the questions and corresponding answers, provide a coherent (double spaced) narrative complete with introduction, body, and conclusion.

RESEARCH / ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

On a separate sheet of paper, please provide the following supplemental information:

- Resume / Curriculum Vita including:
 - Research experience, if any, including dates
 - List of any academic honors that you have received at the college level
 - Professional and / or student organizations / memberships

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Spring 2008 seminar attendance: If selected as an SRI candidate, you must attend a Spring 2008 research methods seminar series (Tuesdays, 5-7pm) aimed at sharpening your Statement of Research Interest and preparing for summer research. SRI candidates must attend these on campus sessions in order to be eligible to receive the \$2,800 summer research stipend. More information about the spring course will be provided to applicants selected as finalists for SRI in December 2007.

If selected, and in order to receive up to \$2,800 in stipend, can you commit 25 to 40 hours a week to research and scholarly activities during the Summer Research Institute? Yes No

Will you be employed between May 17 and August 2, 2008? Yes No

If Yes, indicate the number of hours per week: _____

Please Note: Students participating in the Summer Research Institute are not to enroll in summer classes.

My signature below indicates that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided herein is true, complete and accurate. I understand that failure to disclose accurate and complete information may result in immediate termination from application to and/or participation in the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program at the University of Southern California. I authorize the McNair Program staff to access personal and confidential information throughout my participation in the program and subsequent to graduation from USC, and to report such

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information to the funding agency (United States Department of Education) and their representatives as required by federal regulations.

Signature _____

Date _____

**Please Return Completed Application, Essays, Letter of Recommendation, Transcript and Financial Aid
Forms On or Before November 19, 2007 to GFS 315.**

RECOMMENDATION FORM

Applicant's Name _____

To the Applicant:

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, you may waive your right to inspect this recommendation by signing the statement below. This waiver is not required as a condition for admission to the McNair Scholars Program.

I hereby waive my right of access to this information.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

To the Recommender:

The Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Program prepares students of first-generation and low-income backgrounds, or underrepresented students for graduate study. The program features workshops, seminars, and research opportunities aimed at preparing undergraduates for doctoral study and the academic profession. McNair Scholars spend an entire academic year developing writing and research skills, and planning a summer research project to be conducted under a to-be-appointed faculty mentor. Your assessment of the applicant's character and promise as a scholar will assist the McNair Program in selecting the most qualified, capable, and motivated applicants.

Please help us assess the applicant with a frank, narrative appraisal of the applicant's potential as a program participant and future scholar. Include in your discussion how long you have known the applicant and in what capacity. We are interested in her/his present academic performance in the area of concentration, academic aptitude for independent research, and motivation for graduate study and scholarly activity. You may choose to include how the applicant compares (e.g., average, above average, outstanding, no opportunity to observe) to other undergraduates you have taught/advised in the areas of intellectual potential, oral/written communication skills, analytical skills, maturity, creativity and so on. Include your statement on an attached sheet.

Signature _____

Date _____

Name _____

Title _____

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Academic Dept. or Office: _____

Please return this form by November 19, 2007 via mail to the McNair Scholars Program, 3601 Watt Way, GFS 315 Los Angeles, CA 90089-1695. If you have any questions, please contact the McNair Staff at (213) 740-8702 or mcnairsc@usc.edu

Make sure you are Eligible!!!!!!

If you have any questions regarding eligibility criteria, please contact us!

- Motivation to obtain a Ph.D. degree
 - Maintain a GPA above 2.75 (Fall 2007/ Spring 2008)
 - Completion of at least 60 units (end of Spring 2008)
 - Enrolled full-time at USC during Spring 2008
 - Attend or enroll in AMST 392 (Spring 2008, Tues. 5-7pm)
 - Available to do full-time research in the Summer of 2008
 - US Citizen or Permanent Resident Status
 - Low-income AND first-generation college student
- OR
- Underrepresented in graduate education

Application Checklist

- Completed SRI Application Form
(*signed & dated*)
- Personal Statement
- Statement of Research Interests
- Resume/ Curriculum Vita
- Letter of Recommendation from Faculty
- Current S.T.A.R.S. (OASIS) Report
- 2006 Income Tax Forms
- Permanent residency status (if applicable)
- Available for screening interview (30 minutes) during Fall 2007 finals.